

\$1.25 (incl. GST)

Your Community Newspaper Since 1960



Wednesday, December 21, 2005

45th year

Issue 51

328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3 Tel: 250-537-9933 Fax: 250-537-2613 Toll-free: 1-877-537-9934 e-mail: driftwood@gulfislands.net editorial: news@gulfislands.net Website: www.gulfislands.net

Gulf Islands Driftwood

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Thrifty Foods
- Ganges Village Market
- Ganges
- Field's Stores
- Pharmasave
- Lifestyle Markets

MORTGAGE QUESTIONS? ... ask Arlene



Growing up with Salt Spring

Longtime islander Bob Akerman shares some of his stories in a new book. Page B8

Index

- Arts B1
- Classifieds B18
- Crosswords B22
- Sudoku B22
- Editorial A8
- Ferry Schedules . B22
- Health A18
- Horoscope B22
- Letters A9
- Sports A22
- TV Listings B9

Weather

It's going to be a wet Christmas. Rain on the weekend will follow periods of rain Friday and solid rain Thursday and today (Wednesday). Highs to 11 C (Saturday); overnight lows to 7 C most nights.

GIC HOTLINE

Call today for the BEST rates!

Joni Ganderton 537-1654

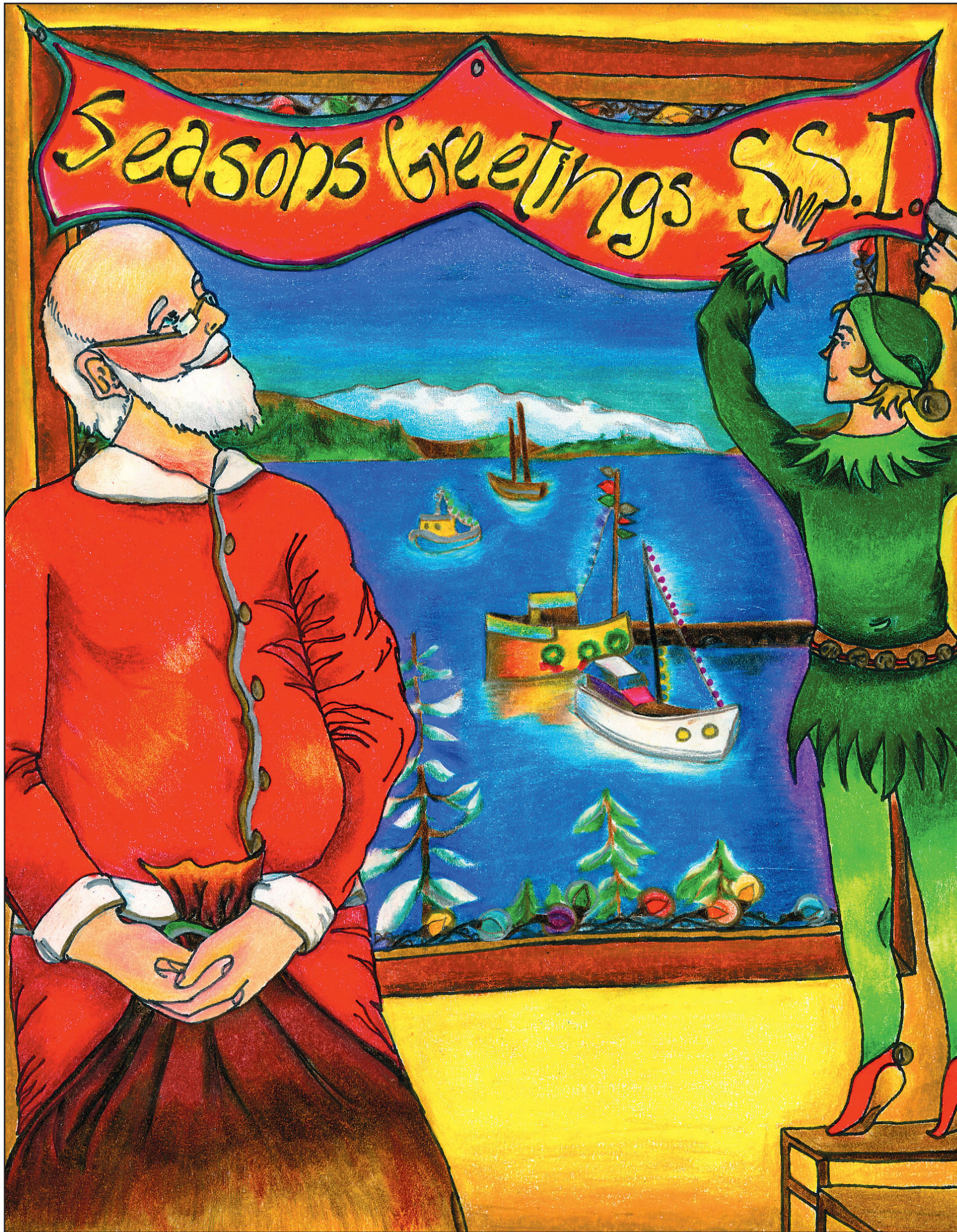


LionsGate

INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER High Speed ADSL Accelerated Dialup Web Hosting Hardware Sales & Services Local Email Addresses

Your Local Internet Provider www.lgisp.ca 250.537.1950

DBA - Imagen Communications Inc. 102B Hereford Avenue, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2T4



Driftwood Christmas cover art by Hannah Everest

10% off Tuesdays (some restrictions apply)

GANGES VILLAGE MARKET

100% locally owned & operated

Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season

December 24 8am-6pm
December 25 closed
December 26 closed
December 31 8am-6pm
January 1 closed



OPEN DAILY 8am - 9pm



Complete Automotive Repairs

- Hydraulic hoses
- Complete automotive repairs
- Electronic engine analysis
- Tune ups • Oil changes
- Four wheel drive service
- Suspension shocks and struts
- Fuel injection

HAROLD HARKEMA REPAIRS
427 Fulford-Ganges Rd. • 537-4559 • Mon. - Fri. 8-5

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the management and staff of Harbours End Marine

Barry, Eric, Bob and Rolf

Closed Thursday Dec. 22
Re-opening Tuesday Jan. 3, 2006

HARBOURS END MARINE & EQUIPMENT
122 Upper Ganges Rd. at the head of Ganges Harbour
Mon. - Fri. 8:30am - 5pm
Saturdays 8:30am-1pm
537-4202

Tide Tables AT FULFORD HARBOUR
Pacific Standard Time - measured in feet
sponsored by Harbours End Marine & Equipment Ltd.

DECEMBER					
21	0135	3.0	25	0205	7.5
	1000	11.5		0350	7.5
22	0205	3.9		1120	10.8
	1020	11.2		1915	3.9
	1805	6.9	26	0355	8.5
	2020	6.9		0510	8.5
23	0240	4.9		1140	10.8
	1040	11.2		1945	3.0
	1825	5.9	27	0435	9.8
	2310	6.9		0650	9.5
24	0310	6.2		1200	10.8
	1100	10.8		2020	2.0
	1850	4.9			



CHRISTMAS IN FULFORD: Valdy leads a carol sing in Fulford Harbour as about 150 people take part in the annual event on Monday evening.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

RCMP arrest shooting suspect

Salt Spring RCMP have arrested 28-year-old Jesse Telep after he allegedly shot an acquaintance in the hand with a .22-calibre rifle following an argument at a Blackburn Road residence on December 5.

On December 16, RCMP officers obtained a search warrant for the suspect's Maliview Drive residence where they made an arrest and seized a modified rifle along with an unspecified

amount of cocaine and other drugs. Police located the suspect after receiving numerous tips from the public.

RCMP Sgt. Danny Willis could not say what started the argument, but said this was a routine scenario.

"I haven't really been here long enough to say, but judging from my previous posting [on the Sunshine Coast] this is nothing really out of the ordinary," he said. "It's a sign of the times."

Telep was scheduled to appear at the Victoria Law Courts on Tuesday afternoon. He faces three counts of possession for the purposes of trafficking, possession of a restricted firearm, assault with a weapon, extortion using a firearm and pointing a firearm.

Willis added the 24-year-old male victim was lucky to have suffered only a minor injury and some discomfort. "The bullet went in and

out and there was no long-lasting damage," he said.

According to Willis, there is no evidence linking this incident with a late-November shooting in which an unoccupied minivan was shot twice with a 12-gauge shotgun while it was parked near the intersection of Beddis and Cusheon Lake roads.

Police are still waiting for any witnesses to come forward with information regarding that incident.

"SPACIOUS TOWNHOUSE" #16 KINGFISHER COVE - \$629,000

2500 sq.ft. LIVING, VIEW, PRIVATE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT.

Watch for the "OPEN HOUSE" signs during the Holidays, or telephone now for a personal viewing.

THIS IS A MUST SEE FOR TOWNHOUSE LIVING.

ROYAL LEPAGE **GIL MOUAT** Office/Res. (250) 537-4900
#1101-115 Fulford Ganges Rd., SSI, B.C. V8K 2T9 Fax: (250) 537-9272 / Toll Free: 1-800-537-4905 / email: gmouat@saltspring.com

The **COMBINATION** of **ACREAGE, VIEW, PRIVACY, WARM S/W EXPOSURE, PIPED WATER & RESIDENCE** is becoming a rare commodity.

OFFERED @ \$599,000; act quickly, request additional information or a viewing NOW.

The Local Liquor Store
LOCALLY OWNED, LOCALLY OPERATED

Make The Local wines part of your Christmas celebration

Open Christmas Day 12-6 pm and all day Boxing Day

#108-149 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
On the water behind Save On Gas
537-9463 (WINE)

FOR THE RECORD

An article in last week's paper incorrectly stated one needs to be a member of the Salt Spring Tennis Association in order to use the indoor tennis bubble at Portlock Park.

In fact, non-members may use the bubble, but the hourly rate is simply higher. Book time through Apple Photo.

The Artful Bodger
WORKSHOPS

Make a twig chair, table, plant stand, bookshelf, etc.

MONTHLY WORKSHOPS
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE
537-2229
artfulbodger@saltspring.com



More daily flights home from the Mainland

The Gulf Islands are our world. We know the islands and understand how difficult they are to leave. At Seair, we want to make that sacrifice as painless as possible.

Seair has more regularly scheduled flights and the newest fleet of seaplanes to get you home faster and safer than any other carrier to the Gulf Islands.

- Eight scheduled flights daily
- Newest and fastest Seaplane fleet in Canada
- Departure from Seair Terminal at Vancouver Int'l Airport
- Free Parking and Free shuttle to Main Terminal
- Frequent flyer discounts
- Charter flights available to other destinations

For scheduled flight info call **1-800-447-3247** or visit our website at **seairseaplanes.com**



Island farmers uncover their roots

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Staff Writer

In December of 1895, the Salt Spring Island Agricultural Association's founding members were tending to some pressing issues.

Assembled in a small hall near today's Central intersection, agricultural leaders debated whether to permit the shooting of marauding animals and if they should commit to building an expanded hall for the association's growing membership and activities.

The call to arms against island wildlife followed crop invasions by the insatiable hordes of pheasant and deer. It was widely agreed the beasts' appetites needed some permanent quenching.

Though debate over dealing with these "pests" continues in some circles, few members ever regretted the construction of what would later be called Central Hall.

Last Wednesday, more than 200 participants gathered on the Islands Farmers Institute's (IFI) Rainbow Road property to celebrate the anniversary of that original meeting, the initial step in the organization's storied history.

Organized with help from the Salt Spring Island Historical Society, fourth and fifth generation grandsons and great grandsons of Salt Spring's original settlers, including David Weatherwell, Barbara Lyngard, Mike Morris, Charlie Sampson and Gord Lee entertained the December 14 IFI crowd with tales from their youth on Salt Spring.

During the institute's early years, the island was considered Victoria's great agricultural hinterland for supplying the city's demands for grain, produce, dairy products and meat.

Enterprising young farm-



HISTORY HAPPY: Rosalie Beach and Elizabeth White take home a piece of Salt Spring history as they attend an Islands Farmers Institute celebration.

Photo by Sean McIntyre

ers ensured the island was not only self-sufficient, but insured the island's farmers could expect a profit supplying neighbouring centres.

The audience was treated to a slide show presentation from George Laundry, historical displays and even a visit from IFI founder John Patton Booth himself.

"My, how things have changed around here," said Booth. "A century ago, it would have taken nearly a day to get here from Central Hall."

Laundry agreed the island had seen many changes in the institute's history.

As land prices have gone up during the past 30 years, hardships facing today's large-scale farmers are mirrored only by the war years and the Great Depression.

This time around, explained Laundry, the culprit is not war or poverty. Land is just too expensive for younger farmers to get started and for veterans to turn a profit.

Despite the shrinking number of traditional farms on the island, he said, there's been an infusion of younger

farmers tilling the soil in recent years.

Though their farms are smaller, today's crop of farmers is every bit as eager to cultivate a Salt Spring farming heritage as the pioneering farmers of yore.

"There will not be any large farms anymore, but the rise of small-scale acreages and farming high intensity is strong," he said.

Laundry pointed to ever-increasing numbers of organic farms, agri-tourism opportunities and value-added products as the younger generation's only hope of making a go of it.

Salt Spring's agricultural problems are much the same as those facing farmers across the country and, Laundry said, we are now witnessing a major shift in the way we look at our food.

The challenges may be new, but the need to roll with the punches is far from a novelty for those who make their living from the land, he said.

Today, he added, the Farmers Institute stands as a testament to what the community can do when it gets together

and makes up his mind.

Laundry recounted how the IFI's current site and structures could not have been possible without the dedication of hundreds of volunteers.

Laundry said the annual fall fair would not occur if it were not for the roughly 10 per cent of the island's population turning out to offer their help and support.

"This is one of the few institutes in B.C. that actually owns its own land," he said.

"The community donated well over \$50,000 of labour to make today's Farmers Institute possible. This the highlight of a community that can work together."

Laundry assured participants that after 110 years, the institute was not prepared to close its door.

"The current directors are proud of their role as guardians of the Islands Farmers Institute mandate to promote and protect agriculture on our island," he said.

You Who..?



Last month's winner: Bev Kay

Your name will be entered in a monthly draw for a return trip for one to Vancouver. (COME TO THE SS AIR OFFICE TO ENTER) 161 LOWER GANGES RD. (Near Ganges Marina)

Two times daily to Downtown Vancouver & Vancouver Airport

Departing Ganges
7:40am, 8:55am*, 2:00pm
Departing Vancouver Harbour
8:45am, 10:10am*, 3:15pm
Departing Vancouver Airport
9:15am, 10:40am*, 3:45pm
*Saturday & Sunday only

SALTSPRINGAIR

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

Everest art on cover

This year's winner of the Driftwood's Christmas edition cover contest is Hannah Everest.

The Gulf Islands Secondary School art student's depiction of Santa and an elf tacking up a "Season's Greetings SSI" banner over a window looking out to a harbour caught the eye of Driftwood staff.

She receives a \$50 prize from Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

Each year the art students of teacher Sandra Locke create seasonal-theme artwork for the cover contest.

A friendly Santa and snowman interaction by Maki Kikuchi, and Zena Blanes' depiction of Santa flying over Central Hall, including Fritz the Cat — one of Salt Spring's newsmakers of the year — was also chosen for printing in this week's edition.

What's On?
see page B16



Rammed Earth
Tired of imitations and veneers?
Consider a SIREwall home.
www.sirewall.com
537-9355

Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and sincere thanks to each and every person who helps us in their own way, all year long, including these great supporters:

- Ace Courier
- Aroma Crystal
- Autumn Snow Jewelry
- BC Liquor Store Employees
- Curves
- The Driftwood
- Flowers & Wine
- Ganges Village Market
- Harlan's Chocolates
- Kanaka Massage Therapy
- IODE
- Island Star Video
- Movie Gallery
- Maycock & Mots(& Lynell!)
- Oystercatcher
- Pharmasave
- Salt Spring Foundation
- Thrifty Foods
- Windflower Moon



"Transitions" especially thanks its wonderful volunteers, the generous folks who donate goods to the store year round and loyal customers. We could not do this without you.

Island Women Against Violence is a non-profit society dedicated to helping women and children affected by violence and abuse. Operating the Salt Spring Island Transition House & Crisis Line, Stopping the Violence & Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling, Women's Outreach Services and "Transitions" Thrift Store.



SALT SPRING MINI STORAGE
537-5888



Jump Ship and Sea.

vancouver victoria nanaimo gulf islands

Take the world's most established and professional seaplane service to downtown Vancouver at Coal Harbour or Vancouver Airport South and save your time for better things.

VANCOUVER
\$74
ONE WAY PLUS GST

VANCOUVER AIRPORT SOUTH
\$69
ONE WAY PLUS GST

HARBOUR AIR SEAPLANES
YOUR SEAPLANE PROFESSIONALS

Book, Board and Fly... It's that simple!

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

www.harbourair.ca

Walkers' safety a two-way street

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Staff Writer

The cheapest and most effective solution to preventing accidents between pedestrians and vehicles travelling along island roads is increasing awareness, according to Pedestrian Safety Committee (PSC) member Marion Pape.

"It's about each and every

one of us taking responsibility," she said. "We are all part of the problem and are all part of the solution. This is not rocket science, just an awareness to drive more slowly."

Formed in March 2005, Pape said, the PSC is now preparing to look at "alternative solutions" to the island's traffic and pedestrian woes.

As a Capital Regional District (CRD) advisory board, Pape said, the committee is in an ideal position to request funding to create urban trails on the island that could be used by commuters who walk or cycle to work.

In addition to the trail networks, the committee is also seeking to prioritize the need for wider shoulders and curbed sidewalks along high use areas between Norton Road and the village core.

With upwards of \$100,000 of federal gas-tax money anticipated for Salt Spring Island in early 2006 (and some \$300,000 more to follow in the next few years), hope is on the horizon, Pape said, but added that no amount of funding can replace a shift in people's attitudes.

"It's going to take quite a bit of money to make this happen," she said. "In the meantime, it's up to the people, even if there are always those who don't listen."

Building sidewalks and trails is only one approach, she said. Other options include traffic circles, limiting traffic in the core and changing traffic patterns.

Pape agreed with Ministry of Transportation (MOT) area manager Greg Galpin's view that changing speed limits overnight could do more harm than good.

Instead, she said, adopting

an overall "traffic calming" approach would reduce risks along Lower Ganges Road.

Boosting pedestrian and bicycle traffic while decreasing safety threats is where the island needs to head and that requires everybody's commitment, she said.

At a December 7 school board meeting held less than 20 metres from the notorious Rainbow Road intersection, trustees agreed change was necessary before it was too late.

In addition to requesting MOT extend the school zone, trustees tossed around proposals for increased lighting, a shuttle bus running up Rainbow Road and asking for volunteers to monitor the trouble spots near schools.

Schools superintendent Wendy Herbert said it is important to consider alternatives, but added the best recourse is to inform.

"Volunteers are wonderful, but what happens when they can't show up?" asked Herbert. "We are better off educating our students on how to walk safely and our drivers on how to watch out through school zones."

Newly elected Salt Spring Island trustee George Ehring said it was obvious the Rainbow Road intersection remains problematic.

Rewriting the island's official community plan (OCP) and proceeding with the tourism and Ganges Harbour management plans with pedestrian safety and traffic in mind, he said, will ensure a lasting solution is built into the community's vision.

"On a Trust level, there already exist opportunities to intervene," he said. "We will continue speaking with [MOT] about crosswalk lights and I hope we can get

at this before those management plans are in place."

In the meantime, RCMP Sgt. Danny Willis agreed with Pape's call for increased awareness.

He said drivers are required to give pedestrians the right of way wherever they may be crossing the road. He also advised walkers to think twice before stepping outside without bright-coloured clothing or sufficient lighting.

He also advised pedestrians to recognize trouble spots instead of "wandering around" and suggested they pay special attention at dawn, sunset or whenever the sun is low in the sky.

"We know that [Lower Ganges and Rainbow] intersection is problematic and the pedestrians have to be cognizant that vehicle drivers entering the intersection often cannot see," he said.

Nor is pedestrian safety confined to the winter months, Willis added.

"It's actually more troubling in the summer when visitors are walking around and the roads are filled with drivers who are unfamiliar with local roads," he said.

As for lowering speed and increasing surveillance along Lower Ganges Road, Willis remained skeptical.

"The intersection is difficult to monitor speed-wise," he said. "In most cases it's not high speed causing the accidents, it's a lack of visibility."

Willis said drivers should always take traffic conditions into account when entering or leaving the village core.


"Just because the speed limit is 50, doesn't mean people have to drive that fast," he said.

Are you living on income, from your investments?
Are they tax efficient?
Call a trusted local Professional



BERKSHIRE SECURITIES INC.
Martin J. Hoogerdyk, CFP
Investment Advisor
Rocky Kinahan
Administrative Assistant
537-1730
GRACE POINT SQUARE
mhoogerdyk@berkshire.ca

Best Wishes FOR THE Holiday Season



- New England style reproduction furniture
- Shaker inspired furniture
- Indoor & outdoor period lighting
- Home decor & unique gifts

NEW ENGLAND SQUARE
529 Pandora Ave. (Market Square) Victoria (250) 384-5777
newenglandsquare.com



Mafalda Hoogerdyk

TRADES PEOPLE
Now there is affordable 24 hour disability coverage, call for more information
537-1730
www.oceanswestinsurance.ca
mafalda@oceanswestinsurance.ca

OceansWest INSURANCE BROKERS

Let's Face It
NON-SURGICAL AESTHETICS
The clear choice for problem skin solutions



Acne • Acne rosacea
Actinic keratosis (sun damage)
Pore reduction • Skin pigmentation
Fine lines & wrinkles (Botox & Restylane)
Photodynamic therapy (facial rejuvenation)

Look Great - Feel Great
Call today, no referral needed
Dr. G. Benloulou Inc. 538-SKIN (7546)


Wolf Valley NATURAL LEARNING PROGRAM FOR YOUTH

We have places for two students aged 10-12 in our 4 day a week Outdoor Home schooling program beginning in the New Year.

THIS PROGRAM WOULD SUIT YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO:

- Would like to home school but enjoy group activities, being outdoors and in an active and dynamic learning environment.
- Believe that discovering the answers for oneself is fun, exciting and the best way to learn.
- Are committed to being a part of a respectful, responsible and caring community of learners.
- Enjoy adventure, physical activity, exploring mysteries, experimenting with creative modes of communication and having fun.

If you are interested and would like to find out more about our group and curriculum, please email David or Tashmyra @ earthtrack2000@yahoo.ca or phone 537 7008.



'Nanaimo' not wrapped and ready for Christmas

Ferry service between Gulf Islands and the mainland will be snug and cozy over the holiday season since smaller vessels will be plying the route.

According to a B.C. Ferries press release, the Queen of Nanaimo was scheduled to return to service at Long Harbour from a major upgrade on December 23, 2005, but due to complications from refitting the 41-year-old vessel, the date has now been moved to January 9, 2006.

The 192-car vessel is currently at the Deas Pacific Marine maintenance facility completing a major refit to prepare the vessel for another eight to 10 years of service on the Tsawwassen-southern Gulf Islands route.

Extraordinary maintenance work on the vessel includes replacing structural steel, upgrading fire protection and installing a new marine evacuation system. A complete interior upgrade includes new flooring, seating, renovated washrooms and cafeteria, an expanded gift shop and new children's play area.

Consequently, the smaller Queen of Tsawwassen will continue to replace the Queen of Nanaimo throughout the holiday season.

B.C. Ferries advises that reservations are already fully booked for many sailings on this 128-car vessel. And the ferry corporation expects to reach its maximum licence level for passengers on some days.

The Bowen Queen will provide supplemental service between Swartz Bay, Pender Island (Otter Bay) and Mayne Island (Village Bay) on December 23, 27, 30, and January 2.

During the supplemental service period, the Bowen Queen departs from Swartz Bay to Otter Bay at 10:15 a.m. (arriving at 10:55 a.m.), leaves Otter Bay for Village Bay at 11:05 a.m. (arriving at 11:30 a.m.), departs Village Bay for Swartz Bay at 11:40 a.m. (arriving at 12:55 p.m.), leaves Swartz Bay for Otter Bay at 1:15 p.m. (arriving at 1:55 p.m.), departs Otter Bay to Village Bay at 2:05 p.m. (arriving at 2:30 p.m.) and leaves Village Bay for Swartz Bay at 2:40 p.m. (arriving at 3:30 p.m.)

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

 <p>2003 FORD 150XL extended cab, only 43k... \$17,995</p>	 <p>2000 PATHFINDER loaded, auto, air..... \$15,995</p>	<p>NEW STOCK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1991 MAZDA B2200, WITH CANOPY..... \$4,995 1990 CUTLASS CIERRA, GREAT SHAPE..... \$2,995 1984 FORD MUSTANG ONLY 86K, MINT..... \$4,995 1993 MAZDA MPV, 4 CYL, AUTO..... \$3,995 1992 NISSAN STANZA LOADED..... \$4,995 1995 CHEV ASTRO VAN-AWD, EXTRA CLEAN..... \$5,995 1994 MERCURY SABLE WAGON, LOADED..... \$2,995 1991 MAZDA B2200 P/U 4 CYL, 5 SPD..... \$4,995 	 <p>2001 MAZDA TRIBUTE only 57k, loaded..... 16,995</p>	 <p>1994 JEEP YJ mint, 4 cyl, 5 speed..... \$6,995</p>
--	--	--	--	---

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



FOOD BANK TOWERS: Noah Van Hullebush and Dylan Hillis stack food collected by classmates in a food bank drive at Salt Spring Island Middle School last week.
Photo by Sean McIntyre

Driftwood reporter wins fellowship

The Driftwood's Sean McIntyre is one of five B.C. journalists selected to spend two weeks gathering material for stories in East Africa in March.

McIntyre learned Friday he has received a *Seeing the World Through New Eyes* fellowship through the Jack Webster Foundation, in partnership with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The fellowships are for full-time journalists who are under the age of 30 or in their first five years of a journalism career.

"These fellowships will benefit B.C. journalists who want an opportunity to see beyond their borders, witness firsthand Canadian organizations that help in developing countries and also view the developing world from a perspective of the people who live there," said Steve Crombie, co-chair of the Jack Webster Foundation.

Applicants had to write a 500-word essay describing why they wanted to participate, include references, a supporting letter from their employers that confirmed stories would be published and submit examples of



McIntyre

their work showing an interest in development issues.

Fellowship applications were submitted by 42 print and broadcast journalists in B.C.

"When Sean got the news last week, we exploded with excitement in the editorial department," said Driftwood managing editor Gail Sjuberg. "It's an amazing opportunity for Sean, our readers and the communities the journalists will visit, and it will hopefully build on already-established connections between Salt Spring and Africa."

Other recipients are Rob McKee, from CFJC News in Kamloops, Rob Shaw of the Victoria Times Colonist, Lena Sin of The Province newspaper and Betsy Trumpener from CBC Radio in Prince George.

They will be led by Vancouver Sun columnist and veteran reporter Don Cayo.

The group's exact destinations have not yet been determined.

What's On This Week?
See Page B16



Hartland Landfill 2006 Rates

On January 3, 2006, disposal rates at Hartland Landfill will increase.

Prices per tonne (1,000 kilograms)	
General Refuse	\$85 (\$7 minimum)
Yard and Garden Materials	\$55 (\$7 minimum)
Less than 75 mm (3 inches in diameter)	
Greater than 75 mm (3 inches) in diameter	\$85 (\$7 minimum)
Public Drop-off Area	\$85
(Plus a \$5 user fee)	
Small loads of refuse (User fee included)	(\$7 minimum)

Revenue from tipping fees is necessary to pay for operations and capital works projects at Hartland, as well as recycling and other waste diversion programs in the Capital Region. Residents are not taxed for these services.

For more information, please contact:

CRD Hotline 1-800-663-4425 local 3030
hotline@crd.bc.ca
or visit: www.crd.bc.ca/es/hartland

Holiday ferry time changes in effect

Gulf Islands ferry travelers are reminded that some sailings will be cancelled on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

They are:

- Between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay, the 6:15 a.m. sailing from Fulford and the 7 a.m. from Swartz.

- From Vesuvius Bay, the 7, 8 and 9 a.m., and 7, 8:40 and 9:40 p.m. runs.

- From Crofton, the 7:30, 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. sailings,

and the 8:10, 9:10 and 10:05 runs.

- The 9:55 a.m. transfers to Tsawwassen from Lyall Harbour and Otter Bay are also cancelled.

B.C. Ferries also stresses that for Swartz Bay to southern Gulf Islands or Tsawwassen to southern Gulf Islands routes, the regular Monday schedule is in effect on Boxing Day, December 26, not the "holiday" Monday schedule.

Bookkeeping Services

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



QuickBooks Setup, Training and Support

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

David Waddington

537-0854

Certified Intuit Advisor

Specializing in Small Business

OPEN 9:30 AM
BOXING DAY
MONDAY DEC. 26



BARGAINS UP TO 70% OFF

CLOTHING • FOOTWEAR • ACCESSORIES • SOUVENIRS

537-5551

**WEST WIND
HARDWOOD INC.**

Custom Flooring
*Specializing in custom Wide Plank
Clear Douglas Fir*

- Brand name flooring available
- Over 50 Hardwood & Softwood species in stock

1-800-667-2275
#5 - 10189 McDonald Park Road, Sidney, BC

Drunk drivers flood court dockets

Judge Michael Hubbard chided a repeat offender by ordering a two-year driving ban, one year's probation and a 90-day conditional sentence after Jason Donahue pleaded guilty to impaired driving at Ganges Provincial Court on December 6.

"Mr. Donahue, you've got

an abysmal driving record," said Hubbard. "If you're back before me again, I'll put you in jail."

Donahue, age 39, was arrested on November 12, 2004 when he was involved in a two-vehicle crash at the bottom of Lee's Hill. He refused to provide a breath sample to police after investigation, which resulted in a further charge (which was dropped as a result of his guilty plea to impaired driving).

Prior to his most recent arrest in 2004, court heard, Donahue had previous convictions in Sidney (1995), Victoria (1993) and Kelowna (1983). He had also been involved in a 2002 crash that resulted in a head injury but no criminal charges.

Consequently, Crown counsel Barb Penty requested a 90-day jail sentence and a four-year driving ban.

But defence counsel Tybring Hemphill indicated that Donahue had recently completed a three-week residential treatment program for alcoholism and suggested that a conditional sentence would be sufficient to safeguard the community.

Judge Hubbard ruled that Donahue must abstain from alcohol, provide breath samples on demand, attend further counselling as directed and observe a curfew from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. as part of a 90-day conditional sentence.

Several other drinking

and driving matters were resolved in court:

- Islander Nicholas Van Dusen-Schultz received a two-for-one deal when he pleaded guilty to impaired driving charges at Ganges Provincial Court on December 6.

While Van Dusen-Schultz, 20, had already received a \$600 fine and one-year driving prohibition for an impaired-driving charge during court in November, Hubbard opted to simply add another \$1,200 in fines and a concurrent driving penalty by combining a second set of charges to the same sentence.

Court heard that Van Dusen-Schultz was rescued from a smashed vehicle with the "jaws of life" after he crashed on North End Road on September 17, 2004.

"You may well have killed yourself," Hubbard said.

A second accident saw Van Dusen-Schultz put another vehicle in the ditch along Cusheon Lake Road on March 9.

Upon subsequent investigation, he provided a breath sample of 0.210 (over double the legal limit of 0.08).

Van Dusen-Schultz indicated that he was exercising poor judgment during a brief period in his life and that he is now focussed on caring for his family with a new baby on the way.

- A busy court docket might have helped a last-minute deal that cancelled an impaired-driving trial for Daniel Welsh.

Though witnesses were set to testify, the judge and lawyers all checked their ferry schedules and cancelled the trial when Welsh, 38, pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of driving without reasonable consideration.

Court heard that Welsh made admissions of alcohol consumption when police attended a two-vehicle crash on Fulford-Ganges Road on May 18, 2004.

Since the Crown dropped impaired-driving charges, breathalyzer readings were not shared.

Crown counsel Penty also noted that Welsh had three previous impaired-driving convictions. The most recent conviction was disposed in 1998.

Defence counsel Thomas Doust indicated that the

crash "totaled" a car belonging to Welsh's fiancé and that he would also be responsible for damages to the second vehicle.

Hubbard ordered Welsh to pay a \$1,000 fine and serve a one-year driving ban.

- An island man received an \$800 fine, a 12-month driving ban and probation when he pleaded guilty to drinking and driving.

Court heard that Gregory Gestram had a blood-alcohol level of 0.310 (almost four times the 0.08 limit) when he was arrested after a crash in the Ganges Village Market parking lot on October 22.

"I'm just glad I didn't hurt anyone," Gestram told court.

Penty noted that Gestram showed only minor signs of impairment when he was interviewed by police at the crash.

"Mr. Gestram might wish to be part of a probation order that would allow him access to alcohol treatment programs," Penty said.

"Most people are unconscious at 0.310," noted Hubbard.

The judge ruled for a larger than minimum sentence because Gestram had a previous conviction for impaired driving in 1992.

- A local man involved in a November 13 crash on Robinson Road received a \$600 fine and a one-year driving ban when he pleaded guilty to impaired-driving charges.

"We got drunk and rolled the truck," Stephen Wright told police when they arrived on the scene at Robinson Road.

Wright provided a breathalyzer reading of 0.220 when he was arrested.

- Brian Kitchen received the mandatory minimum sentence of a \$600 fine and a one-year driving ban after he pleaded guilty to impaired driving charges.

Kitchen was stopped by police for weaving over the double line on Fulford-Ganges Road on October 27.

Court heard that Kitchen had difficulty following simple requests when he was stopped and that he refused to supply a breath sample.

Crown counsel dropped refusal to supply a breath sample charges after Kitchen pleaded guilty to impaired driving.

>>>Salt Spring Solution

smart for two

- 70 miles/gallon • Diesel powered
- Low emissions (90g/100km CO₂)
- Coupe or Cabriolet

.....from **\$16,700** plus freight and pdi

SEVERAL AVAILABLE RIGHT NOW



For more information call
Jade St. Dennis
Three Point Motors 1-888-215-1175
email: jstdennis@threepointmotors.com



open your mind.

Tanning Packages
\$60.00

Spa Day
\$21.99

Far Infrared Packages
\$159.00

Fleas Navidogs.

Experience hair-free skin



Call for monthly specials!

- Laser Hair Removal for men & women
- Laser Peels
- Temporary Tattoo (Henna)
- Eyebrow Threading

Call Manj or Lesli **250-709-9685**

VI Laser Centre Ltd.
#106 - 435 Trunk Rd, Duncan

The North End Fitness Christmas Fit Kit
Two Full Months Membership, a Personalized Workout Program and a Whole Stocking-Full of Extra Treats, all Beautifully Gift Boxed!

\$79.95

537-5217

Selling? Buying? Call me today for award-winning, professional service. You will be listened to and treated well. That's a promise!

Kerry Chalmers **537-1201** (pager)
kerrychalmers@saltspring.com

Island Quest Realty Ltd. www.gulfislandsrealestate.com

Last Chance Decorating Sale

Drapery and Upholstery Fabric Up to 25% OFF!

Choose from Vancouver Island's largest selection of drapery and upholstery fabrics. 1000s of fabrics for you to choose from.

15 to 50% OFF Hunter Douglas Blinds

- Silhouette Shades
- Lumnette Shades
- Vignette Shades
- Woven Woods
- Wood Blinds
- Venetian Blinds
- Pleated Shades
- Roman Shades
- Vertical Blinds
- Cellular Blinds
- Roller Shades
- Motorization

DON'T DELAY!! BOOK YOUR FREE IN HOME CONSULTATION NOW BEFORE RETAIL PRICES GO UP IN JANUARY



384-1230
FREE SHOP-AT-HOME SERVICE

Visit Victoria's Largest Decorating Showroom at 2745 Bridge St. Mon. - Fri. 9 - 5. Sat. 9:30 - 4

www.ruffell-brown.com



THE SHELL ANGEL: Sarah Robinson sells Christmas angels made of shells at an impromptu market at Centennial Park.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

Chlopan hits winners board at disc tourney

Salt Spring's Joah Chlopan tied for third place at the December 17 Duck Golf Series disc golf tournament held in Langley.

Chlopan, the only Salt Spring player who attended, tied with Coquitlam's Craig Sheather among the 29 players in the Open Pro Division.

Chlopan shot 96 (-12), only four strokes behind the famous Glen Whitlock and only one stroke behind second place. The islander managed to beat the Abbie's Open winner, Glen Oliviero, by one stroke for the second time straight in the Duck Golf Series.



"I'm very pleased with my Granite Counter tops: excellent workmanship, competitive pricing, and installed on time."
Mrs. R. Clinch, SSI

Nan cell 250-619-9991
email daclarke@shaw.ca

Granite Counter Tops & Vanities

Granite is Forever and Forever Beautiful



Kapa Kai Glass

TROY KAYE - Journeyman Glazier

Merry Christmas & Best Wishes for the New Year

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

Thank You

Salt Spring Angels!!!

Your contributions to the "Angels in the Night" project has ensured a warmer and brighter holiday season for many in our community. Our heartfelt gratitude extends to all that contributed

Carolyn, Margaret, Lynell & Andrea Maycock & Mots Mortgage Team

Islander fined for having cocaine

A 54-year-old islander received a \$500 fine when he pleaded guilty to cocaine-possession charges in Ganges Provincial Court on December 6.

Court heard that Michael Jones was arrested on August 7 when neighbours complained he was running around with a baseball bat causing a disturbance because he believed someone had broken into his home.

Police seized 2.7 grams of cocaine and discovered that Jones had seven previous convictions for possession, theft, assault and trafficking spanning a period between 1969 and 1994.

Also in court on December 6: Adam Davidson entered a voluntary peace bond with the court after he was charged with causing a disturbance at Centennial Park.

"Difficulties arose in the past because he was not taking his medications," said defence counsel Tybring Hemphill.

Davidson agreed to report to a forensic clinic or mental health team, report to a bail supervisor daily if he refused to take prescribed medications, and maintain no contact with named individuals.

The Crown agreed to drop criminal charges in response to the agreement.

MYLES WILSON & Associates

















SALT SPRING ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA

CARRIAGE TRADE

"We hold the keys to an Island Lifestyle."



Full Service Real Estate Professionals • Phone (250) 537-7200 Toll free: 1-877-537-7200

			
Magnificent Estate \$1,500,000	A Waterfront Estate \$1,295,000	Low-Bank Waterfront \$950,000	New Oceanview \$699,000 + GST
			
Ocean View Log Home \$649,000	Spacious Oceanview \$629,000	On a Country Lane \$619,000	B&B Opportunity \$599,000
			
South End Sunshine \$599,000	Oceanview and Pasture \$549,000	Best of Both Worlds \$439,000	A Little Farm \$419,000
			
Acreage Plot \$339,000	Acreage Plot \$329,000	Charming Starter \$269,000	Acreage Plot \$219,000

DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS
The Island's marketplace
Page B18

Gulf Islands
Driftwood

www.myleswilson.com / mwilson@saltspring.com



Christmas generosity

Salt Spring residents know they live in a place overflowing with warm and generous people.

Fundraising campaigns typically exceed expectations. Victims of tragedy are overwhelmed by community support. From connections with materially impoverished countries, particularly in Central America and Africa, islanders have made sure their wealth illuminates lives around the world.

The willingness of Salt Spring business owners to contribute to almost any imaginable endeavour — from raffles to auctions to the food bank — is legendary and much appreciated by all the non-profit groups that benefit.

For the first time in a big way this season, the needs of island residents without secure shelter came into focus as beneficiaries of Christmas-time generosity. A new to Salt Spring venture was the Maycock and Mots Mortgage Team Angels in the Night program, which collected specific clothing, shelter and hygiene items, while the Copper Kettle Community Partnership has been established for a longer period of time and seeks funds for both short and long-term solutions to the lack of housing.

Unfortunately, the need for Christmas hampers proved greater than ever this year, with the 210 boxes delivered on Monday representing a 35 per cent increase in demand. Yet still the need was met.

But besides providing financial support to worthy projects at this time of year, talented islanders share more than usual their gifts in the performing arts.

The Newman family's Christmas With Scrooge show has been mounted one last time after 20 years of history.

It really epitomizes the best of Salt Spring in December: the caring, time, humour, sweat and love freely given by participants in the show, while the story's message of positive change, and sharing one's wealth and gifts, never loses its punch.

And of course, none of these wonderful events enriching lives here and elsewhere would occur without so many individuals and groups being eager to volunteer.

At Christmas we give extra thanks to everyone who contributes to their community — in time, talent, money, goods or with a wide-open heart.

Driftwood

President Frank Richards
Publisher Penny Sakamoto
Managing Editor Gail Sjuberg
Advertising Manager Peter McCully
Advertising Rick MacKinnon, Marit McBride, Tracy Stibbards, Mitchell Sherrin, Sean Mcdntyre
Reporters Derrick Lundy
Photographer Claudia French, Eva Kuhn
Accounting/Circulation Lorraine Sullivan
Production Manager Kaye Segee, Emma Yardley, Susan Lundy

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.
 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3

Office Hours: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday
Phone: 250-537-9933 **Fax:** 250-537-2613 **Toll-free:** 1-877-537-9934
E-mail: driftwood@gulfislands.net, website: www.gulfislands.net

Yearly Subscription Rates
 In the Gulf Islands \$50.83* Elsewhere in Canada \$85.60*
 6 months elsewhere in Canada \$58.85* Outside Canada \$179.00

*Includes GST
 This newspaper acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program (PAP), toward its mailing costs.
 Publications Mail Registration No. 08149
 International Standard Serial Number 1198-7782

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada



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

Restoring currency control to Parliament needed

By KEN ROULEAU

In my December 7 View Point article we looked into the problem of money relating to who issues a nation's currency.

When control over money was given to the Bankers Association in 1913, the federal government had to secure a source of revenue in order to pay for this new interest debt. Considering they had already passed an unconstitutional Banking Act, another unconstitutional step was taken to complete the deal: the Federal Income Tax Act. In all countries where currency was given over to the banks, a federal income tax was soon to follow.

From the beginning, our Constitution was clear that, not only should Parliament control currency, but also taxes were specifically delegated. The provinces had sole right to directly tax citizens (through income tax or a provincial sales tax) and the federal government had every other means to tax Canadians. Again, for the first 50 years this worked fine. In 1917, the Federal government instituted a "temporary" *Income War Tax*

VIEW POINT

Act using the war as reason to pay what amounted to a Bank debt with exponentially growing interest. They had to make it 'temporary' because it was well known at the time to be unconstitutional. It was never repealed and became absorbed into general revenues even though it was illegal.

In 1950, a challenge to federal income tax went to the Supreme Court in *Nova Scotia vs. Lord Nelson Hotel*. The October 3, 1950 decision ruled unanimously in favour of the Lord Nelson Hotel because "it was illegal for provincial and federal governments to transfer powers." Because of this decision, Prime Minister John Diefenbaker later stated, "The federal government should be out of the income tax collection business by 1963." This didn't happen and the illegal tax continued.

Since most of us don't know our own Constitution, let alone history, rarely has any Canadi-

an ever challenged the feds on income tax. However, Gary Hart of Manitoba refused to pay federal income tax for 50 years and went to court 22 times using only the Constitution and the 1950 *Nelson Hotel* decision. Hart won all 22 decisions in the Manitoba Court of Appeal. During his last court case, Revenue Canada was warned it would be charged with contempt if it ever brought Gary Hart back into court.

Now, to be clear, I believe that, as citizens, we have a social responsibility to mutually share the costs of nationhood, and that is done through general taxation. As long as these taxes are valid, and being spent properly to the benefit of all Canadians, I have no problem. However, our money is obviously not spent properly. And, while taxes are necessary, the federal income tax is not only unconstitutional, it is there to pay off interest on money we should not have borrowed in the first place.

Instead of running an economy based on actual revenues, the present banking system (called fractional reserve banking) allows two

very dangerous activities: 1) Credit based on nothing. The banks don't create money, or base it on gold, when they take our treasury bonds; they issue a line of credit/debt that is repaid as real money comes in from the government.

2) "Fractional reserve banking" means only a fraction is on reserve. If I borrow or invest \$1,000 in a bank, that bank can now lend out \$10,000 based on the original \$1,000. This means \$9,000 is "created" out of thin air! If everyone went to their banks at the same time and tried to withdraw all their actual money, the banks would close and collapse because there is only a fraction of real money there, the rest is pure speculation. If anyone other than the banks or the government did this, they would be charged with fraud.

The solution to this national disaster is threefold: restore the issuance of currency to Parliament, pay off the debt from the treasury and abolish the federal income tax. This would not only relieve Canadians of a huge debt burden, it would allow people to keep more of their hard-earned

money to spend into our economy directly. Under a proper constitutional system, our present national debt would be around \$50 billion, payable by general tax revenues, and based on real reserves and money. We would no longer have broken social programs and unhealthcare as the money needed would be available, and not by indebting our children to usury interest.

Our present monetary structure and federal income tax are two parts of one whole system that is illegal and has contributed to a great burden upon Canadians while benefitting a few banking interests and politicians who receive massive corporate donations to their parties.

As Canadians, we have an allegiance to each other and the future, not to big corporations, nor to corrupt politicians or illegal deals made in another era. I believe in a REAL democracy I've yet to see, and am still waiting for.

The above is the second of two articles submitted by the Salt Spring writer.

Heading towards a waterfall despite the political debate

By RYDER BERGERUD

The United Nations conference on climate change is now over with new goals finally agreed upon, though much time was spent in Montréal working to try to motivate the United States to take action.

Why is the U.S. so resistant to reducing pollution and taking other steps to avoid climate change? Hasn't the U.S. seen some of the damage caused by global warming in New Orleans? It seems that the U.S. tends not to work against preventing these disasters, whether it

IN DEPTH

is preventative action taken when strengthening the dikes around New Orleans or to prevent further escalation of the growing crisis of global warming.

The Arctic Polar icecap will shrink by an estimated one third in the next 10 years. We have currently lost eight per cent of the polar icecap, an area five times the size of Britain. This will

cause ocean levels to rise by many metres within the next century. Scientists say this change is irreversible, and that there is clear evidence that it is caused by humans.

Even with this technology to predict such statistics, it seems the leadership in the United States seems to be ignorant of the situation at hand. President Bush has claimed that "there is no such thing as global warming."

Tom Delay, leader of the House of Representatives, calls the Environmental Protection Agency the "Gestapo

of government" and also claims that "it's never been proven that air toxins are hazardous to people."

Economic advisors in the government go as far as to say global warming will be beneficial to the economy with the increase in climates suitable for agriculture. The truth is that we have very limited knowledge about these ecosystems on which all life depends, and there is no way of predicting any benefits for agriculture if our soils are to be too polluted to grow anything. Do politicians act short-sighted

because future generations will not be voting for them?

S. George Philander, a geoscientist at Princeton University, describes our situation somewhat like this: That we are rafting down a river, but are unsure where we are on our map which shows the river heading towards a waterfall. Some people on this raft wish to land immediately, while others insist it is safe to continue on for several more hours. A few are enjoying the ride so much that they deny there is any danger, although the map clearly shows a waterfall. A

debate is taking place even though the current is accelerating, making it more and more difficult to land safely.

There needs to be radical changes in leadership in many countries if we are to land safely on the banks of this river. Canada must follow its commitments on the Kyoto Protocol. Our country and all others must do this before we start badgering Canada's neighbours to take action.

The writer is a member of the Gulf Islands Secondary School student government.

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: *What is your Christmas wish?*



Dustin McRobb

For people to be less selfish.



Nikole Varlis-Love

I want to save our birds because they are so important.



Christina Picard

I wish people would stop littering and pick up after themselves.



Sequoia & Ernie Wood

We wish everyone on Salt Spring and around the world a safe and happy Christmas.



Brook Borland

I hope we can save the whales and protect the oceans.

Letters to the Editor

Peace wish

On Friday, December 21, 1945 in Gasthaus Post, Hermagor, Austria, the men of B Company Royal West Kent Regiment sponsored a Christmas party for the children of the village.

The first Christmas of peace after six years of war. This was eagerly undertaken by all ranks.

The writer's duties at that time were as corporal-in-charge of the hall and bar. A children's party would certainly be a different function.

The party program was tea, English-style light meal, sandwiches and cakes.

Tea was made from our army ration of pre-mixed, tea, milk powder and sugar. Just add boiling water. The sandwiches were probably made from corned beef and our ration of canned cheese, which was very good, St. Ives, not like today's "plastic" cheese.

Chocolate bars, two ounce, and boiled sweets were also available from our rations.

Most likely the first candies these children could remember.

Of course there were speeches from "the brass." A children's film, followed by a children's choir singing Christmas music, ending their selection with Stille Nacht — and then the distribution of presents.

I don't know who enjoyed the party the most — the troops or the children. Much of Europe was in ruin by the end of war 1945. Starvation faced many. Food was scarce everywhere.

Although our rations were sufficient, the men still cut back on the amount of bread they ate to form a surplus to provide sandwiches for the children.

Hermagor was a small rural town, never bombed or involved in battle. Conditions were not bad, like the bombed and shelled larger towns and cities.

Early memories of Christmas for children the world over would be Christmas without the presence of fathers who had been drafted

for war service. Many were away five or six years and still not home for Christmas 1945.

Christmas has come and gone 60 times since then. Christmas 2005 I am trying to fill the wish list of my grandchildren.

My wish list is a little harder to fill. As that old saying goes, I wish the world's last sword could be turned into a plowshare. I wish that someday there really will be peace on earth. A just, caring, compassionate society.

Merry Christmas.

RON MILTON,
Salt Spring

Profound

I must commend reporter Mitchell Sherrin on his brilliantly stated review of Chris Kodaly's performance of the Franz Liszt piece at the Tuned Air Winterfires concert. (December 7 Driftwood.)

How completely refreshing to finally wholeheartedly agree with a review which so beautifully conveyed and articulated such a profound

transmission of expression!
COLLEEN SKELCHER,
Salt Spring

Pledge withdrawn

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the recent Ssplash AGM because I had to be at Fulford Hall, but someone who was there told me that when a vote was taken on whether or not to hand over to PARC the funds Ssplash had accumulated, the majority of non-executive members voted to give PARC all the money, and the entire executive voted to give only a part of it, and at that, a small part.

The executive, and a small number of non-executives present won, but the majority wishes of the non-executives — more likely representative of the community — did not prevail.

The people who are making the decisions are not the hundreds who have donated money and/or time to Ssplash.

It is a small group who are disregarding the wishes of the majority because of their own entrenched position. True, meetings have been woefully unattended, but part of this is because people have trusted the Ssplash executive to act in the best interests of the majority, something they did once, but appear to no longer care about.

I am withdrawing my pledge, but what saddens me is that every time Ssplash pays for advertising in the Driftwood, its funds are that much less.

If the Ssplash executive could remember that they are representatives, not an oligarchy, then they would do what this community wants done with the money it has raised: give it to PARC for the new indoor pool.

Then, let's turn our attention to job number two: raising funds to help keep the operating costs manageable.

TOBY FOUKS,
Salt Spring

Giving time

At Christmas time, it is great to receive, but to truly experience the full meaning of Christmas, try helping others less fortunate.

There are some people on Salt Spring not enjoying the basics of food and shelter, so for anyone looking for suggestions on where to give to really help others, try the following.

For food: the food bank/Christmas hampers at Community Services, 268 Fulford-Ganges Road (tax deductible) and for shelter: Copper Kettle Community Partnership — Cherie Geauvreau at 537-1027 (non-tax deductible).

Malvina Reynolds wrote a song called *Love is Like a Magic Penny*, but the opposite — A Magic Penny is Love — also holds true. Thank you.

HARRY BURTON,
Heidi Place

MORE LETTERS A10

Peter Vincent's Top 10 list for 'what to buy the guy'

As I sink deeper and deeper into the abyss of bachelorhood, I seem to have developed a deep appreciation for all things material.

As a heartfelt service to all the women I see scrambling through craft fairs and big-box stores hunting for that perfect gift for that not-so-perfect partner, I give you the top 10 material gifts for the man in your life. Something new, something classic, but I guarantee you won't be hunting through the recycle bin for the receipt come Boxing Day. Here then, the Top 10.

"The Wave" by Leatherman — the most versatile multi-tool on the market by the originators of the tool. The great thing about this multi-tool is the two outer knives that you can open with one hand, so when you are out there kayaking in 10-foot waves battling 30-knot winds and vertical rain, you can cut loose the deck gear without dropping your paddle. As if. About \$100 at Slegg's.

The Nissan Stainless Steel Coffee Mug — This is the Cadillac of coffee mugs, capable of withstanding direct impact with pave-

HEAD TO HEAD

BY PETER VINCENT



ment, when the idiot leaves it on top of his car roof and hits the gas. Ahem. Oh, and it also keeps the coffee drinkable up to 90 minutes. Available at Love My Kitchen, around \$30.

DVDs — The ultimate guy movie has got to be *Blade Runner*, the futuristic film noir starring Harrison Ford, before he became a hack for American propaganda movies. Beautifully filmed with a haunting score that will test even the best 5.1 surround music system. About \$25 at Island Star Video.

The iPod Shuffle — the size of a packet of Wrigley's gum, this thing is the ultimate in simplicity and design. Plugs into any USB computer port to recharge and transfer songs, tough enough to just throw in with your pocket change, and enough volume to make your ears bleed. Available at The Source for about \$130.

The Microwaveable Beanbag — Because he works hard all day.

There is nothing better than popping one of these in the nuke for five minutes and slumping down in your favourite La-Z-Boy with this piping

hot puppy nestled in the small of your back. Comfort food for your body. I got one for Christmas 10 years ago, and use it every day. Available at various craft fairs and shops for around \$30.

The Oban — The single malt scotch from the Isle of Islay, Scotland. I have seen grown men weep at their first sip of this nectar. Gift wrap it up with a short, plain, crystal eight-ounce glass, and he will be yours forever. The glass will set you back about \$12 at Mouat's. The Oban is about \$55 at your friendly LCB.

The Pocket Breathalyzer by Connectables — For the man in your life who may be prone to have one too many scotches, there is the personal breathalyzer. About the size of a packet of matches, this battery-operated device will tell you if you are too gooned to get behind the wheel. You simply exhale over a sensor.

A yellow light will flash if you are over .04 per cent and a red light will appear if you are over .08 per cent, or legally impaired. This life and licence saver is available at Zellers for \$19.99.

A Good Book — A dismal 20 per cent of Canadians buy books. If you are lucky enough to have a guy whose idea of literature noses past Maxim Magazine, try anything by Nick Hornsby: *High Fidelity* or *How to be Good* — intelligent, funny, male and sensitive. If that's possible. If you are willing to go into the deep end, try Henry Miller or Charles Bukowski, but be warned. You may come home to an empty house and a note on the pillow. Try Salt Spring Books or any of the island's great bookstores.

The French Press — The serious coffee lover's only choice. No filters extracting the essential oils. No boiling water to burn the flavour. And (God help us) no teaspoons full of instant "flavour crystals." The coffee plunger announces to the world that you have grown up. The original (and best) is by Melior — chrome over stainless steel . . . words that will cause a stirring in the loins of any male. The original company

was bought by the more familiar Bodum brand, which still produces the Melior to original specs. It will set you back about \$100, but he's worth it, isn't he? Try Love My Kitchen, Mouat's or SS Coffee Co.

The BC Vaporizer — For the goofy pothead in your life, this little gadget will at least save his lungs. It heats up the herb to the point where the active ingredients are released without all that harsh smoke. The result is the same nonfunctioning, drooling warm body, without the annoying burn holes in the upholstery. Available at all leading head shops or online for \$79.99.

Above all, stay away from acrylic sweaters. For that matter, any kind of sweater. And after shave, electric shavers or any other kind of personal hygiene product. He is a man, not a Ken Doll.

Oh, and no personal affirmations that stick onto his fridge — that is, unless you are paired up with a badly dressed, ill-smelling wretch of a human being in need of serious therapy.

If that's the case, you may want to seriously reflect on your own New Year's resolutions. Felice Navidad!

More letters

Traffic guard

There is no doubt that the junction of Rainbow and Lower Ganges roads can be a dangerous area when the schools let out, but let's not blame it all on the motorists.

I have passed this intersection many times when students step out with no warning, expecting traffic to halt.

They also arrive in twos and threes, holding up traffic for a considerable time.

What is wrong with having a responsible senior student with a hand-held stop sign to hold up traffic after a build-up of six or eight students?

This works in countless communities — why not here?

D.L. STONE,
Cedar Lane

Alternate Kyoto view

A group of Canadian climatologists headed by professor Tim Patterson in the Department of Earth Sciences, Carleton University, Dr. Tim Ball, professor of climatology, University of Winnipeg, Dr. Tad Murty, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reviewer, Department of Earth Sciences, Carleton University, and Dr. Madhav Khaddehar, retired meteorologist with Environment Canada, made with their own money a documentary describing the science of global warming, and explaining why they think it is fatally flawed.

Dr. Ian Clark, professor of climatology at the University of Ottawa, says in the beginning: "For years I taught my

students that the increase in temperature over the past century was due mainly to human emissions of CO2. However, a few years ago I decided to look more closely at the science, and it astonished me. In fact, there is no evidence of humans being the cause."

When they tried to get this shown on Canadian television, they found that no one would. So if you think that there is freedom of expression in ideas in Canada, think again.

When it comes to global warming, nothing but the official Liberal Party of Canada position is allowed to air, which means that it is not just our health care system that we have in common with North Korea and Cuba. In fact, advocates of Kyoto would prefer to shout you down or say you need psychiatric help rather than discuss the issue in a reasonable way.

When I saw Terry's article, I called him up to say that he in fact does need his head examined to publish it in the Driftwood.

However, as you can see, he is in very good company. Contrary to popular thinking, many more scientists are opposed to Kyoto than ever is mentioned in the press.

The above Canadian climatologists eventually made a video of their documentary, which they will give you for free if you would like to contact them at www.friendsofscience.org.

Or you can contact us and we will make you a copy.

SIMON ROOK,
HEATHER HORNE,
Ganges

Warm hearts

As this year winds down and the sun seems to pause before returning on its course, so, hopefully will we.

A quiet time for reflection with friends and relations, a time for introspection and warmth. We are the fortunate. We are the blessed.

While we live in interesting times, for the most part, we are the complacent observers of the affairs of the world. When our contentment gets redefined, we go out into the far reaches of the world and help to restore peace, or rebuild, or restore.

We, as Canadians, don't stir things up; we don't cause conflict. We are a fair and unbiased group of people; I believe the rest of the world would agree.

May this holiday season warm your heart and ease your mind.

DENNIS MARSHALL,
Salt Spring

Bon voyage

To the idiot who passed my farm tractor on the double line below the golf course hill on the morning of December 11, nearly causing a head-on collision with a car coming the other way — you should know that this is a rural community, and farm equipment, horses and horse-drawn vehicles actually have the right-of-way on these roads!

If you can't handle that, then feel free to move back to wherever you came from. There are three ferries off this island, and two of them are free . . . bon voyage!

ANDY HICKMAN,
Salt Spring

Healthy water

Many of us simply would not consider putting synthetic chemical fertilizers in our vegetable gardens, allowing mercury amalgams to be placed in our mouths or sanction the stringing of high voltage power lines over ground in our neighbourhoods.

Putting gallons of the highly toxic chemical chlorine in our public swimming pool is in this same category and should merit the same level of concern we would give to these other forms of

"cost-saving" poisons.

I have chronic fatigue syndrome, which means, among other things, that my liver does not process toxins as well as it should.

I am more sensitive than most to environmental pollutants, which makes me a kind of human "toxin barometer," like the proverbial canary in the mine.

Swimming is one of the few forms of exercise I can do. I tried swimming in the indoor pool at the condo complex on Lower Ganges Road and quickly became very very ill.

The chlorine enters your body through your pores and lungs. If you have a healthy liver you won't notice the damage it is doing. For me, in true canary fashion, I experience the full force of the poison.

But not being aware of the damage doesn't mean it is not happening.

The stinging eyes and irritated soft tissues around the mouth are just the tip of the iceberg pointing to the negative impact of chlorine.

Chlorine is highly toxic, and the levels put in public pools, especially when trapped inside indoor facilities, are simply not good for the human body, especially to the most vulnerable: children, the sick and aged, which surely will make up a large portion of the pool-using population.

There are alternatives for keeping swimming pools hygienic (UV technology, for one) so that, at the very least, chlorine use can be kept to an absolute minimum.

If you plan to use the pool, or have children or friends or family who will use the pool, I urge you to take up this issue and contact the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission, write letters, inquire and support Splash so that this decision is carefully examined in the light of day.

The use of chlorine in our public pool should not be acceptable simply because it has been considered standard operating procedure (which is becoming less and less true in any case), and we should take a stand to see that our swimming water is safe and healthy.

RON MOSHONTZ,
Salt Spring

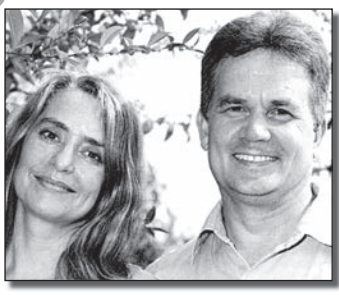
Happy Holidays

from **Nelly Kostelijk,**
Registered Massage Therapist
537-2056



REDUCE STRESS
BOOSTS IMMUNITY
RELIEVES PAIN
ENHANCES WELL BEING

Massage Therapy Gift Certificates!!!
A great stocking stuffer



HOMEOPATHY

Elizabeth Hemmings
MA LCH RSHom
&
Robin Logan
MCH RSHom FSHom


40 years of combined experience of teaching, writing about and practising Classical Homeopathy. Homeopathy is a safe, holistic, gentle but effective system of medicine that works with the body's natural ability to heal itself.

People of all ages have sought help with such problems as arthritis, asthma, headaches, anxiety, depression, colitis, neurological and hormonal conditions, eczema, psoriasis, acne, insomnia, hypertension, chronic fatigue, recurrent coughs and colds, sinusitis, allergies, and keeping healthy people healthy!

653-4127

You can help to Bank Land for our community for truly affordable housing & other community benefits

Make a donation* to the **SSI LAND BANK SOCIETY**



First project; both affordable rentals and heritage values

Cheques to: **Tides Canada Foundation (SSI Land Bank Fund)**
Mail to: **1115 Beaver Point Rd, SSI, V8K 1X2**
**Charitable tax receipts issued for donations of \$50 or more.*

Info: **Andrew Lewis: 653-4770**
Neddy: 653-4573

NORTON ESTATES

A community oriented development of 26 homes in the \$225 - \$250,000 range.

Expressions of interest by those living or working on Salt Spring Island are being taken now.

For information, please contact **Trish Murray**
Phone: 250.537.1033 or Email: info@ssahc.com



Salt Spring Housing Corporation



Home hardware

BOXING WEEK BLOW-OUT!

Sale Starts Monday, December 26, 9:30 am

ALL 3 FLOORS!

up to 50% OFF



Monday Dec. 26 9:30-5
Tues. thru Sat. 8:30-5:30

DON'T MISS THIS!

Stop, look and listen program could save school kids on Salt Spring roads

By **ANDREW GARDNER**

Somehow the views expressed in your December 14 lead article concerning road safety at the Rainbow/Lower Ganges roads intersection leave me shaking my head.

Firstly, how on earth school trustee Charles Hingston thinks extending the idiotic 30-kilometre speed limit to take in the intersection is beyond me.

The 30-km limit really is so slow that drivers have to spend more time looking at their speedometer than keeping their eyes on the road. Yes, speed is important, but 30 km is a danger in its own right.

Then we have an even more ridiculous suggestion from the CUPE union rep that perhaps we should bus the kids across this "dangerous" road. For heaven's sake. All roads are dangerous.

I, for one, don't buy Peter Price's suggestion that, "... this is an avenue where we can make them (the school kids from off-island) feel better about coming and going to school." Get real.

The problem can be countered on two fronts.

Firstly, everyone knows that the crosswalk in question is in the worst possible situation, but then so are most of the crosswalks in Ganges.

IN RESPONSE

It's as if no thought was ever given to the problem. Certainly there was no public discussion as to where the crosswalks could help everyone concerned.

Any motorist trying to turn right onto Lower Ganges Road from Rainbow has a terrible job attempting to monitor traffic that seems to leap from the bend to the left, while at the same time looking for pedestrians using the crosswalk to the right. In times of high traffic flow, it is a daunting task.

As a quick fix, if the powers-that-be won't allow pedestrian-operated traffic lights, the crosswalk could easily be moved 50 yards down Lower Ganges Road, towards the village, away from the corner.

Then at least the Ganges-bound drivers trying to turn right off Rainbow Road could safely turn without the likelihood of squashing some innocent pedestrian.

But at "peak schoolkid" times, what's wrong with a crosswalk monitor?

It works in every city in Canada. What is so pathetic about School District 64 that it hasn't considered it?

Sometimes they don't even seem to care.

On occasion I have gone into the school board office to complain about the lack of supervision at the crosswalk. The kids were out for a P.E. run.

With absolutely no supervision they were belting down both sides of Rainbow Road and funnelling at full tilt out onto the crosswalk without any concern for how close the cars were. I suppose they felt it was their God-given right. Right? But where was the teacher? Or the teacher's assistant?

Of course that would have taken some thought and planning. Needless to say my complaint was met with little more than a shrug.

Sadly, very few schoolkids seem to have the foggiest notion as to road safety... or the fact that they are mortal, and that a car (even at 30 km an hour) can make a real mess of a life.

Pass Gulf Islands Secondary School on Rainbow Road when school is going in, or coming out. It's like a zoo.

There's kids to the left, to the right, four abreast, five abreast, out-of-con-

trol skateboarders. Nobody gives a damn. One day there will be the most gawd-awful accident.

What is desperately needed is a school program to instill into kids that cars really do kill people and that there's a right and a wrong way to cross the road. "Stop, Look and Listen."

It's simple. It should be taught in Grade 1 onwards. And it's a skill for life. Let's do something about it before it's too late.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident.



EN-WREATHED: Old Salty employee Jacqueline Midgett holds a wreath as the island store gets ready for Christmas. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Happy Holiday Season to Everyone!

and my very best wishes for a peaceful and prosperous 2006



www.saltspringrealestate.com

TOM NAVRATIL
ROYAL LEPAGE
SALT SPRING REALTY

e-mail: tomas@islandnet.com

250-537-5515
Canada & U.S. 1-888-537-5515
Commercial Division, Member

Re: Design Interiors

3-D Renderings - Colour Consultation
Space Planning - Furniture and Fabric Selection



Gift Certificates Available
Towards Professional Interior Design Services
(1-877) 537-9887 (250)213-6028

Season's Greetings

Comfort & Joy

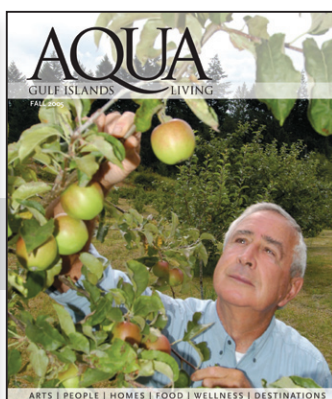
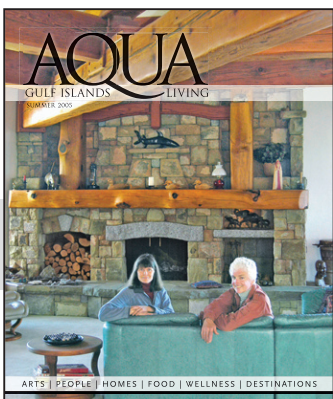


- Our sweatshirts are 100% cotton
- Made in Canada
- Available with or without Salt Spring insignias
- Available in assorted colours
- Available XS-XXL

GRACE POINT SQUARE
537-8999
www.gangesgarmentco.com



Art...music...food...friends...at home in The Gulf Islands



AQUA

GULF ISLANDS LIVING

Next issue March 2006. Reserve Now

Advertising Deadline Feb. 10

Contact Peter McCully or Rick MacKinnon
Call 537-9933 / Toll free 1-877-537-9934
Email: sales@gulfislands.net / Fax: 250-537-2613

Gulf Islands Living - a fine read.

Published by The Driftwood

Aqua is distributed throughout the Gulf Islands, Victoria, and select locations on Vancouver Island.

THE WICKERTREE

The best selection in wicker, rattan and resin furniture



Whippletree Junction

4705 Trans Canada Highway - south of Duncan
250 748 1100 | www.thewickertree.com
103-2520 Bowen Road, Nanaimo - 250 729 0309

Writers' compassion is redefined as their visit to African continues

The following is a letter to islanders from Peggy Frank and Peter Bardon, who are currently doing work with AIDS-afflicted communities in Africa.

Hi all —

Safely in Nairobi and paying a fortune for internet time, so briefly . . . Peter and I were part of the planning team for the conference and have had Africa rippling through our very essential energy for some time.

We realized that we needed to have a hands-on experience before we could continue to talk about the situation.

We are so fortunate in Canada not only to have access to medical care, including

anti-retrovirals (ARVs), but to have this care at very low cost.

We see the impact of medical problems on the poorest people — those who have no money for the food that makes the ARVs palatable and also work effectively.

Here in Africa we have experienced language problems and our own ridiculous concept of time.

We still feel badly when we arrive five minutes late for a meeting.

Yet often something scheduled from 2 to 5 p.m. goes from 3 to 4.

There is no time here except the present. And right now the present time is costing 25 cents a minute.

Internet access — like

electricity — is intermittent, and fixing things — well, remember what I said about African time.

But the hearts of the people that we meet . . . as big as a church. No, as big as a continent.

We have never run into anyone involved in the AIDS community who hasn't redefined compassion for us.

We have been treated like royalty for the little bit that we have been able to do — by people who have a culture of treating visitors as well as ever we can imagine.

Our highlights have been our AIDS connections.

Our saddest moments listening to the stories of the people of Rwanda — struggling with the emotional repercussions of the genocide.

For example, the woman who cooked in the house that we stayed in was brutalized during the genocide.

She watched the Interham-

we [militia] kill her husband; she was forced to watch.

Left a widow with HIV and depressed, looking for work, finding a good job cooking, but not enough money so she takes a job as secretary for the gachacha trials.

Imagine the mental trauma of hearing a rendition of your story over and over again.

Now she struggles with depression. On the other side she has a beautiful four-year-old daughter who wants to go to America where people will give her dolls and play with her.

Or the short trip to the orphanage with orphans clinging to us in the bunches. One boy wouldn't let Peter put him down even though he was about seven years old.

Wanting to be loved so much. Sigh.

Peggy and Peter

Fresh cut, organic Christmas Trees

Andrew

Jordan

Christmas Tree Sales* at Windsor Plywood
*Open Monday - Friday 7:00am - 5:30pm
All proceeds to the 1st Ganges Scouts
* Local trees from on-island supplier

TREES \$10 & up
Hurry they are going fast!

One Stop Christmas Shopping
Windsor Plywood
166 Rainbow Road • Ph: 537-5564 • Fax: 537-1207

a very unusual
Christmas Store!
Salt Spring's largest collection of unusual Christmas trees and decorations.

BEST WISHES for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

STONE WALRUS GALLERY

136 LOWER GANGES RD
Monday - Saturday 10am-5pm • Tel: (250) 537-9896
email: stonewalrus@telus.net



ON THE DANCE FLOOR: Dancers Susannah Devitt and Rusty Marshall perform with others at the Fezziwig Ball in the annual Christmas With Scrooge, on now at ArtSpring. Story, Page B5. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Plates warmed for community dinner

Once again the Salt Spring United Church, with the help of its friends in the community, is hosting a Christmas dinner at Meaden Hall on Sunday, December 25.

The fifth annual event runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Spearheaded by Gary Fletcher and assisted by Tom

Mitchell, chairman of the United Church Outreach and Social Justice Committee, the church expects to serve over 100 dinners.

Everyone is welcome to join the free festivities and food, much of which has been donated by Salt Spring's generous merchants.

Volunteers are welcome

to start setting up the hall on Saturday, December 24 at 9 a.m.

The United church will also hold a Christmas Eve

service at 7 p.m., featuring carols and a brass band. No formal service at the church will be held on Christmas Day.

New services for violence or abuse

A new Women's Outreach Service program offered by Island Women Against Violence (IWAV) went into operation on Monday.

Accessible to women throughout the southern Gulf Islands, the service is for women who have experienced violence, abuse or threats of violence.

Based in the Salt Spring Island Transition House, the outreach worker will provide services on Salt Spring, as well as regularly travel to Galiano, Mayne, Pender and Saturna. Services include community education, solution-focussed support counselling, safety planning, information and referrals, advocacy and facilitation of support groups.

All services are safe, free and confidential.

IWAV's executive director Nancy Boyce states, "We work from a feminist perspective to empower women to make their own decisions. Our role is to provide infor-

mation and support that can assist in that decision making. We are especially pleased to be increasing accessibility to our services in outer island communities."

IWAV (formerly known as the Gulf Islands Women's Resource Network) is a registered non-profit society established on Salt Spring in 1992 to provide services throughout the southern Gulf Islands to women and their children affected by violence and abuse.

For more information or to access IWAV Outreach Services, call 537-0717 on Salt Spring or toll-free from the Outer Islands at 1-888-537-0717.

Jaye Mackenzie

At The Shop on the Dock in Fulford until Christmas Thurs, Fri, Sat, and Sun 11-6pm Visa & MC accepted

Hand woven silk scarves for Men & Women

To our friends on Salt Spring!
"Thanks for stopping by."
 - Geoff

Geoff Hopps
 Owner

CROFTON AUTO SERVICE
 246-3115

SUNFIRE CREATIONS

ART JEWELRY * WATCHES * ART GLASS * TEXTILES * GIFTS

GRACE POINT SQUARE
 MON TO SAT 10-6
 CLOSED DEC 25, 26

BELLAVANCE WELDING LTD.
 Quality Boat Building & Fabrication in Aluminium & Steel Since 1973

- portable welding on land or sea
- custom fabrication in aluminium and steel
- driveway gates
- marine ramps and walkways
- fuel tanks
- railings
- truck racks and boxes
- garden gates and arbours

If you can think of it, we can make it!

1229 Mt. Maxwell Rd.
 Shop Tel/Fax 537-4411 • Cell (604) 880-3896
 bellavancewelding@telus.net

Celebrating the people who helped make Salt Spring a Gulf Island jewel

Jesse Bond, shown with a head of "Bond grade" lettuce (1958) on the property where his descendants still farm today


With the same free spirit, passion and sense of adventure as our Island pioneers, Gulf Islands Brewery crafts its Salt Spring style ales

SALTSPRING PALE ALE

ISLAND PIONEERS

www.gulfislandsbrewery.com Please enjoy our fine ales responsibly

Tow Ho Ho...it is the season



to wish you Christmas Cheer...

Don't drink too much and drive and such
And watch out for Santa's deer.
Or yo ho ho before you know
You'll need a bucaneer
Not your ordinary pirate.

**Happy Holidays from
BLUE ANGEL TOWING
537-9799**



ALL LIT UP: Local firefighters are seen on the Salt Spring fire department's decorated 1920s firetruck, which took "best decorated antique" at Langford's Festival of Lights Firetruck Parade last weekend.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

SIPS seeks PARC support

Salt Spring Ice Park Society spokesman Dwight Jones is thrilled Salt Spring's PARC board will place the ice rink on its to-do list when the group updates its five-year plan in early 2006.

"As long as the ice rink will be placed in PARC's long-term plan, we will have a chance to figure out what the next stage of the recreation facility will be," Jones said.

Though Jones expressed disappointment at the low turnout at SIPS' December 14 meeting, he was encouraged by new recruit Bill Curtin's commitment to ensure the ice rink gets placed on the list.

PARC chairman Curtin is the third PARC member to join SIPS.

"Dovetailing our efforts will mean a number of steps will not have to be needlessly repeated," Jones said. "There was little doubt that eventually this had to become a PARC project."

Earlier this year, Jones said, PARC agreed to set aside a portion of the recreation centre property on Rainbow Road in the event construction of an ice rink does proceed.

At its peak in 1997, SIPS had 160 members and Jones hopes islanders will become equally engaged with the group's effort this time around.

Jones said a completed ice rink could reach a \$4-million cost, but a bare-bones structure could be built for under \$2 million.

"We're confident that once the shell gets built, the users will pull it through," he added.

Happy Holidays & a Prosperous New Year to all.
FROM RICHARD & WENDY



GULF ISLANDS OPTICAL

Tues. - Fri. 10am-5pm
537-2648
in the Lancer Building, Ganges

FALL 2 for 1 SALE ON NOW!

Emma Hambrook, Star Patient 2005 "Seeing is Believing"

Alcohol and vehicles don't mix, says ICBC

With Christmas and New Year's celebrations around every corner, ICBC is reminding the public to ensure they have a plan to avoid drinking and driving.

"There are serious consequences if you drink and drive," said ICBC's manager of road safety Laurie Baker.

"You could hurt or kill someone, you could lose your licence or your car, have to spend time in jail, or pay stiff fines."

In 2004, 93 people were killed and approximately 3,200 were injured in alcohol-related collisions in B.C., according to police-reported crash statistics.

Anyone drinking while celebrating the holidays should keep the following in mind, said Baker:

- Plan ahead for a safe ride home.

- Arrange for a designated driver, set money aside for a cab or the shuttle bus, or call a friend or family member for a ride.

- Never get in a car with an impaired driver.

- There is no quick fix if you drink more than your limit. The only thing that reduces the effects of alcohol is time.

And Salt Spring RCMP have proven vigilant in catching people who drink and drive this year. In Ganges Provincial Court December 6, six individuals were sentenced following charges related to alcohol consumption and driving.

Police are conducting CounterAttack enforcement checks, which have been a part of the holiday season in B.C. since 1977.

ec•lec•tic (ek•lek,tik, ik-) *adj. & noun:* 1. deriving ideas, tastes, style, etc. from various sources.
2. **stuff & nonsense** at christmas time in lovely Fulford Village

Table linens, ladies wear & nighties 25% off

Open 9-6 everyday December 24th 9-5 653-4620

Happy Holidays & BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR



PHARMASAVE®

UPTOWN 538-0323
372 Lower Ganges Rd.

Monday - Saturday 9am - 6pm
December 24, 9am-5pm
Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Years Day

DOWNTOWN 537-5534
104 Lower Ganges Rd.

RANTS & ROSES

RANTS

A busload of rants to the jerk who deposited his/her garbage in the student shelter at Stewart and Cusheon Lake roads. Apparently your garbage is more important than keeping students warm and dry in winter! Don't worry, I cleaned it up . . . and thanks for your credit card number and street address: I'll send you a Christmas card from Jamaica. Mike Cherry, school bus driver

ROSES

May a spray of brilliant stars brighten your holidays Perry, Penny, Tracy, Colleen and Steve for your assistance and support so greatly appreciated. You are true angels!

A very big bunch of roses to the accommodations group of Salt Spring Island for its very generous donation to the food bank.

Roses to the woman who owns/runs Family Jewels — one of the nicest people on this island!

A big bunch of Christmas roses to the doctors, Lady Minto Hospital staff and ambulance attendants who took such good care of me after my fall on November 28. And special roses to friends and neighbours who looked after my pets and chickens, and were so generous with visits, phone calls and help, continuing even now. Also, roses to members of the Salt Spring Singers who made it possible for me to sing the Christmas concert. Blessings to you all. NW

Warm and wooly hugs to Sandy at Waterfront Gallery. The beautiful handmade sheep she created as a Christmas gift for our daughter, who lives in the frozen north, will be a treasured reminder of the years she lived on Salt Spring. Thank you, Sandy — you are one of Salt Spring's special people. E&DL

Salt Spring generosity strikes again! Thank-you to West of the Moon, Salt Spring Books, Foxglove, the Driftwood, Jane Cameron and Wendy Knoblauch for donating gifts for the elves to distribute. It's great to know adults believe in us, too! Happy Holidays, from the Little Local Elves

Roses to Greg and Holly Slakov for letting us use your house for the SSS Christmas party! Such a nice home and nice people!

A trail of roses to Usha Rautenbach and Frank Neumann for all their tireless work which led to the successful completion of the Agriculture — Our Island Tradition booklet and the 110th anniversary celebration at the Islands Farmers Institute

on December 14. Usha, your inspiration is only surpassed by your resourcefulness to keep George Laundry on track. Frank, over and over, your technical wizardry and archival know-how saved our butts. Thank you both again and again. The Islands Farmers Institute board of directors

Roses to all those who attended the Islands Farmers Institute celebration marking 110 years of agriculture on SSI. It was a wonderful afternoon.

Really Red Roses to the Accommodations Group of Salt Spring Island, Ralph Bischoff, president, for their generous donation of \$200 toward the running of Soups On!, the weekly free lunch offered from All Saints' Anglican church on Thursdays for the last six years, and is dependent on its many volunteers and sponsors. JM

A garden full of roses to all the volunteers who made angels, donated handmade items and staffed the table at the Last Minute Christmas Craft Fair to raise funds

for the Seeds for Malawi project. A million more roses to all the people who purchased these items and made financial donations to the cause. Your generosity is truly appreciated! S4M Committee

Fragrant roses (to overpower the memory of the pickled pigs' feet) to all those teachers who participated in the "Teacher Fear Factor" at GISS in support of Global Awareness. Your enthusiasm and hilarious antics were fabulous. Congratulations Mr. Colombin on your well-deserved victory!

Four red roses from each of us to Chris and Tammy Plambeck of Diggin It Excavating. You have shown the kids and I the true gift of giving this Christmas. Your unbelievable love and support will be passed on. SR

Bouquets of roses and a thousand thanks to Sam, from Golden Island Restaurant, for saving us from a Costco fiasco. Your level of generosity is a target we should all strive to reach. Thank you again, J,C, A and H

A bouquet of lilies and irises for water-taxi operators who respond within a moment's notice at any hour to transport the sick and injured of the Gulf Islands to hospitals in the region.

A booklet full of roses to island postal workers as they deal with endless queues and complaints, all while rushing to ensure our holiday gifts reach loved ones on time. Thanks for the smiles during this busy time of year.

A catnip-scented rose to Jena and the SPCA for all the wonderful work they do. Even after almost two years, we still marvel at our great fortune in getting the perfect cat, Tia, who you looked after for so many months before the fates could bring us together.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from Gulf Islands Upholstery and Carpet Care



Watch for our special in the new year

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

Gulf Islands Upholstery & Carpet Care
537-4944


Additions, Renovations, Decks, Sunrooms, New Construction
Do it right the first time.

Design Consultant **Jim Anderson** Project Manager
537-2820



SOLID CONSTRUCTION
"35 Years of professional, qualified experience."

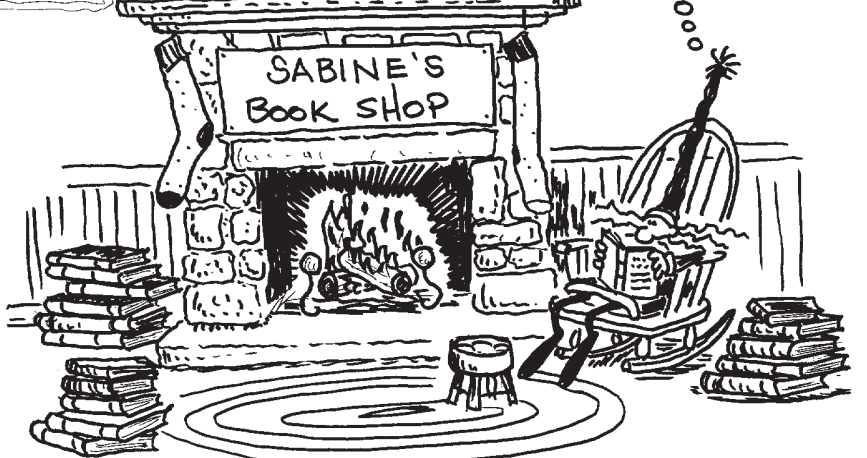
Happy Holidays!
And a Happy New Year!



from Salt Spring's Animal Control and Bylaw Enforcement officer
Wolfgang Brunnwieser

GIFT CERTIFICATES

THERE'S STILL TIME TO GET SOME GREAT GIFTS FROM SABINE'S



SABINE'S BOOK SHOP

Fine, old and nearly new books • Grace Pt. Sq. • 538-0025

What's for Dinner?

Shopping list:

- 1 bag ready-to-use spinach leaves
- 1 Granny Smith apple
- Sliced almonds
- Litehouse poppy seed dressing



THE GANGES VILLAGE MARKET APPLE ALMOND SPINACH SALAD

Short cuts to cooking for one or two © with Sarah Lynn

Spinach: A wild vegetable native to the Middle East, spinach is related to beets and chard (a beet that has been chosen for leaf production at the expense of storage root formation). Spinach was domesticated 2,000 years ago in Persia. Spinach wasn't solidly established in Europe until the late 16th century. Though unknown to the ancient Greeks and Romans, today it serves as a staple vegetable in Greek and Italian cookery. With its delicate texture, jade green colour, & simplicity this recipe complements the past three weeks' recipes--Cran-Raspberry Balsamic Glazed Ham, Garlic Scalloped Potatoes, Honey Zested Ginger Carrots--constituting a perfect holiday feast.. All recipes are available for you at the Ganges Village Market demonstration counter if you missed them. If you're looking for dessert why not try one of our freshly made & beautifully decorated cakes from the bakery. We use only the finest ingredients in our cakes: real butter, real whipping cream (36% MF), Callebaut chocolate, fresh fruit, and European whipped icing.

In a large bowl combine **1 bag ready-to-use spinach leaves** or **6 cups washed spinach leaves**, **1 thinly sliced Granny Smith apple** & **1/2 cup sliced almonds**. Toss lightly together. Just before serving toss again with **1/2 cup litehouse poppy seed dressing**.

Come and try this wonderful dish at
THE GANGES VILLAGE MARKET
FOOD DEMONSTRATION



- This Thursday 12 noon - 4 pm
- This Friday 11 am - 6 pm

GANGES VILLAGE MARKET

OPEN DAILY 8am - 9pm



100% locally owned & operated



GREAT VOLUNTEERS *of* SALT SPRING



Anke Smeele

Stats

Full Name: Anke Smeele

Lived on SS: 15 years

Spouse/children: 2 daughters/2 grandchildren/widow

Likes: Music, gardening, people, watching tennis, knitting

Dislikes: Lack of safe walking and bike riding in town.

Future Ambitions: To continue learning from the people that I meet through ArtSpring and the Salt Spring Singers; to learn more music; to watch my lavender grow — I have more than 100 plants.

Words of Advice: Know your limitations. I circle a day that I stay at home so when I do make an arrangement, I don't feel beholden. Double or do the same hours that you spend volunteering on your own interests. For example, two hours at ArtSpring means four hours gardening.



I'm just a cog in the wheel. If something happened to me, someone else could

carry on.
ANKE SMEELE



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG/GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD

ArtSpring volunteer Anke Smeele started helping out at the island arts centre within a week of retiring from her career as a registered nurse.

Artistic endeavours feed volunteer's soul

By **ANDREA RABINOVITCH**

Driftwood Contributor

For Anke Smeele, volunteering is a way of life, modelled after her amazing parents growing up in The Hague in the Netherlands.

"During the war, when my parents had to feed seven children, my mother would find someone who had even less, and invite them for supper. My father was very involved with rebuilding the hospital. Even though we had nothing, they still had that generosity of spirit."

Anke, a retired registered nurse, recalls how she decided to retire on March 1, the date when she would have had to re-register to remain nursing, and then started volunteering at the ArtSpring ticket centre the next Monday.

"I really enjoy being part of the enormous growth at ArtSpring, as it adds to the quality of my life with artists coming right to my own island."

She also volunteers for Island Pathways, selling its heritage maps at the Saturday market in the summer. As she grew up in a place where

bike riding was a viable mode of transportation, a practice she continued while living in Victoria, she supports the map that gives geological, agricultural, historical and cultural information, as well as all the trails and beach access paths. The money raised is used to subsidize the cost of helmets for children and also the safe cycling programs for elementary school students.

Her main volunteering thrust is her work with Salt Spring Singers and organizing, along with Shirley Bunyan, the Christmas choral concert of all the elementary schools on the island. She piggybacks the children's concert with another group — this year it was the Salt Spring Singers — so an ArtSpring rental is not an issue.

"Paul (Gravett) is very supportive of it as community outreach."

All the adult choirs on the island donate money so the children can take away a small gift like a music-decorated pencil, since musicians need pencils to write on their music.

"It's a thrill for these children to be on the ArtSpring stage. It's something they'll always remember," Anke enthused.

While singing in the Salt Spring Singers is not so much a volunteer job as an excellent opportunity to learn new music and enjoy the collaborative aspects of singing, maintaining the library of music, updating the data-base, and communicating with the British Columbia Choral Music Federation and their virtual system is a job for Anke.

Gathering music together for 50-55 people and putting it in all the binders for various gigs requires a highly organized individual who knows where everything is. The beauty of it is that Anke's system is universal.

"I'm just a cog in the wheel. If something happened to me, someone else could carry on. It gives me pleasure, a source of satisfaction, to see that something is working out."

Smeele feels that any artistic endeavour feeds the soul and needs constant nourishment.

"When the arts touch you, it takes you out of your daily job and family concerns. It points you towards more than working, eating and sleeping. A whole hall filled with people sharing a common experience is special."

Bravo!

A standing ovation for the 300 volunteers who contribute their valuable time and talents to make ArtSpring the great success that it is. You are the best!

ArtSpring has lots of fun, interesting jobs that range from once a week to once a year. If you want to join our special team of volunteers, please contact John or Rita at 537-2125 or info@artspring.ca.

JOIN US FOR A FREE
WORKSHOP ON
VOLUNTEERISM

Getting the Work Done

Manage your volunteers in order to get the job done and keep them coming back for more!

Everyone is welcome. Please call 537-2125 for more information and to register.

Island Arts Centre Society
ARTSPRING

Island help bound for Zimbabwe

Salt Spring's Melanie Furman would like to bring a little Christmas cheer from islanders to a non-profit organization in Zimbabwe.

"During this season of giving, I am asking for donations from the generous community of Salt Spring," said Furman. "You may have too much stuff — that somehow multiplies even more on the 25th."

Furman will soon be working as an income-generating coordinator for a project called Kufunda Village in January and she hopes to take some local resources along with her.

"We will be developing ways for these communities to create some kind of economy for themselves. With an inflation rate of 400 per cent right now, this will be difficult."

She will be working on a very grassroots level, developing co-ops and trading systems, as well as helping locals export goods to neighbouring countries, she said.

"I see so much potential, as everyone there is so enthusiastic and creative and this is almost all it takes to be successful."

According to the Kufunda Village website (www.kufunda.org), the project began as "a learning, training and experimentation centre" based on a farm located approximately 50 kilometres south east of Harare with an aim to help rural areas create "locally rooted solutions to community self-reliance challenges."

Furman previously worked at Kufunda Village for six weeks in May and June last year as part of a six-month volunteering journey to Africa that also involved work with SOLID (Salt Spring Organization for Life Improvement and Development) in Lesotho.

After assisting the project last year, Furman is excited about ideas pursued by Kufunda Village that she will be supporting as part of her two-year contract.

"Kufunda is a busy place. Silas, Sikhete and Tsitsi manage three permaculture



INTO AFRICA: Salt Spring's Melanie Furman is heading to Zimbabwe in January to work as a coordinator for the Kufunda Village program to help rural people create sustainable communities. Photo by Mitchell Sherrin

gardens — small scale — but large enough that they use them as demonstration sites, and to feed themselves basic staples. There is a composting toilet project, which maintains the tree planting program."

She's also keen about plans for micro-credits that will support local businesses to build inexpensive and energy-efficient products like solar cookers for farmers in the region.

"The newest project is an herb garden and lab for making medicine. This is the project I was most involved in while there. With the support of the District AIDS Task Force, the HIV support group made up of 10 women and one man have taken the tiny bit of funds donated by a man in the U.S. and started propagating, germinating and raising a variety of

European and indigenous herbs, most of which support people who have a compromised immune system due to HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis," she said.

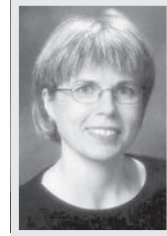
To help out with projects at Kufunda Village when she arrives in Zimbabwe, Furman is looking for books on herbs, gardening, home-steading, small business and grass-roots projects, as well as documenting resources like digital cameras, tape recorders and a hand-held video camera.

Recording technology helps to show financial donors about ongoing work, which helps generate further support, she noted.

"Vitamins and medical supplies are also very welcome. I am also asking for financial donations for shipping these items and for micro-credit loans to get some projects up and running."

Furman will also send periodic e-mails with updates about the successes and struggles at Kufunda Village.

Islanders can call (537-5107) or e-mail (singmeanimage@yahoo.ca) to be added to her e-mail list, or get more information about donations.



15 years of Real Estate Knowledge

25 years of Island Life

carol FOWLES SALT SPRING REALTY • 537-5515
www.carolfowles.com
ROYAL LEPAGE
www.mls.ca • email: cfowles@saltspring.com

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
Pam Ellacott, Sheila Twa and Staff
Salt Spring Garbage Services
537-2167

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday!

Thanks to all who contributed to our very successful year. On behalf of our clients & friends, we have made donations to the SSI Food Bank and Santa's Toyshop

Island Quest Realty Ltd.

Home Theatre & Audio SALES & INSTALLATION

RUNCO • LEXICON
LINN • DENON
JM LABS • HITACHI
TOSHIBA • SONANCE
VANTAGE • NILES

COMPETITIVE PRICING
custom design • new & existing construction
10 years experience

Quantum Audio Video Systems
Kevin Kopetzki 537-9844

ADOPT A PET TODAY

The Shelter Supervisor is on vacation until Tuesday, January 3rd. Until then the Shelter is being run by volunteers, with limited hours of operation.

Cat adoptions are possible, but all other services are on an emergency basis only. Most cat surrenders are not possible during this time. Please call before you stop by for more information. Thank you for your patience.

SPCA, 540 Lower Ganges Road
SPCA 24hr pager • 537-2123
Remember: assign your purchases @ Thrifty's #48

Jeremy's Salt Spring Hospitality Supplies Ltd.

- * Hotel and Restaurant Supplies
- * Hospitality Amenities
- * Cleaning Supplies and Janitorial Equipment
- * Commercial Paper and packaging
- * Vacuum Equipment.

and lots more!
Call Jeremy at 537-5035

G.I.S. SALES & RENTALS INC.
"Tanks for all reasons"
high-density polyethylene

- Water storage
- Septic, sewage-holding
- Ecological systems
- Sewage-treatment plants, filters

WE WELCOME VISA • MASTERCARD
• AMERICAN EXPRESS
PH: (250) 653-4013
292 ARMAND WAY,
SALT SPRING ISLAND, B.C., V8K 2B6

SPEND MORE TIME ON THE ROAD. SPEND LESS ON GAS.

from **\$24,995***

	L/100KM CITY/HIGHWAY		MPG CITY/HIGHWAY	
	Manual	Automatic	Manual	Automatic
MINI COOPER	8.4/5.9	9.0/6.3	34/48	31/45
MINI COOPER S	9.5/6.7	10.0/6.7	30/42	28/42
MINI COOPER CONVERTIBLE	8.6/6.1	9.1/6.6	33/46	31/43
MINI COOPER S CONVERTIBLE	9.5/6.7	10.0/6.7	30/42	28/42

MINI VICTORIA
1101 YATES ST.
995-MINI, 877-995-9250 (TOLL-FREE)
WWW.VICTORIABMW.CA

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!



*\$24,995 is the base MSRP of the 2005 MINI Cooper Classic. 48 miles/gallon is the average fuel consumption for the MINI Cooper, highway driving. Price includes freight and PDI of \$1,495. Taxes, fees and options are extra. Offer expires 12/31/05. Please see MINI Victoria for full details. The actual fuel economy may differ from this information and should be viewed for comparison only.

DL#24228

In the Health field? Advertise here!

Call Tracy at The Driftwood

537-9933

tstibbards@gulfislands.net

Practitioner of Intuitive Healing

Susie Buckley

Assisting in the Understanding, Neutralizing and Healing of

- Acute and chronic Illness, Pain
- Emotional and Relationship Issues
- Questions about Life Purpose

538-0066

oneangel@uniserve.com

25 years experience in Listening to Angels

Milady's Esthetics

Christmas is Coming !

Call about our Mobile Spa Parties for kids or adults in your home
Gift Certificates - Delivery available
Mani - \$25, Pedi - \$35

Trene PH: 537 0059



Grace Point Psychics

Gerri DeStefano-Webre, Ph.D.

- Looking ahead into 2006? Gerri will be available Dec. 27 - Jan. 3 for your New Year's "tune-up!"
- Expanded reading \$100 includes CD recording.
- A meaningful and unique Christmas gift to yourself or that special someone!

Christmas Gift Certificates Available

Open Sat./Sun./Mon.

537-1820 • 1206C Grace Point Square



Create a Life you Love!

The North End Fitness
Christmas Spa Kit

Ten luxurious sessions in our new private far-infrared sauna.

Detoxify. Destress.

600-900 calories per session

\$159.00

Non-members Welcome • 537-5217



537-4111
1460 North Beach Road
www.saltspingspa.com

AYURVEDIC MEDICINE CONSULTATIONS

More than a spa, our health services include Ayurvedic Medicine Consultations. Learn your Ayurvedic constitution, as well as lifestyle and dietary recommendations to support it. Daily and seasonal routines, and herbs to balance conditions will be advised.



Pulse Diagnosis

Ayurveda specialises in management of conditions such as: joint pain, back pain, acne, musculo skeletal pain, stiff neck, asthma, allergies, sinusitis, hairfall, etc.

Chikitsa Shala Wellness Centre

Pamper your Padas
Pada Abhyanga
Pre-Holiday Special!

\$55 for 1 hour

Alleviate tension and soreness in your feet and legs with a soothing warm oil massage

Ayurveda, Bodywork, Health

537-8443

offer expires Dec. 31, 2005

www.saltspringcentre.com 537- 2326

JINGUI GOLDEN SHIELD QI GONG™
Health & Longevity System

- Increase Bone Mass
- Learn Energy Management Techniques
- Develop Beyond Normal Human Limits
- Remove Stagnation Within the Meridian System
- Develop the Human Energy Body Extremely Quickly



This rare "Temple Style" Qi Gong is a remarkable energy system producing results so quickly and powerfully it has been kept a closely held secret for hundreds of years. It's completely unique internal energy system is now open to the public in the U.S. and Canada.

FOR INFORMATION ON CLASSES PLEASE CALL: 250-653-4864

To your Health

Meet your
Salt Spring Island
health providers



Susie Buckley

Practitioner of Intuitive Healing

Are you seeking solutions to solve Your Problems, Fears and Limitations?

Like many others, you may have noticed that working on yourself never ends, because the thoughts, memories, emotions and subconscious patterns you are working on are just symptoms. Fear, worry, sadness, anxiety, stress and most physical illness and pain can be dissolved.

I am inviting you to discover and dissolve the real root problems so that the desired change shows up in the physical body, mind and emotions, by offering powerful support in going beyond all of the things that we usually find ourselves 'stuck' in. Through the use of my intuitive ability to tune in to, identify and understand the core reasons for your physical and emotional turmoil or disharmony, I can then neutralize the root cause, providing powerful support in going beyond your 'problems'.

For 25 years I have been providing intuitive readings which access the truth about who you are. I offer sessions either in person, or over the telephone. As the nature of the connection is intuitive it is not a requirement that we be in the same location in order for me to know what you require.

What would it be like if you were able to go beyond your thoughts, fears, problems, physical difficulty and stories to the Inner Being which is the place of peace, wisdom, authentic power, and clarity?

"I feel great. Sometimes I think this is too easy, too good to be true. Every time you do a clearing my pain decreases and I feel more peaceful. There is no vitamin, oil, homeopathic remedy, supplement, or therapy that even comes close to what you provide." Colette Ryder

538-0066

Or email oneangel@uniserve.com

YOGA MEXICO
...on the beach Feb. 4-12
www.dorothyoga.com 653-9453

Salt Spring Medical Supply Walkers
Home Health Care Sports Medicine
Open 9:30-4:30 Mon-Fri
125 Knott Place Off Rainbow Road
537-1990
With You every step of the way 10% off

Solstice Soother
Dec 19 - 31
Unlimited classes* for only
\$25
*including yoga, bellydance, Nia, pilates
www.gangesyogastudio.com ■ 537-2444

Visit Skin Sensations for Christmas Gift Certificates and Stocking Stuffers.
Skin Sensations
Day Spa & Healing Arts Center
537-8807
2102 Grace Point Square • www.skinsensations.com

Aroma Crystal Therapy Ltd.
Vibrational Science
Last Minute Shopping?
Open Friday until 8:00 p.m. and Christmas Eve until 5:30 p.m.
Aromatherapy incense made with Pure Essential Oils
Our Gift to You with Every Purchase over \$20.00
'healing the planet, one person at a time'
LOCATED AT GANGES HARBOUR PLACE
www.aromacrystal.com • (250) 538-1833
100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED NATURALLY

QUIT SMOKING PROGRAM
A comprehensive, natural approach to quitting smoking, including acupuncture, counseling, herbal therapy, nutritional supplements, stress-management, detoxification, quit guide and more.
EIGHT BRANCHES HOLISTIC HEALTH CENTRE
538-1701
www.8branches.ca/first.step.html

Hampers burst with good cheer

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Scores of busy elves completed months of work on Monday to deliver a record number of Christmas hampers to Salt Spring families this year.

Food bank coordinator Cathy Stringer expressed bittersweet sentiments over the hamper program's success.

"The demand is more," she said. "We don't want the demand to be there."

The program supported by Salt Spring Community Services grew to provide 210 hampers this season, which was 35 more hampers than last year, she said.

Even though the program has grown, it's become more efficient and only required 65-70 volunteers this year, she said.

"It's probably less volunteers, but not because we didn't have them. We got it organized now so that we have set people for set jobs."

Stringer has been deeply impressed by all the work that volunteers (including children) offered to provide hampers for needy islanders.

"We have the very best volunteers you could ever ask for. They give their all, they do a fantastic job and they go the extra mile. I wouldn't trade them for anything," she said. "They deserve just the best Christmas cheer you could heap on them because they are just the very best."

And Stringer offered kudos to organizers Melanie and Simon Morris.

"We're very very fortunate to have those two as well as the volunteers we have because it just never would have been done as smartly. We've been told we have one of the best hampers in B.C."

Melanie Morris was looking forward to relaxing into the Christmas season after months of work wrapped up on Monday.

"Yesterday was delivery day, our crash day," Morris said in an interview Tuesday. She starts advertising for the program in October, begins data entry and hunts for volunteers in November.

Creating spreadsheets and drivers' routes are part of the background work that someone can't find in a cardboard box.

"Ordering food from Thrifty's and ordering food from GVM, and all the food that's coming in has to be sorted out and stored and counted and put into different boxes."

Along with donations from the local food stores, Bellingham Lions from the Santa Ship program donated five cases of wrapped cookies, the Farmers Institute donated its space, Jamieson Pet Food Distributors donated pet food through Foxglove Farm and Garden Supplies and Salt Spring Freight picked up boxes from Victoria free of charge.

"The community is so generous. It gladdens your heart to see what people donate."

The food hamper program also received donations from local Lions, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92, the Brinkworthy group, Salt Spring Island Recycling, the Community Gospel church and the United church.

The last few days of assembling hampers involves a flurry of activity with dozens of volunteers working together, Morris said.



DELIVERY: Community Services volunteers deliver the final hamper as the annual Christmas program takes place Monday. Photo by Derrick Lundy

"It's a very festive atmosphere."

Hampers include fresh apples, oranges, Brussels sprouts, yams, carrots, potatoes, onions, butter and cheese. The cornucopia also includes boxed cereal, canned fruit and vegetables, hot chocolate, coffee, tea, juice and shortbread cookies.

Couples got chickens, families got turkeys with stuffing and vegetarians had tofu (donated directly from Soya Nova Tofu).

"Whatever isn't used in the Christmas hampers goes right to the food bank and it's given right back out to the people in need."

The Great Little Box company provided boxes for the hampers at a very generous price, she said.

"Part of the whole thing of a Christmas hamper is the cheerfulness of it. . . It doesn't come through nicely when you put lovely food into an old dirty box."

This year, hampers also included scarves, mittens and slippers that were donated by Pharmasave from last year's Christmas stock.

"We bagged them up for the families with kids because a lot of it was for children."

Some 16 drivers deliver the hampers.

Morris has been volunteering with the hamper program and the food bank for over five years. She knows that some people have been volunteering with the program for much longer.

"It's a really good thing to do. It gives you a lot of satisfaction knowing that you are helping so many people who need it at Christmas time and a lot of people like to work behind the scenes. They're not in it for glory. They're in it because it's the right thing to do."

Comfort & Joy

CLOCKS ★ FRENCH SOAPS ★
GLASSWARE ★ GOURMET ★
CHARACTER FURNITURE ★ VASES
POND YACHTS ★ PILLOWS
★ COTTAGE GAMES ★ FESTIVE
DECORATIONS ★ PLUS...



houseboat

coast cottage accessories

134 Hereford Avenue
538-1975
Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm

Long-time established

RESTAURANT/ RECREATION CENTRE FOR LEASE

Contact:
Russ Crouse, Royal LePage 537-5515



ROYAL LEPAGE
Salt Spring Realty

Family Dentistry at GRACE POINT

Dr. Bob McGinn and Jeanette are back!

We are currently welcoming patients
537-1616



- General Family Dentistry
- Orthodontics
- Check-ups and Cleaning
- Restorative
- Teeth Whitening • Cosmetic Dentistry

"Grace us with your smiles at Grace Point"

A toast to everyone for a Joyful Christmas and a Peaceful New Year!



OPEN BOXING DAY 9:30-5 SPECIALS! BARGAINS! SAVINGS!

BAKERY OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday Dec. 21st 11 - 4
Thursday Dec. 22nd 11 - 4
Friday Dec. 23rd 11 - 4
Special on Friday only
Stan's BBQ Pork & Beans
Sander & Laura's Cookies
Saturday Dec. 24th
Market in the Park 10 - 2





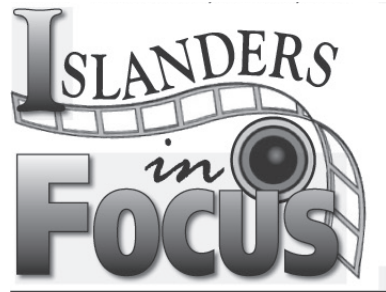
SALT SPRING ISLAND BREAD CO

251 Forest Ridge Road, Salt Spring Island
Heather Campbell Tel/Fax (250) 653-4809



This week's Islanders in Focus highlights the 110th anniversary of agriculture on Salt Spring at the Islands Farmers Institute on December 14.

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



Frank Neumann is seen alongside Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Gary Lunn.



Seen outside the Farmers Institute, from left, are: Mike and Bev Byron, and Bryan and Audrey Denton.

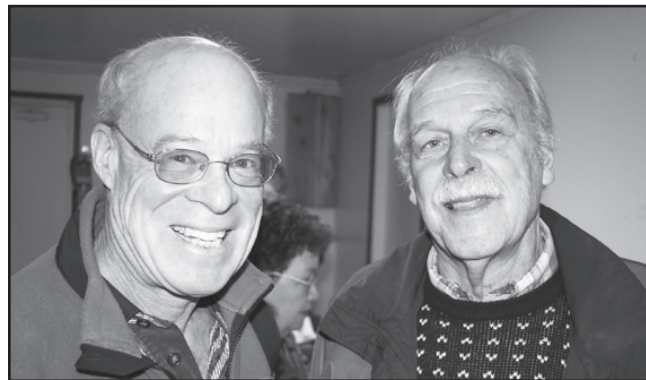


Above is Marguerite Lee, while below, Victoria Olchowecki and Kathleen Rathwell take a stroll down memory lane.

Photos by Sean McIntyre



Audrey and Charles Sampson take in the fun.



Above left are Chris Arnett and Barb Lyngard, while above right are Charles Kahn, left, and Tom Wright.

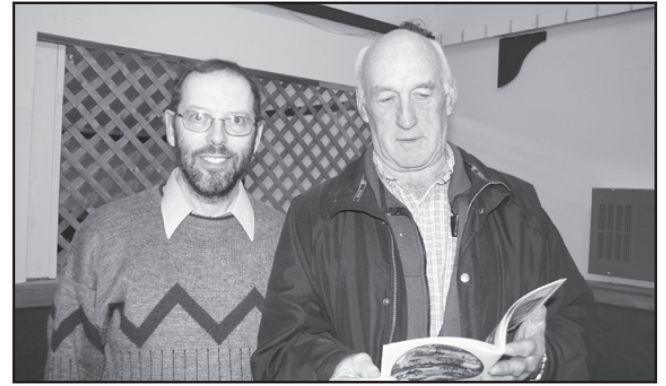


PURE COLOUR
 "An artistic approach to the healthy home"
 interior/exterior architectural painting
 colour advice, decorative finishes
 faux, texture & wallpaper
 artistic painting, murals, illustration & oils
 environmentally sensitive

Joshua Beckett, BFA Cell: 537-6397

richard j. wey & associates
 land surveying inc.
 Richard J. Wey BCLS
 Legal, Engineering and Topographical Surveys
 Subdivision Planning

The Oakville-Suite 106-9717 Third St., Sidney, BC V8L 3A3
 Telephone (250) 656-5155 ♦ Fax: (250) 656-5175



Duncan Hepburn, left, and Bob McWhirter study some island history.

Think. Feel. Drive
SUBARU

First, you get an incredible driving experience under any road or weather conditions. Second, you get to customize your 2006 Forester with \$1,000 worth of genuine Subaru accessories, which makes a vehicle already loaded with standard features even better. Experience how it feels to embrace the road. Come in and put the 2006 Forester through its paces with a test drive. Hurry, Subaru All Weather Days end soon. **Limited time offer!**

SYMMETRICAL ALL-WHEEL DRIVE HUGS THE ROAD. AND AFTER GETTING \$1,000 IN FREE ACCESSORIES, YOU MIGHT HUG THE SALESPERSON.

2006 Forester 2.5X
 Starting from **\$27,995**
 Purchase Financing 2.8% Lease from \$389/mth

Ends December 31, 2005

Leasing and financing programs available through GMAC. 2.8% Financing Rate for 36 months. 4.8% lease rate for 48 months available on 2006 Forester 2.5X (6J1 X0) with a \$2,250 down payment. Freight and PDI of \$1,490 included on all leases. MSRP does not include freight and PDI. License, insurance, PPSA, registration and administration charges and taxes are extra and applies to all leases. Mileage allowances vary. GMAC excess mileage charge of \$0.12 per km applicable. 2.8% purchase financing for 36 months and applicable for 2006 Forester 2.5X (6J1 X0). Offer applicable OAC and dealer may sell for less. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed. Financing example: \$20,000 at 2.8% per annum equals \$579.96 per month for 36 months. Cost of borrowing \$874.96 for an obligation total of \$20,874.96. Total paid is \$20,922.00 plus taxes and fees. See Dealer for details on other financing options. Offer available at participating dealers only. Program expires November 30, 2005. Accessories offer available at participating dealers only and is only valid on vehicles delivered by November 30th. \$1,000 Accessories offer is based on MSRP including taxes.

Quality Doesn't Cost... it pays!
 Fine cookware & accessories.
 Available at
Love My Kitchen SHOP
 140 Fulford Ganges
537-5882

SALT SPRING ISLAND is a Welcome Wagon COMMUNITY

Call Andrea LeBorgne who will bring gifts & greetings along with helpful information about your new community!
 www.welcomewagon.ca
537-8464
WELCOME WAGON
 SINCE 1930

SAUNDERS SUBARU
 1-888-898-9911 1784 Island Hwy., Victoria
 visit us at www.subaru.ca DL#5032

Gulf Islands Driftwood

HOCKEY POOL

RK Name	G	ASS	TP	DF
1.Speed Glen	242	309	551	50
2.Tamboline W	236	314	550	46
3.Neufeld Rick	230	318	548	42
4.Johnson Liam	229	317	546	40
5.Dekleer Rene	224	320	544	40
6.Langdon Jack	228	315	543	48
7.Baker Brent	208	333	541	42
8.Field Marilyn	239	302	541	39
9.Eyles Gail	215	323	538	40
10.Langdon Jocelyn	212	325	537	44
11.Johnson Cam	218	317	535	39
12.Butler Janet	222	301	523	42
13.Hoban Rypawn	218	305	523	44
14.Marmorstein Yoni	205	318	523	42
15.Lam Ramona	235	284	519	47
16.Eyles Tobin	198	321	519	41
17.Moldon Dennis	222	295	517	40
18.Lam Huy	227	290	517	53
19.Eyles Evan	206	307	513	45
20.Hardy Mike	215	297	512	38
21.Charlebois Jason	212	299	511	32
22.Newton Norma	201	310	511	42
23.Luke Kevin	214	296	510	40
24.Tamboline Philip	202	306	508	42
25.Eddie Cole	209	295	504	35
26.Hitchcock William	210	294	504	37
27.Anderson Dennis	213	290	503	38
28.Lynch S	221	277	498	41
29.Steele John	194	303	497	44
30.Smith Donald	216	276	492	43
31.Gillham Jerome	216	275	491	35
32.Doerksen Hank	204	287	491	43
33.2 At SSHU (P)	203	287	490	45
34.Smith Shirley	196	291	487	52
35.Shaske Ed	168	318	486	42
36.Huser Christian	225	259	484	46
37.Kopetzki Kevin	213	271	484	38
38.Byron Josh	216	266	482	43
39.Byron Leah	200	279	479	40
40.Newton N	195	284	479	43
41.Reinholdt Kim	213	266	479	44
42.Torok Les	160	318	478	42
43.Watson Tracey	194	284	478	39
44.Cunningham Jean	205	271	476	37
45.Shaske Lucy	192	283	475	42
46.Hoban Lind-e	205	270	475	39
47.Courtney John	204	271	475	36
48.Lynch Brian	208	261	469	38
49.Coeino Lara	196	271	467	42
50.Dekleer Bruno	184	283	467	42
51.Ellis-Stairs Tila	173	294	467	27
52.Marleau Gerry	185	280	465	36
53.Temmel Wolfgang	195	270	465	45
54.Irwin-Campbell Ar	190	272	462	32
55.MacKinnon Jucie	187	274	461	34
56.Marleau Steven	205	254	459	37
57.Watson T	177	279	456	43
58.Laitinen Tyler	193	262	455	33
59.Stocks Jamin	184	269	453	41
60.Lynch T	189	264	453	40
61.Coles Don	176	277	453	38
62.Watson Bradley	208	245	453	38
63.Shantz Lorne	174	272	446	39
64.Longeau Fiona	188	257	445	40
65.Watson Bradley	176	264	440	28
66.Field Owen	171	269	440	31
67.Reinholdt Rocket	175	262	437	31
68.Brown Kevan	190	247	437	31
69.Gillham Jeffrey	186	250	436	32
70.Thomas Emma	166	269	435	45
71.Hosie Kate & Kare	186	248	434	40
72.Torok Sah-Ryan	191	243	434	41
73.Hitchcock Dorothy	173	261	434	34
74.Liquor Store Staf	176	256	432	34
75.Shaske Lucy	179	252	431	42
76.Sloan Randy	180	251	431	38
77.Shantz Colleen	163	268	431	39
78.Shaske Ed	181	248	429	46
79.Weir Jacob	157	271	428	47
80.Jensen Jackie	179	248	427	26
81.Laycock Bob	187	239	426	31
82.Coles Don	169	251	420	29
83.Coles Shelley	155	265	420	36
84.Nolan Elizabeth	180	238	418	32
85.Lynch Steve	174	239	413	34
86.Courtney Scannett	170	241	411	41
87.Temmel Max	169	241	410	33
88.Marleau Deanna	150	257	407	35
89.Doerksen Mona	154	252	406	40
90.Baker Jonah	170	225	395	32
91.Irwin Jaspar	158	236	394	23
92.Coles Shelley	153	236	389	25
93.Ellis-Stairs Tila	152	230	382	31
94.Bosnell Elsie	147	221	368	38
95.Bosnell Pierre	140	217	357	30

Biggest Gain: 18. Lam Huy - 53

WATCH ALL THE CANUCKS PAY-PER-VIEW GAMES HERE



Shipstones
taproom&lounge

DAILY DRINK & FOOD SPECIALS
537-5041

full new menu | sports & ppv | martinis | beer | music

Laitinen among all stars

Tyler Laitinen from Salt Spring FC's Division 1 team was selected to play in the annual Vancouver Island Soccer League's (VISL) all-star game at Hampton Park on Saturday.

Laitinen played on the winning White All Stars team, which defeated the Blue All Stars by 3-1.

All-star teams were made up of 17 selected players from a total of 31 VISL teams in Division 1, Division 2 and U21 leagues. Another all-star game featured players from divisions 3-6 versus the Masters All Stars on Saturday. The Masters won that match on penalty kicks after a 0-0 draw.

Laitinen was the only islander selected among the four teams.



FEAST FENCERS: Louis Gonzalez and Eldin Miller-Stead try some old-fashioned sporting activities as they attend the annual Yuletide feast at Beaver Point Hall last Saturday night.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Old Boys players seen in 'Ice Follies'

By FRASER HOPE
Driftwood Contributor

Salt Spring's Old Boys finished the year with a sparkling display of balance in a 6-1 match against a weakened Vantreights FC on a deceptively difficult surface at the lower high school field on Sunday.

Official inspection of the field delayed the start of the game until young and old volunteers alike shuffled around the pitch, making the sidelines and penalty box

markings visible enough for play to begin.

Old Boys made their numerical advantage pay off early on when Jesse Fisher "glided" through a stretched and slipping Vantreight defence to score two goals.

David McColl ventured to change his ice blades for more surefooted footwear, but still had bad luck in finding the net.

But Vantreights fell further behind from goals by David Norget and Antonio

Alonso, with Alonso finishing off a fine team-passing move by cracking a shot across the goal that found the net despite a brave attempt at defence by Vantreights defenders.

The first half ended with the Old Boys ahead 4-0 due to their numerical advantage and better ice-dance choreography from coach Jack Braak.

If not for an off-side trap, one fine individual effort by Graham Tweddle would have resulted in a spectacular goal after Damien Brazier lobbed an accurate cross to the far post for Tweddle to measure a finely judged header across the goal for Mike "Toni" Davis to head strongly home from five yards.

An experimental switch in positions seemed less than productive when Alonso played in net, came out to meet a long and fairly safe passback from Norget and wound up for a "swing and

a miss" to allow Vantreights to nip in and score a well-deserved goal (considering they were down to nine men with injuries).

Fisher had a strong game capped off with a hat trick and Don Brown scored a fine goal to complete the scoring.

After the game, much chiding of Alonso's effort in goal was further challenged when Alonso's "Mathematica First Law of Soccer Calculus" was introduced to the team. "I scored two goals both at the same end so I am two up!" he said.

Where was Navid Niazi when we needed a mathematician to reply that a positive plus a negative adds up to a big fat zero?

We suspect much further discussion of this and other aspects of the 2005 season will be examined at Wednesday's practice under the lights at Moby's!



Blennerhassett Equestrian Center

Thank's A Million

Blennerhassett Equestrian Center would like to thank everyone involved in our project for their incredible performance over the past year.

Special thanks to our tireless trainers, Jacky Cooper and Nora Hannon, our great staff including Rick Vipond, Kevin Hughes, Colter Barclay, Johane Sinclair, Kim McIntyre, Barb Murphy and all our part-time girls.

Special thanks also to the great contractors and their teams who have built everything around us as we worked, especially Norm Elliot and Permasteel, Norman Twa, Ian Wilson and Wilco Construction, Doug Kazakoff and Richard Williams and the many, many others too numerous to mention.

We would also like to thank our wonderful boarders and their horses, the many "young" riders from 4 to 67 who have come pouring into our facility despite its unfinished state, and lastly our wonderful stable of horses who have trotted so patiently through all the construction noise and mayhem!

We wish all of you the happiest of holiday seasons and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Michael & Lesley Colgan

Ph: 250-537-2089; email: bec988@telus.net
988 North End Road
Saltiespring Island BC, V8K 1L7

Sports Schedule

Check this space out every week for upcoming sports events on Salt Spring.

Come out & cheer on your team!

DISC GOLF

Boxing Day Classic
starts at 10:15 a.m. on Monday
Hart Memorial Disc Golf Course
in Mouat Park.

For info, call Dean Crouse
at 538-1971.

All events
subject to change



Open til 8 pm Fridays

GREAT SELECTION OF BRAND NAME SPORTS GEAR FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST!!!
Adidas, Bula, Umbro, Victorinox, Nike, New Era, Freestyle, Pro-Tec, Half Moon Yoga, Outdoor Research, Ripzone, Brooks, AND SO MUCH MORE!!!

135 McPhillips Ave.,
537-5148
Mon. - Sat. 10am - 6pm



ON TOP OF THE PLAY: Salt Spring U17 gold boys keeper Brandon Shaw has his eye on the ball as a Juan de Fuca player comes in for the shot — only to be foiled by a striped-socked local defender.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Gold boys hold their own on slippery Sunday pitch

Salt Spring's U17 gold boys team was challenged on Sunday at the high school lower field when players squared off against the first-seeded U17 gold team from Juan de Fuca.

The Salt Spring squad played well in the first half, maintaining a tight defensive line and working the ball up the wings in many offensive attempts on net.

Strong passing skills and team cohesiveness were

SOCCER KICKS

displayed and the score remained 0-0 until just before half-time when Juan de Fuca scored.

The islanders came on strong in the second half, again pounding away at Juan de Fuca's net, but they were unable to finish and score.

The pitch, frozen solid, was more like a skating rink on Sunday and both teams were having great difficulty planting and passing as they lost their footing and performed pirouettes and triple lutzies.

Keeper Brandon Shaw saved many well-placed slippery kicks, but in the end the score settled at 2-0.

The team takes a well-deserved Christmas break before resuming play early in the new year.

Disc tourney Dec.26

Local disc golfers are invited to gather for the eighth annual Boxing Day Classic tournament at Mouat Park once again.

After a few years of connection with the Duck Golf tournament series, the local disc golf event has now been slotted into the Islands Tour series that hits courses from Nanaimo, Malahat, Campbell River, Victoria, Cortes Island and Pender Island between November and May.

Some 69 golfers attended the Salt Spring tourney last year.

And island youngster Braeden Simmonds (12 at the time) also surprised competitors by winning the amateurs division with a 94.

This year's two-round event will offer trophies, prizes and/or cash pay-outs for top scores and aces.

Entry fees run \$10-25, depending on the divisions entered. All ages are welcome.

A doubles tourney will follow the event on December 27.

The Boxing Day Classic starts at 10:15 a.m. on Monday at the Hart Memorial Disc Golf Course in Mouat Park.

For more information, call Dean at 538-1971.

PGA BRITISH COLUMBIA *Still not sure what to buy?*

Golf Lesson Christmas Special

Three 45 minute golf lessons \$100.00 no tax
No expiry date
(One 45 minute lesson \$45 regular)

Call Steve Marleau 537-2121

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

SALT SPRING
Sheet Metal Ltd.

ALL I NEED IS THE AIR THAT I BREATHE

EPA's Total Exposure Assessment Methodology (TEAM) studies found levels of about a dozen common organic pollutants to be 2 to 5 times higher inside homes than outside, regardless of whether the homes were located in rural or highly industrial areas.

ENEREADY™-Heat Recovery Ventilators and accessories (HRV's) provide quiet, comfortable and continuous fresh air year-round. When properly installed, they can prevent the stuffiness, odours and condensation problems of an unventilated home. An ENEReady™ HRV delivers fresh air throughout your home while the stale, moist air exhausts outside. Inside the HRV, heat in the warm airstream transfers to the cool airstream. You benefit from energy savings while keeping the air fresh, comfortable and healthy. Specialty filters and attractive, easy-to-use controls enhance the performance of your ENEReady™ HRV to best suit your family's needs.

Henry Van Unen • 538-0100

• CUSTOM COPPER & STEEL GUTTERS •

• HEATING • VENTILATION • H.R.V.'S • FLASHINGS •

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

On Salt Spring Island
it's not the "Bling Bling" that matters...

It's the **BLINK BLINK!**

Roads can be dangerous on Salt Spring

- Wear reflective gear
- Wear a flashing armband
- Carry a flashlight

Be like Rita Dods...

Be Safe... Be Seen!

Buy your Blink Blink products at:
Sports Traders, Island Escapades,
Mouat's Home Hardware and The Driftwood

A heads-up from the Driftwood
328 Lower Ganges Rd. 537-9933

Gulf Islands
driftwood

Soccer association reflects on fall season successes

SOCCER ROUND-UP
WITH MALCOLM LEGG



With the completion of games last weekend, the Salt Spring Island Youth Soccer program goes into a well-deserved Christmas break, a time to reflect on the successes of the fall session and also a time to look forward to what lays ahead for the youth of Salt Spring in the new year.

The fall saw the association have many successes, from the soccer raffle (our major fundraiser), to the team photos being complet-

ed, a Class 5 referees course that graduated 15 new referees for our program, extra coaching sessions from our technical director and especially a special Christmas dinner for all held at the Gulf Islands Secondary School cafeteria last week.

But most of all, the success of all our teams has been a great reward for all. Even with the terrible weather they have had to overcome all fall, these teams have responded with improved play and more victories. This will bode well for them in the spring session when cup play begins.

So what does the new year bring for all the teams and the program?

Spring schedule

The Mini program will start on January 7-8, with the usual January gym program. Please check website or technical director for times.

The off-island teams resume play on January 14-15, weather permitting.

Please note that Grant Eckberg will be looking after scheduling/referees for the first two weekends of the new year in my absence.

His phone number is 537-1253, or e-mail him at geckberg@telus.net.

I will return on January 16.

If you have games to be made up, please contact me at mlegg@saltspringwireless.com to ensure we have field space and referees.

Other events

Remember to check our website for coaching sessions with our technical director, or other upcoming events — there is lots to come.

For now our association will enjoy the break and spend some quality time with our families.

The Salt Spring Island Youth Soccer Association wishes to send a special Christmas thank you to all those who make this program a success, from the executives who run the program, to the coaches/managers that run the teams, to our technical director, Sue, who teaches our youth the world's greatest game, to the referees who officiate, to Tracey and Joel who look after equipment, Bryan with the website, our many sponsors, especially Windsor Plywood and Thrifty's, the staff at PARC and GISS maintenance who help with rental space and awesome fields — may you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year that will bring you back refreshed and ready for more challenges in the game we all love.



CHRISTMAS CRAFTER: Kimberly Rothwell hangs handmade ornaments made by her mom, Tina Rothwell, at the Last Minute Christmas Craft Fair, held last weekend at Mahon Hall.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Please Note Our HOLIDAY SCHEDULE CHANGE

For December 28 & January 4 issues

DECEMBER 28 ISSUE

Display Ad Deadline: 3 pm Wed., Dec. 21

Classified Deadline: 3 pm Thurs., Dec. 22

Too Late to Classify Deadline: noon Tues., Dec. 27

JANUARY 4, 2006 ISSUE

Display Ad Deadline: 3 pm Thurs., Dec. 29

Classified Deadline: 4 pm Mon., Jan. 2

Too Late to Classify Deadline: noon Tues., Jan. 3

Our office will be closed

Fri., Dec. 23, Mon., Dec. 26 & Fri., Dec. 30

Gulf Islands Driftwood Tel: 537-9933 Fax: 537-2613
328 Lower Ganges Road



4
days left
til
christmas



fun pet stuff • yummy body gelato • famous rubber ducky

we make it

Saltspring Soapworks

you give it

Downtown Ganges 537-2701

Christmas stories: words flow from island youth

A favourite Driftwood tradition unfolded with a flurry of paper again this year, with some 122 entries received in the annual Christmas story-writing contest.

While Driftwood staff were concerned the loss of instructional time resulting from this fall's teachers' strike in public schools might shrink the number of stories and poems submitted, the same enthusiastic elementary school teachers rose to the challenge of having all students in their classes write a story for the contest.

At Fulford elementary, Jim Lightfoot's grades 4-5 class and Stacia Kennedy's grade 3-4 class reached 100 per cent participation.

From Salt Spring elementary, Stella Weinert's grades 4-5 class and the grades 2-3 class of Deborah Nostdal and Rineke Jonker also had 100 participation.

As well, all students in both the primary and intermediate classes at Salt Spring Centre School, taught by Linda Burgess and Kate Richer, respectively, wrote stories for the contest.

From a random draw of the class names, Stacia Kennedy's class at Fulford will receive \$100 from the Driftwood to be given to a charity of the class's choice.

A large number of entries were also produced by Wayne Taylor's grades 4-5 students at Salt Spring elementary.

But all entries did not arrive via teachers, as indi-

vidual young writers, including home-schooled children, made sure their stories were in the judges' hands before deadline.

As usual, retired teacher Alex Mitchell was the contest coordinator, rounding up his willing band of colleagues to read and determine winners in various age categories. They were Dan Davies, for the age 10 and age 11-13 categories; Victoria Olchowecki judged the nine year olds; Louise Nye (a first-time judge) handled the eight-year-olds' entries; and Betty Poole again took on the youngest crowd — the six and seven year olds.

They were directed to judge the entries based on quality of writing, clarity of presentation and originality of theme. First-place winners receive a \$30 prize, while \$20 goes to the second-place authors. Cheques may be picked up at the Driftwood office from today (Wednesday, December 21).

First and second place entries are also published in this week's paper.

Winners were:

Ages 11-13

First — Bradley Watson, *The Christmas Heist*

Second — Eartha Linnell, *Tina's Christmas Adventure*
Honourable Mention — Kayla Windsor, *Santa Forgets His Medication*

Age 10

First — James Twaites, *My Years in Scrooge*

Second — Elijah Gold,



Artwork by high school students Maki Kikuchi, left, and Zena Blanes were selected for publication in this week's Driftwood. Winner of the annual cover contest was Hannah Everest, whose art can be found on Page A1.

The Christmas Kittens
Honourable Mention — Lauren Utter, *Wish; Brizah Frank, Bailey's Strange Christmas; Sau-Yi Tsang, Do You Know How China Celebrates New Year?*

Age 9

First — Emma-Sky Warner-Dilts, *The Littlest Christmas Tree*

Second — Nicholas Terra-

bain, *The Boy That Became Santa For an Hour*

Honourable Mention — Kristen Viberg, *My Christmas Break; Coltan Vollrath, Bad and Good; Jessica Kliaman, A Very Happy Christmas; Zorah Wiltzen, a Christmas Tale; Jasmine Cooper, The Tale of a Young Girl's Christmas; Kephra Beckett, A Christmas Miracle.*



The Christmas Heist

By BRADLEY WATSON
First Place, Ages 11-13

Did you know that Santa has a twin brother? Yes he does and his name is Sinta Claus. Santa Claus rarely mentions him because Sinta is always on the naughty list . . . the very naughty list!

In his early days as a child, Sinta did things like one year he ate all the candy canes and there were none for the good boys and girls. Another year he put wine in the reindeer's drinking barrel, which caused a lot of problems as Rudolph's nose was extra bright and the rest of the reindeer were blinded by it and could not see where they were going. Another time Sinta hid all the batteries so kids were unable to play with their new toys on Christmas morning. So every year Sinta only gets a lump of coal in his stocking like the rest of the naughty children in the world.

Sinta lives next door to Santa Claus in the North Pole in his own snow palace. Every year after Christmas Santa Claus leaves Sinta in charge of making the toys for children under the age of five.

Santa Claus's elves are so well trained that they make the rest of the toys for all the good boys and girls. While Sinta is "making" toys for the children, Santa Claus goes on a trip to the Bahamas. He leaves December 29th and comes back on November 30th.

Sinta is a very lazy person, and would rather sit around watching Judge Judy and eating pretzels than

be working. If he does not complete his toy order by November 30th he does not get paid. So one year he decides to be really lazy and instead of working he plans to not make the toys but to heist them. For his plan to work he must teach his reindeer and elves how to be master thieves.

Sinta's faithful reindeer are Forgery, Burglar, Cheater, Liar and the leader is Rudy Red-Handed. As soon as Santa Claus leaves on his holiday, Sinta begins to train his reindeer and his trusty elves in the art of safecracking, alarm disabling and being a top-notch thief. Every day the elves and reindeer go through obstacle courses inside an old toy warehouse. They train for months until Sinta is satisfied that they will be able to do the job.

On November 28th, two days before Santa is to return, Sinta, the elves and reindeer head for New York City to the biggest toy store in the world. They arrive on the roof of Toy World and unload their gear.

The reindeer have the most important job as they have to hack into the Carson Security alarm system and disable it. They want it to look like a power outage so it can't be traced back to them.

They have to slide down one of the air vents to get to the alarm system, which they do. They have exactly 12 minutes to work on the system, and they start to sweat (and believe me it is not a pretty sight to see a sweaty reindeer). After 11 1/2 minutes they manage to get it turned off.

Then the elves jump into action with the big suction tube and conveyor belt and start to suck up the toys, which get loaded into the sleighs they have waiting on the roof. Load after load they move to the North Pole's warehouse, which takes about four hours to fill.

They quickly remove all their equipment, reset the alarm and security cameras and return to the North Pole for a celebration.

Back at the North Pole the elves wrap up most of the presents as that is part of the contract with Santa. When Santa returns from his holiday he goes over to Sinta's warehouse to inspect his work. Santa is very impressed and starts to write out his paycheque when he notices on some of the unwrapped gifts price tags from Toy World. Even in the Bahamas the news was in the papers about the big Toy World robbery. Santa realizes that Sinta had not been working all year but had been the master thief in New York City.

Santa questions Sinta, who finally admitted that he was the mastermind behind the crime. Santa is very upset and finishes writing out the paycheque, but he does not make it out to Sinta but to Toy World and sends Rudolph on an express trip to New York to pay Toy World for all of the toys. Sinta is forced to work for the rest of the year at a local snowcone stand.

And . . . once again Sinta is on the naughty list and receives a lump of coal in his stocking.

The Littlest Christmas Tree

By EMMA-SKY WARNER-DILTS
First Place, Age 9

Once there was a little acorn girl named Tonia. She lived with mama in the roots of a Garry oak tree.

Every day they walked along their little stream and gathered berries, sap, and acorns to bake pies. Sometimes, they even dried corn over the fire to make popcorn.

If they got sick they would gather wild licorice, Oregon grape root, and fennel. For clothing they wore inner cedar bark which was softened. For hats they wore acorn tops.

One day Tonia was climbing a tree and spying on a little girl when she saw an itty-bitsy-teeny-weeny tree that sparkled with dew drops.

The little girl pulled the tree out and dropped it in a mud puddle and skipped away. Tonia grabbed a stick from the ground and fished it out onto the snow. She really liked the tree and wanted to take it home.

She built a sled out of bark and grass and pulled the tree home.

Tonia washed the muddy tree. Tonia and her mama replanted the tree in the middle of the house. They decorated it with arbutus berries, licorice root, sap, and moss. Afterwards, they lit candles and made a wish. Tonia's wish was to have the best Christmas ever!

Flander's Field at Christmas

By GENEVIEVE LIGHTFOOT
First Place, Ages 6-7

One day, a snowman called Super Frosty went into Flander's Fields.

It was a cold winter's day. Frosty saw a tree sprouting out of one of the graves.

He ran to his house which was made of ice. Then, he went back to Flander's Fields. He decorated the tree. It was beautiful!

Then, when Frosty melted in the spring, he watered the tree and it grew into a big beautiful tree.

The Boy That Became Santa For An Hour

By NICHOLAS TERRABAIN
Second Place, Age 9

A boy named Alex was about to go to bed when he heard a big loud noise. He raced out of bed and out the door.

There, lying busted, was Santa's sleigh. He walked towards it. Behind the busted sleigh was, was, Alex could not believe it, was Santa, lying there dead as a doornail. That's what Alex thought, but actually he was really badly injured.

Alex walked toward him. He was dying. Alex was terrified.

The last words Santa said before he died were: "Read the note in my pocket." Then he died.

Alex pulled the note out of Santa's pocket and started to read it.

It said, "Alex read this and you will become the new Santa." He dropped the note and started to cry. Then a single tear hit the note. Then he started to grow taller and fatter.

Alex ran and got his tools out of his house and said to himself, "I have to deliver these presents!" He started to fix the sleigh.

He did not know the elves were hiding in the sleigh. The elves jumped out of their hiding places. When Alex was done fixing the sleigh he hopped in with the elves and took off.

"Next stop Jordan's house!" the elves called out, "It's right below us!" Alex went down the chimney and dropped presents under the tree. Then he had a glass of milk with some peanut butter cookies.

"Mmmm," he said, "These are my favourite kind of cookies."

Then he went back up the chimney and jumped off the roof and into the sleigh. Then he read the name of the next kid to get a present on his list — it was a boy named George.

Alex said, "Wait a minute! That's my best friend! We walk to school every day in the morning!"

Alex jumped out of the sleigh and went down George's chimney and put his presents under the tree and then jumped back up the chimney.

Alex began turning skinnier and shorter. He flew out of the chimney and landed on his own trampoline.

He jumped off into the grass.

He ran to the back door of his house, went to his bedroom, and went to bed. He woke up and opened his own presents.

One of the elves became the next Santa. "Small Santa" was his name and that was the happy ending.



YULETIDE FEAST: Enjoying some time with Father Yuletide Ralph Miller at an annual Beaver Point Hall feast last Friday night were, from left: Kyran Mainer, Shasta Steadman and Caitlyn Mainer.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

My Two Christmases

By ALEXANDER PASUTA
Second Place, Ages 6-7

I have Christmas on December 25. I also have a second Christmas on January 6 called Ukrainian Christmas.

My family goes to my Grandpa's house. He is Ukrainian.

My Grandpa has a very nice tree with

presents under it. We are not allowed to open presents until after supper.

For supper, we have perogies, cabbage rolls, fish and fancy mushrooms. Dad says the supper is the best feast of the year.

After we are done, we open our presents and have a very special time.

I am very lucky to get two Christmases.



CHRISTMAS STAGE: Fernwood Elementary School children perform in their annual Christmas concert.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Tina's Christmas Adventure

By EARTHA LINNELL
Second Place, Ages 11-13

"Tina!" her mother yelled. "Come help with the tree!"

"Coming." In minutes she was up, dressed and downstairs helping her mom with the tree.

Tina was an 11-year-old tomboy. She had a cat named Ginger who could talk but only Tina could understand. She read mystery stories and she always had her hair up in a ponytail, braids, etc.

That night, Tina was just dozing off and the phone rang. "Ring-aling-aling! Ring-aling-aling!" It was quiet. Tina got out of bed and picked up the phone. "Hello?" she said.

"Hello, I'm looking for Mr. Charlesworth."

"Just a minute. Dad! The phone is for you!" There was no answer, so she went to their bedroom and whispered, "The phone is for you!" There was no answer so she went to their room. Then she saw a note. It said:

Dear Tina. We are out for the night.

Mom and Dad

She ran back to the phone. "I'm sorry, but my parents are not available. Can I take a message?"

"Well, tell them to phone back

ASAP at 253-5546."

"Okay," said Tina. She wrote down the number. Now where have they gone?

"Didn't you know?" Ginger asked, "Your parents are Santa's helpers."

"What?!" Tina cried. "They didn't tell me that!"

"Yeah, they're at the workshop right now," Ginger replied.

"We have to go help them!" Tina insisted. "Come on Ginger!"

So they rushed to the train station, bought their tickets for the North Pole, and just caught the train in time.

"I have always wondered what it would be like to see Santa's workshop!"

When they arrived, the whole village was bustling with activity. Elves were running here and there with newly wrapped presents. "Wait . . . there are five matching sleighs. I wonder which one is Santa's?" Tina wondered.

"Well, it depends on which one you are looking for," said a friendly elf. "You know, we really couldn't do any of this with only one Santa."

"Tina! Ginger! What are you doing here? You are supposed to be

fast asleep. Santa is coming in seven hours!"

Tina turned around and gasped! "MOM! DAD! WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?!" Her parents were wearing jester hats, overalls with red and green stripes, and elf boots with bells on the toes that jingled when they walked.

"How on earth did you get here?!" Mr. Charlesworth asked, surprised.

"Well, I took the train."

"No, I mean how did you find out that we worked here?"

"Oh, Ginger told me," Tina said.

"I would really like to talk to you, sweetie, but one of the elves is not able to work and we're really far behind," said Mrs. Charlesworth.

"Well, don't worry, we can help," said Ginger.

"Yes, let us help. That is what we came for," said Tina.

Jingle jingle jingle! sounded reindeers' bells. "Come on! Let's GET THIS SHOW-HO-HO ON THE ROAD!" shouted Santa Number One.

"Come on you guys, we really could use a hand," said Mr. Charlesworth. So they trotted over to the workshop, heaved up some presents,

Comet and Cupid's Childhood

By OWEN TWAITES
First Place, Age 8

Once upon a time, Comet and Cupid were playing outside in the snow, away from their cave. For the children they are, their mother told them to play outside until the Raven started to circle. But they spent an hour there while the raven was circling — getting lower and lower. Suddenly he tried to catch Cupid, but Comet and Cupid dashed off at the speed of lightning.

Santa was looking down from there. He had to unlock doors and then relock them after delivering presents, since he couldn't get on the rooftops without going up the chimney. He had to do it every year.

But the elves did have magic, you know. They did sometimes make hares fly so that they could deliver their messages. So he thought up an idea: *why not pull a sleigh with reindeer?*

He knew that each creature's speed shows how fast they can fly. And he saw those two run from that Raven as quick as lightning, so he thought that they should be the first two to join.

First they had to begin to

learn to be living on their own before he took them to the North Pole. If they were children at the time, they'd miss their parents and they wouldn't get enough time with them to learn what a reindeer is supposed to be like.

They were only five years old.

Fifteen years later, Comet and Cupid started living on their own in a different cave. They saw a hare flying delivering a message! They read the message,

"Dear Comet and Cupid, it's Santa here. I've had to deliver presents in a most uncomfortable way. Could you pull the sleigh on Christmas Eve? You will be the first reindeer ever to fly! Think about it. My messengers are little bunnies that we make fly. Would you like to be a reindeer that flies and pulls a sleigh full of presents for all the boys and girls?"

Comet and Cupid wrote a note back and said, "It would be an honour."

Santa delivered the same note, except it was in cursive writing, to the other two reindeer, who were second fastest, but the very smartest: Dasher and Dancer.

After all the notes were sent, and the replies were sent, Santa came himself with some of his elves, and they made the reindeer fly. They had to have a little practice first before they stopped crashing into objects.

They needed to learn to steer. They needed to learn to go up. They needed to learn to land without hurting themselves. The first two to learn — and they got it on their first try — were Comet and Cupid.

The last thing they were training for was pulling the sleigh. They had a little try of pulling the sleigh with all of them together. They could pull it in the air!

That's how Santa got his team of reindeer.

then Prancer, Dancer, Dasher and Vixened them into the sleighs. As Tina picked up the last shiny red and white present with a bow as big as her hand, she saw on the little tag in very neat printing, her name:

Have a very merry Christmas,
Tina Charlesworth
Santa

"Could it be?" wondered Tina, when all of a sudden a familiar voice interrupted her thoughts . . .

"Tina! Come on, let's decorate the tree," shouted Mrs. Charlesworth.

Tina's eyes flew open. She sat up straight. As she stumbled sleepily down the stairs, she thought about her dream.

When she arrived at the undecorated tree, she noticed that there was a shiny red and white present with a bow the size of her hand! On that present there was a tag that said in very neat writing:

Have a very merry Christmas,
Tina Charlesworth
Santa

"Hmmm . . ." thought Tina. "Was I awake when I was dreaming or the opposite?"

Tina never found this out, so I guess we will never know either.



AND THE JUDGES ARE: Judging the Driftwood Christmas story contest are, back row (from left): Victoria Olchowecki, Betty Poole, Louise Nye and Dan Davies, headed up by Alex Mitchell (front).
Photo by Derrick Lundy



The perfect little getaway starts at just \$69.*

It's value season at Accent Inns – the perfect time to escape to your favourite BC destination. Enjoy the best of the season: the sights, the sports, the shopping – or just kick back and relax. At the end of your perfect day, your spotlessly clean room, comfy bed and our friendly staff will be waiting for you. See you soon!



1-800-663-0298
accentinns.com
Canadian owned and operated.

* Based on double occupancy. Valid to March 31, 2006.

Victoria • Vancouver • Kamloops • Kelowna

The Wrong Address

By **ELLA FISHER**
Second Place Age 8
*Deer Santa Cloz,
Theez are the things I want
for Crismus*

Sandra was writing her letter in the car, on the way back from her Auntie's.

*plamobeel
noow bick
noow shoos*

Sandra stopped. She hated writing! She asked her mom to write for her, but her mom said, "You can do it."

"How am I going to do this? Sandra thought. She asked her mom for the address.

"I think it is 'South Pole, Canada.'" They stopped at the next mailbox and put it in.

A week later the letter came back and Sandra got really mad. She said, "Mom, it came back."

"Let's write another one," said her mom.

"But Mom, I don't like writing."

"If I write it, Santa will give your presents to me."

"But . . ."

"No 'but's . . ."

It was Christmas Eve. Sandra thought the letter wouldn't ever go to Santa.

"Sandra, it is time to go to bed."

"But Mom, you never sent my letter."

"Just leave your letter on the table. Maybe Santa will come to our house anyways," said her mom.

Sandra went to bed. When it was really late, Santa came because he knew they celebrated Christmas.

He wondered why Sandra didn't send a letter this year.

Then he found the letter on the table.

He read it and he said, "Well, my magic elf can go quick as a flash to get those presents. Gruffelin!"

"Yes, Santa?"

"Gruffelin, go to the North Pole and get a new bike for Sandra."

"I'll be back in a jiffy," said Gruffelin.

Before he came back, Santa wrote a note to Sandra.

He added "P.S. By the way, tell your mom I live at the North Pole."

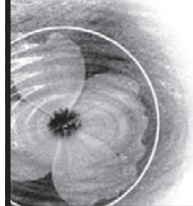
Sandra woke up really early the next morning. She saw her new bike. She was so excited. She called her mom.

"I told you that Santa would come," said Mom.

The next Christmas Sandra wrote her letter as early as she could and made sure she addressed it.

What's On? see page B16

You can stay healthy this winter!
This year try constitutional care to prevent flus & other illnesses.



Homeopathy

GENTLE NATURAL HEALING

KARIN BEVIERE
BA, DCH
653-4841
HOME VISITS

"Growing for the Heart of Vancouver Island"

Russell FARMS MARKET
Garden Center

246-4924

WINTER HOURS

8 AM TO 8 PM

Dec. 24 Closed at 5 pm

Dec. 25 & 26 Closed

PRICES EFFECTIVE

Sun. Dec. 18 to Sat. Dec. 24

While supplies last

CHINESE MANDARINS \$2.85

5lb box

3 BAG MINI COMBO

3 lb ONION

GET YOUR BRUSSELS AT RUSSELL'S

FRESH CELERY .65¢ each

FRESH YAMS OR SWEET POTATOES

3 LBS .99¢

FRESH RUTABAGA

3 LBS .99¢

#1 "JUMBO" WHITE MUSHROOMS

1.99lb

5 lb CARROT

10 lb POTATOE

ALL 3 ONLY \$4.99

ORDER YOUR PARTY TRAYS FROM OUR DELI

GRIMM'S GARLIC COIL OR LILYDALE TURKEY COIL .78¢ 100g

GRIMM'S HONEY HAM 98¢ 100g

GRIMM'S GARLIC ROAST BEEF \$1.29 100g

GRIMM'S CERVELET SALAMI \$2.39 100g

GRIMM'S HEAVY SMOKED BACON .99¢ 100g

GARDEN CENTRE FALL HOURS: 9AM - 6PM 246-4940

FRESHLY CUT CHRISTMAS TREES \$5.99 to \$59.99

30% OFF

• TEAPOTS
• WINDCHIMES
• GLAZING BALLS
• SOAPS/CANDLES
• CHRISTMAS DECOR - BIRDFEEDERS

GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR THE GARDENER ON YOUR LIST!

HOLLY, WREATHS, SWAGS & MISTLETOE 25% OFF REG. PRICE

GLAZED BIRD BATHS \$5.99 REG. \$9.99

WILD BIRD SUET 99¢ ea High Energy Only

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK ALL YEAR ROUND

North of Duncan, Trans Can. Hwy. at Crofton cutoff

246-4924

Give the Gift of Music

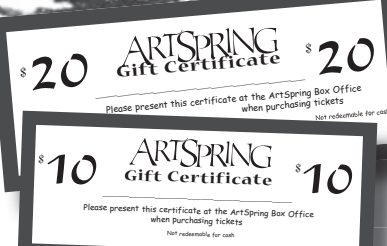


Les Voix Humaines with Suzie LeBlanc
Their timeless music and performance "reaches the depths of the soul."
Sunday, January 29 (2:30pm)
Preceded with a pre-concert chat

Denzal Sinclair Quartet
Jazz singer Denzal Sinclair "has the enviable quality of making you want to listen to his silky liquid tones all night."
Sunday, February 12 (2:30pm)
Preceded with a complimentary Garry Oaks wine tasting

Hugh Fraser Quintet
With a depth and maturity that is rare and instantly recognizable, this jazz ensemble is considered "the hottest band in the country."
Sunday, April 2 (2:30pm)
Preceded with a complimentary Garry Oaks wine tasting

Or consider Gift Certificates, which can be redeemed for any performance at ArtSpring.



The Ticket Centre will be open Wednesday through Friday, 9:30-4:30, and Saturday 10:00-2:00. The Ticket Centre will also be open regular hours on December 27, 28 and 29.

537-2102 tickets@artspring.ca



Dinner's Ready Check our website for this week's selections.

Home Catering Service Meals you would make...if you had the time!

TURKEY DINNER
DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR DEC. 24TH
CALL FOR MORE INFO

Christine Godlonton 537-0867 www.dinnerreadyonsaltspring.com

FULFORD PUB

New Year's Party
Saturday Dec. 31st

"FOUR TWENTY"
9pm to next year!
It's dancing time

NO COVER CHARGE
PRIZES FUN!
Special New Year's Menu!
Double your points!

P.S.: PLEASE NOTE
The Pub will be closed
December 22, 23, 24, 25, 26
Opening Dec. 27

The Fulford Inn Liquor Store
HOLIDAYS HOURS:
December 24 9 am-3 pm
December 25 CLOSED

LUCKY NO.'S FOR THIS WEEK ARE 4853 and 4115 - PICK UP YOUR PRIZE

Supported by
gicac BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL

Newman Family Productions 2005

Christmas WITH Scrooge

Last 3 Days

ARTSPRING
DECEMBER 17, 22 & 23 AT 7 P.M.
DECEMBER 18 & 24 MATINÉES AT 2 P.M.
Adults \$15 Kids \$7

Arrive early for pre-show fun!

My Years in Scrooge

By JAMES TWAITES
First Place, Age 10

Until I was five, I went to *Scrooge* every year and watched the play.

I remember being four, sitting in Mahon Hall watching the Ghost of Christmas Past poke at Scrooge and seeing the Ghost of Christmas Present leaving and hiding my head under my coat in preparation for the arrival of the Ghost of Christmas Future.

Now I am 10, and it is the last year of *Scrooge*.

I have been a Spotty Dog three times (two of which I was The Pup), a Street Urchin twice, Tiny Tim once and more-or-less a half, when I had to fill in for Arlo who was playing Tim that year and got sick one day. Virginia and Sue called and

asked if I could fill in for him the day of the show, and I had second thoughts about ever wanting to be Tiny Tim.

I got a lot of encouragement from my parents, Sue and Virginia, and Kevin Wilkie, who played Bob Cratchit.

In the end I did the part. The next day we went to the movie store and John and Tim made an announcement and gave me a standing ovation.

This year I am being Turkey Boy, which I have done once before. He is the boy who delivers the turkey to the Cratchits.

But it's the message of *Scrooge* that is important. The message is that family is more important than money.

My whole family is in

Scrooge. My Mum carols and irons the costumes, my Dad plays one of the Charity People (he calls himself a Church Lady, because that's what it says in the script), and my brother Owen has always been a Caroller except this year he is being a Street Urchin too.

The rehearsals are fun too. We all stand in a big circle and do voice warm-ups, then we do the actual rehearsing and all (except me and the other young boys) try hopelessly to waltz.

Backstage is a challenge too. If you are laughing at that, you try cramming into a tiny room with 70 other people and try to play Crazy 8s until your cue, at which point you realize you left your hat in the dressing room.

You know how the Pup says, "My tail fell off!"? That started when the Pup's tail really did fall off! At rehearsal, all the grown-ups fight over who gets to stand in for the Spotty Dogs when one or more is absent.

Scrooge has been a big part of Christmas for me and I am very sorry that it is ending, but who knows, maybe some other winter play will be introduced to Salt Spring.

Hoping is not going to help us achieve that though. We will have to work hard if that is going to happen and I for one am happy to work at that because theatre is an important part of this island to me and I would hate to have Christmas without it.

The Christmas Kittens

By ELIJAH GOLD
Second Place, Age 10

Once upon a time, there were two kittens named Billy and Chester. They lived together at the SPCA.

One day a little girl walked in. She said, "Mom, I want that one!" and picked up Chester. And then they were gone.

Billy waited for Chester to come back, and waited as November turned into December. Finally Billy decided to go find Chester and bring him back. It was Christmas Eve.

"Wow!" Billy stopped and looked up after escaping from the SPCA.

He had never seen anything like it before — a tree covered with lights, candy and balls.

"Well, that's weird," he thought. "I never saw a tree with lights on it in the SPCA. I'll call it a light tree."

Seeing the tree reminded Billy what he was doing, and he set off to find Chester. He checked everywhere, under cars and up trees. But he couldn't find Chester anywhere.

Suddenly, he saw a huge plump man in a red suit with a whip and 12 flying deer and one with a shining red nose.

He was getting closer to Billy, now it looked like he was going to get hit! He ran as fast as he could, but it wasn't fast enough.

He closed his eyes and waited . . . but nothing happened!

He opened his eyes to see that he was flying, and the man in the red suit was right beside him.

"Ah! What do you want from me?" Billy quivered.

"Why, I'm Santa Claus!" "You're n-n-n-not going to eat m-m-me, are you?" Billy stuttered.

"Of course not!" Santa answered, "I was going to ask you what you wanted for Christmas."

Billy knew his answer right away. "I want to go live with Chester!" Billy sniffed. "He's a ginger kitten with a big fluffy tail, and I really miss him."

A tear rolled down Billy's furry face. "He's my best friend!"

Santa said, "Oh yes, Jen. How about when I drop off her presents you can be one

of them?" "Okay, that sounds great!" cheered Billy.

He waited and waited and finally they got to Jen's house.

They had a light tree there too! Suddenly, Billy was dropped with a note on his neck that said:

"To Jen, here is a kitten for Chester to play with. Have a merry Christmas. Love Santa."

Billy found a nice little bed by the presents under the light tree and curled up and went to sleep.

When he woke up he saw Chester playing with a brand new ball and eating catnip. Billy was just getting ready to pounce on Chester when he was picked up by Jen, who yelled, "Mom! Wake up and look what I got from Santa!"

"Jen, what is that?" she asked.

"A new kitten for Chester to play with."

By that time Chester and Billy had happily reunited, and Chester had shown Billy the whole house.

That night there was a huge party with lots of treats and they all had a very merry Christmas indeed.

NEW YEARS PARTY
featuring...
Sundogs
no cover charge
saturday
9 pm december 31

Barb's Buns
LICENSED BAKERY & BISTRO

121 McPhillips Ave. 537-4491

Vicky Bev Julia
LOCAL AGENTS SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

*We Wish All Our Clients
A Festive and
Happy Holiday Season
And Look Forward
To Serving You in 2006!!*

WE SELL INSURANCE, LUGGAGE, TRAVEL BAGS & MORE!

UNIGLOBE Ph. 250-537-5523
www.uniglobepacific.com "Across from the Visitor Centre"

THE HARBOUR HOUSE on Salt Spring

Holiday Hours
RESTAURANT / LOUNGE

Christmas Eve:
7am - 11pm

Christmas Day:
7am - 2pm & 5pm - 9pm
(Dinner by reservation only)

**Boxing Day, New Years Eve
& New Years Day:**
7am - 11pm

LIQUOR STORE
Open 9am - 11pm daily

Happy Holidays

121 UPPER GANGES ROAD • Tel: (250) 537-4700
SALT SPRING'S ONLY AUDUBON ECO-RATED ACCOMMODATION

Two decades of Scrooge signal quintessential island and values

By **ANDREA RABINOVITCH**
Driftwood Contributor

Like the glass of milk and shortbread awaiting Santa on Christmas Eve, there's something reassuring about the Newman Family Productions' Christmas With Scrooge.

It's been a 20-year Salt Spring Island tradition, seeing over 100 people pass through the Dickens' portal with children growing up from part to part supported onstage by Virginia at the piano and accompanied in many years by bass player Ian Van Wyck.

One couldn't help but think that we would never meet Mrs. Cratchit's youngest, still in utero, as this is the last year of this Christmas play based on Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* with musical adaptation by Ray and Virginia Newman and directed by Virginia and Sue Newman. Virginia and Sue have decided to close the doors and move on.

As the late Ray Newman says in the video clip at the beginning of the show chronicling Scrooge through the years, "It's madness to be doing music and theatre on this island."

Well, they did it for 20 years and we thank them for providing such an excellent opportunity for both the performers and the audience.

All the actors showed real growth in their acting chops with honest emotion, listening to each other, excellent diction and clear intentions abounding. You could tell they were having fun.

I love the bit at the opening where the misplaced pickpocket characters from *Oliver Twist* — charmingly played by Lynda Jensen and Murray Shoolbraid — realize it's the wrong play.

This year Eric Booth was the nasty but redemptive Ebenezer Scrooge with the gentle Kevin Wilkie counter-pointing with his Bob Cratchit.

The comic turn by Gayle Louise and Bob Twaites as the charity/funeral couple was funny, especially waiting to see how Louise was going to resolve getting her



foot out of the garbage can. With prayer shawl and lit yarmulke, Shilo Zylbergold's Ghost of Hanukkah Past is always a personal favourite.

Vaughn Fulford's Jacob Marley's ghost was both campy and scary and his turn as Sir Walter Muggleton at the Fezziwig Ball brought the scene together.

Sarah Penhale's ditzzy ghost of Christmas Past and Rusty Marshall's directionally-challenged Ghost of Christmas Present both engaged the audience.

The gracious Fezziwigs (Murray Shoolbraid and Patsy Siemens) once again threw the party of the year with piper Roger Gilbert — including a most excel-

SWEET AND SCARY: Cast members of the annual Christmas With Scrooge seasonal extravaganza range from cute singers performing at a craft fair (clockwise from top): Kevin Wilkie, Patrice Bowler, Max and Maddie Mackay to Vaughn Fulford's frightening Jacob Marley.

lent Scottish introduction by Shoolbraid, Marv the Magician (Marv Coulthard), the twinkled-toed Nathaniel and Georgina Bristlethwaite (Martin Thorn and Gail Bryn-Jones) entertaining the guests. All were served by the tipsy maid Pat O'Neill.

The French-accented dog trainer (Arlo Bryn-Thorn) certainly had his hands full at the soiree with the ever cute and well-rehearsed Spotty Dogs Alyssa Andress, Maja Nordine and Emeris Nordine.

Jane Goodall's Mrs. Cratchit was peggery this year, making her flip out — hormonally motivated — at that creep Scrooge. All the mothers in the audience

could relate.

The scene between Belle and Scrooge was made poignant by Joanne O'Connor's honest portrayal.

And then there were the children.

The prologue children in their red flannel nightgowns: Danica Jensen, Maya Sherrin and Sofia Dammel-Sherrin; the puppet troupe of Halley, Lulu and Ezra Fulford; Street Urchins Owen Twaites, Noah Dammel-Sherrin, Kara and Maddie Mackay; Max Mackay's touching young Scrooge; the fighting Fezziwig progeny (Thea Stone, Quadra Boyle and Liliith Bentley); bespectacled dancers Daisy Voaden and Christina Penhale; the unbearably cute Samuel Bentley as Tiny Tim; the golden-throated Meaghen Toole as Martha Cratchit; the other Cratchit children: Zoe Bentley, Liliith Bentley and Arlo Bryn-Thorn; and James Twaites as the snarky Turkey Boy were all wonderful.

A real stand-out scene showcased Patrice Bowler, Lulu, Halley and Ezra Fulford as the dregs of society stealing Scrooge's precious belongings.

A Christmas With Scrooge signals the values that the holiday season is supposed to relay: festivals of light in the darkest part of the year, a time to cherish family, friends and community, an inclusive opportunity for those with the talent or even just the moxie to shine without judgement, and to offer a gentle reminder that we all have the capacity to change for the better.

Bravo and God bless us everyone.

Remaining shows run December 22-23 at 7 p.m. and Christmas Eve at 2 p.m. But tickets have sold so fast there may not be any left by today.

Poetry inspires coming to our senses

A Shower of Blossoms: A Collection of Haiku and Images of Salt Spring Island by Elehna de Sousa, Salt Spring Island: Rainshadow Books, 2005. \$14.95.

By **TANYA LESTER**
Driftwood Contributor

Eventually this tiny chapbook (100 mm wide by 130 mm long) of haiku poetry and photographs will find its way to my white dresser top next to Kahlil Gibran's *Patrons of Happiness*.

Not that Elehna de Sousa's *A Shower of Blossoms* has the same effect on me as the words of the 19th-century prophet-philosopher does. Gibran opens up the doors of my mind to wisdom. De Sousa makes me come to my senses:

evening stroll

through sun-dappled woods . . .
the pungent smell of skunk cabbage

Instantaneously, I feel, see and smell one of my favourite walking haunts — a trail between Churchill and Long Harbour roads just north of Ganges. Of course, the skunk cabbage that grows there is probably not of the same vegetative group that awakened de Sousa's muse since she lives in the south end.

The point is: the poet uses this delicate Japanese form, along with vivid photographs, to revel in Salt Spring Island's natural beauty:

island meditation —
again and again
the shriek of an eagle

The first of the three unrhymed lines sets the scene. The second connects to the third line, which presents the image that the poet wants us to focus on. Less is more in haiku:

just-washed hands
stained again
with blackberry juice

You need to pause, sink in to the moment and celebrate its beauty. That is why I intend to pick de Sousa's poetry book up off my dresser top and randomly open it up to one haiku each day. It will be a daily reminder of the beauty that surrounds me; a daily encouragement to get out into it.

What better gift to give yourself or someone you care about?

Merry Christmas
We will be taking a break
December 24 - January 1
Soup's On Again January 2, 2006
Happy New Year

Take-out comfort food...

PARKSIDE IN GASOLINE ALLEY 537-0033

Tree House South

fresh new dinner features every night!

Open 7 days a week for breakfast 8am-11:30
lunch 11:30-5:00 and dinner 5:00-9:00

mon 26th	Grilled Halibut Filets
tues 27th	Beef Liver with onions and bacon
wed 28th	Pasta Night - Buy 1 get 2nd Pasta for \$3
thurs 29th	STEPHANIE RHODES Untamed Vocals DINNER SPECIAL: Prime Rib & Yorkshire Pudding
fri 30th	ALAN MICELI Acoustic Guitar DINNER SPECIAL: Teriyaki Salmon Steak
sat 31st	CLOSED at 4:00pm
SUN 1st	Merry Christmas to all! CLOSED

Tree House South, exceptional, unique, authentic, Salt Spring food & groove. In Fulford at the ferry landing 653-4833.

SMILE

537-1400
199 Salt Spring Way

Dr. Richard Hayden

- general dentistry
- cosmetic dentistry - veneers
- tooth whitening
- root canals
- same day crowns/onlays
- ask about our reflexology treatment

Galleons Lap
ATELIER - GALLERY

EXHIBITIONS
COLLECTIONS
WORKSHOPS

Fine Art Photography

Wed to Sun - 10am to 5pm
Closing Noon-ish Dec 24
Re-Opening January 2006
Have a Happy, Healthy, and Safe New Year!!

103 Park Dr - Salt Spring Island BC
250 538-0182 - www.gjphoto.com

Happy Holidays

Tree House South is serving

brunch

on **BOXING DAY**
and
NEW YEARS DAY
from
9am to 4pm

Reservations
Recommended

Tree House South

exceptional, unique, authentic food & groove

Intimate pageant wrapped up in Pacem

By **GAIL SJUBERG**
Staff Writer

When it comes to Christmas entertainment and revelry, we're simply a spoiled bunch on Salt Spring, and that's especially been the case this year.

From the first of December on we've been humming and singing along, tapping our toes and basking in memories stirred up by seasonal scenes and songs.

Last weekend, the Salt Spring Concert Band's Pacem let us do it all: feel cheered and nostalgic by popular Christmas tunes such as Deck the Halls and O Come All Ye Faithful played in two separate medleys, be reflective in the space between deep brass tones and tingling percussion in the medieval French antiphon Veni Immanuel,

and hear about some Three Wise Men's adventures en route to Bethlehem.

The concert band, led by director Dawn Hage, merged spoken and musical words by including a reading of Amahl and the Night Visitors, from an opera by Gian Carlo Menotti, adapted by Richard Moses of Salt Spring's WordPlay dramatic reading group. I enjoyed the interplay of the compelling tale, with humorous and poignant lines, and a "miracle ending," and the music. Readers were Karena Macalister, her young daughter Amaranta on Friday night and Sam Neville on Saturday, Marck Shipley, Lindsey Neville, Alex Mitchell and Tom Gilligan.

(I'm not sure why my friend Alex had to play the hard-of-hearing king Kas-

par, but I guess he drew the short straw.)

Friday night's crowd of 70 was quite small — although it was a different story on Saturday — but they were enthusiastic and certainly responsive. A distinct and lingering sigh drifted through the hall after the last note of the peaceful Stille Nacht, in which band members' singing dovetailed with light instrumentation, giving Donna Vanderwekken's bass a chance to shine.

Vocal solos by Brad Cronin and Caroni Young instigated delightful shivers in Ave Maria, where the band masterfully controlled the dynamics and flow of the stunning classic.

The concert's title piece, Pacem, is a majestic, modern composition by Robert Spittal that intoned the need for peace in the world and our everyday lives.

But while clear, frosty-eve notes and full-on brass made for a musically engaging evening, it was the "whole package" that made Pacem so memorable.

With an eclectic program, the chance to sing along, the pageant-like reading and folksy atmosphere of Fulford Hall, with greenery, swooping gold stars and cascades of lights behind the backdrop to the band, we were treated to a wholesale, intimate community gathering.

Saturday night's packed-hall show reportedly and understandably had a different feel, but the crowd jumped for a standing ovation on both nights and got into the sing-along spirit with a repeat of the concert-ending Leroy Anderson medley called A Christmas Festival.

Prices Effective DEC. 21-DEC. 27, 2005
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES

SIDNEY

SUPER

FOODS

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

SINCE 1964

OPEN EVERY DAY

Thur & Fri until 8:00 pm

Holiday Hours

Sunday, Dec. 25th Closed

Monday, Dec. 26th 9 am - 5:30 pm

Happy Holidays!

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

<p>BC GROWN LILY DALE SIZE 3-8 KG FRESH GRADE "A"</p> <p>1.78/lb Young Turkey 3.92kg</p>	<p>FROZEN</p> <p>Sausage Meat 375-500g 1.98</p> <p>ASSORTED VARIETIES</p> <p>Liver Sausage 250g 1.98</p>	<p>CUT FROM CANADA GRADE "AA" BEEF CAPLESS</p> <p>6.88/lb Prime Rib Premium Oven Roast 15.17kg</p>	<p>MIRABEL FROZEN</p> <p>Cooked Shrimp Rings 8 oz pkg 2.98</p> <p>Fresh Oysters 8 oz tub 2.98</p>
<p>READY TO SERVE WHOLE OR SHANK PORTION</p> <p>Ham 3.70kg 1.68/lb</p>	<p>READY TO SERVE</p> <p>Butt Portion Ham 3.92kg 1.78/lb</p>	<p>CANADA GR. "AA" BEEF PRIME RIB</p> <p>Grilling Steaks 15.39kg 6.98/lb</p>	<p>FRESH ISLAND GROWN BONELESS</p> <p>Leg of Pork Roast 4.81kg 2.18/lb</p>
<p>SMOKED BONELESS</p> <p>Whole Toupie Ham 4.37kg 1.98/lb</p>	<p>SMOKED BONELESS HALF OR QUARTER</p> <p>Toupie Ham 4.81kg 2.18/lb</p>	<p>MEADOW VALE</p> <p>Butter 1lb 3.99</p>	<p>GOLDEN BOY</p> <p>*Thompson 750g 3.25</p> <p>*Walnuts 400g 3.25</p>
DELI & BAKERY		<p>SUNRYPE APPLE</p> <p>Pure Juice 1L 4/5.00+dep.</p> <p>Sauce 625ml 1.49</p>	<p>CROWN LILY</p> <p>White Corn Syrup 500 mL 1.98</p>
<p>Black Forest Ham per 100g 1.29</p>	<p>Spinach Dip per 100g 1.29</p>	<p>UNICO</p> <p>Artichoke Hearts 680mL 3.98</p>	<p>GOLDEN BOY</p> <p>Peanut Butter 500g 2/4.00</p>
<p>Veggie Anti-Pasta per 100g 1.29</p>	<p>MINI CINNAMON</p> <p>Crunchies 510g 2/6.00</p>	FRESH BREAD	
<p>WONDER BREAD</p> <p>*White 1.19</p> <p>*100% WW 570g 1.19</p>		<p>FRESH ISLAND GROWN BONELESS</p> <p>Pork Leg Outlets 5.91kg 2.68/lb</p>	<p>GRIMM'S ASSORTED CLASSIC</p> <p>Sausage Rings 500g 4.98</p>
<p>DEMPSTER'S</p> <p>Cinnamon Raisin Bread 680g 2.39</p>		<p>WESTON'S FAMILY PACK</p> <p>White or W.W. Dinner Rolls 20's 2.19</p>	<p>ISLAND BAKERY (STUFFING)</p> <p>Dutch Loaf 570g 1.29</p>

AVOCADOS
2/.98¢

DOLE LATIN PINEAPPLE
each **3.49**

VICTOR SIZE 88'S NAVAL ORANGES
1.30 kg **59¢/lb**

ALL SEASONS MEDIUM WHITE MUSHROOMS
4.39kg **1.99/lb**

GREEN GIANT BABY CARROTS
1 lb pkg **98¢**

NO. 1 YAMS
1.30 kg **.59¢**

SPECIAL THANKS

...to all our customers & sponsors for supporting our fundraising campaign. We have achieved our goal of raising \$10,000 to donate to the Saanich Peninsula Hospital. Thank you.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

<p>3.88</p> <p>KRAFT Miracle Whip 950mL</p>	<p>3/10.00</p> <p>CLOVERLEAF Sockeye Salmon 213g</p>	<p>.95¢</p> <p>UNICO Tomatoes 796 mL</p>	<p>2/3.00</p> <p>CAMPBELL'S Ready to serve Soup 540 mL</p>	<p>.88¢</p> <p>DELMONTE Corn 341-398 mL</p>	<p>2.89</p> <p>CLASSICO Pasta Sauce 700 mL</p>	<p>.79¢</p> <p>VITALE Pasta 450g</p>	<p>4/2.00</p> <p>JELLO Jelly Powder 85g</p>
<p>ROYAL CITY Mandarin 284 mL 2/.99¢</p>	<p>FILIPPO BERIO EXTRA VIRGIN Olive Oil 750 mL 7.49</p>	<p>TEXANA WHITE OR BROWN Rice 2KG 3.18</p>	<p>BURN'S Lard 1lb 1.29</p>	<p>ED SMITH Pumpkin Pie Filling 540 mL 2.48</p>	<p>GOLD SEAL Chunk Light Tuna 170g77¢</p>	<p>BAKER'S Chocolate Chips 300g 1.78</p>	<p>ASIAN FAMILY Coconut Milk 400 mL89¢</p>
FROZEN FOOD				DAIRY			
<p>M'CAIN Vegetables 1KG 2.29</p>	<p>M'CAIN Home Fries 750 g 2.39</p>	<p>OLD SOUTH Orange Juice 355 mL89¢</p>	<p>COUNTRY CREAM Ice Cream 1L 4.97</p>	<p>KRAFT CRACKER BARREL Cheddar or Mozzarella 400g 5.49</p>	<p>KRAFT Singles 500g 4.49</p>	<p>KRAFT Cheezewiz 500g 3.99</p>	<p>DOFO Feta Cheese 400g 5.49</p>
<p>CHRISTIE Snackin' Crackers 250g 2/4.00</p>	<p>BURTON'S *Digestives *Rich Tea 300-400g 1.28</p>	<p>PEEK FREAN Biscuits 2/350g 5.00</p>	<p>TROPHY KETTLE COOKED Peanuts 275g 1.88</p>	<p>PURINA FANCY FEAST Cat Food 85g 2/.98¢</p>	<p>SNUGGLE Fabric Softener 80 sheets 4.19</p>	<p>PUREX Bathroom Tissue Double 12 or 24 roll 8.48</p>	<p>SCOTTOWELS REGULAR Paper Towels 2s 2.29</p>
<p>3.28</p> <p>MAXWELL HOUSE Ground Coffee 326g</p>	<p>2/3.00 +dep</p> <p>HEINZ Tomato Juice 1.36L</p>	<p>4.48</p> <p>NABOB DELUXE Tea Bags 120's</p>	<p>3.49</p> <p>GENERAL MILLS Cheerios 525-575g</p>	<p>1.08</p> <p>CARNATION Evaporated Milk 385mL</p>	<p>1.99</p> <p>CATELLI Lasagne 375-500g</p>	<p>2/4.00</p> <p>NATURE VALLEY Granola Bars 175-230g</p>	<p>*Coke *Sprite *Canada Dry 12x355mL 2.99 +dep</p>



NIGHT VISITORS: Members of WordPlay, from left, Tom Gilligan, Alex Mitchell, Lindsey Neville and Marck Shipley read Amahl and The Night Visitors as part of the Salt Spring Concert Band's Pacem. The event took place at Fulford Hall last Friday and Saturday nights.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

Scottish New Year's Eve descends on Salt Spring with Triskele Celtic event

By **MYRANDA O'BYRNE**
Special to the Driftwood
Islanders are invited to mark Hogmanay — the Scottish New Year's Eve gathering celebrated enthusiastically by Scots all over the world — right here on Salt Spring.

This year's Hogmanay celebration is at Jonathan Grant's home and all friends, family and fans of Triskele Celtic Band are invited to attend.

Hogmanay's roots reach back to the pagan practice of sun and fire worship in the deep mid-winter.

This evolved into the ancient Saturnalia, a great Roman winter festival, where people celebrated completely free of restraint and inhibition. The Vikings celebrated Yule, which became the 12 days of Christmas or the "Daft Days" as they became known in Scotland.

The winter festival went underground with the Reformation and ensuing years, but re-emerged at the end of the 17th century. Since then, the customs have continued to evolve to the modern day, retaining many of the early pagan customs.

The "First Footing" is a Scottish tradition whereby the New Year will be a prosperous one if, at the stroke of midnight, a "tall, dark stranger" appears at your door with a lump of coal for the fire. In exchange, the host offers him food, wine or the traditional Het Pint, which is a combination of ale, nutmeg and whiskey.

A party of Scots without a haggis is simply unheard of. Haggis is one of those national dishes that is both beloved and reviled by natives, and sometimes horrifies people who hear it described for the first time.

Traditionally, a haggis is made from the lung, liver and heart of the sheep.

These are mixed with oatmeal and a few spices and stuffed into the sheep's stomach. After being boiled, the haggis is brought to the table with a great deal of ceremony. A piper ushers in the haggis and all raise a glass of Scotch whiskey, a toast to the haggis is said (and briefly translated into English for the non-Scots present) and then it is sliced up for serving.

The December 31 Hogmanay celebration runs from 8 p.m. onwards. The haggis will be piped in, the dancing will be fine and music by Triskele Celtic Band will be sure to help you feel Scottish for an evening! To hear some of Triskele's music, listen to some tracks from their latest CD at www.saltspringmusic.com.

ArtSpring: record-time sell-out for choir boys

Ticket sales hit a new record at ArtSpring when the Vienna Choir Boys show sold out in a span of two hours on December 14.

"A lot of people in the community have learned that if you want to see certain shows, you have to act fast," said ArtSpring's executive director Paul Gravett.

People lined up for over two hours between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. to buy out 259 tickets last Wednesday, Gravett said. The concert is on March 25, 2006.

"If we brought in the B.C. Boys Choir, it's a choir of boys who sing a certain type of repertoire not unlike what the Vienna Choir Boys sing, but people will see them as 'just a children's choir' and they are very good. The Vienna Choir Boys' fame and allure has gone far beyond that niche of a children's choir."

Fortunately, ArtSpring was prepared for the possibility of a rush on sales and quadrupled its normal box-office staff to ensure they could keep pace with patrons' demand, he said.

Many people put their name on a waiting list on the faint hope a second show would be arranged, but on Monday Gravett learned that a second performance is not possible.

For patrons looking for a tip on the next box-office rush, arts programs from Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) are one of the most popular items of the year, Gravett said.

GISS drama students next perform on January 6 and 7, while the music department is set for January 17.

Tickets for the GISS music show go on sale January 3.

Murakami film airs January 15

A documentary about Salt Spring's Kimiko Murakami will be aired in January.

Filmmaker Susan Poizner's 13-episode series about Canadian ethnic heroines, Mother Tongue, will be launched at the Vancouver Museum on January 12 with Kimiko Murakami: Triumph Over Intermittent, and Mary Lee Chan: Taking on City Hall.

Beginning on Sunday, January 15, Channel M will also show one episode of the series every week at 9:30 p.m. For more information about the series, check the Mother Tongue website (www.mothersong.ca).

Last chance to save \$5 off tickets

Royal Canadian Legion
New Year's Eve Dine and Dance
Meaden Hall 120 Blain Rd.
Dine 7 - 9 pm Chef Robert
Dance 9 - ??? Swing Shift Band
Tickets \$45 537-5822



Invitation for Written Submissions from the Public

B.C. Children And Youth Review

Mr. Ted Hughes, Q.C., appointed by the B.C. Government, is conducting an independent examination of B.C.'s child protection system, and will be making recommendations for improvement.

Public input is being sought on the areas under his review.

Specifically, Mr. Hughes will examine:

- the review process for child deaths, including how results of reviews are internally addressed
- advocacy support for children and youth, and
- monitoring of government's performance in protecting and providing services to B.C. children and youth.

In addition, Mr. Hughes will examine and make recommendations to improve the public reporting of:

- child death reviews, to ensure a balance between public accountability and protection of privacy of families and others, and
- government's performance in protecting and providing services to BC children and youth

The review will consider the roles and responsibilities of the Ministry of Children and Family Development, Child and Youth Officer, Chief Coroner, Ombudsman, Public Guardian and Trustee, and other agencies involved.

Mr. Hughes will not be reviewing individual child fatality cases.

Submissions are requested by January 10, 2006.

Written submissions may be made to the BC Children and Youth Review by
Mail: PO Box 9732, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9S2
Fax: 250 953-3301 Email: Child.Review@gov.bc.ca



What's On Page B16

martinus

wishes you the joy of an open heart and a light of love to always shine through. May 2006 be just wonderful for you.

Thank you for your appreciation, your business and your trust.

CHRISTMAS MARKET IN THE PARK

Saturday, December 24th • 10 am - 2 pm
Arts, Crafts, Clothing and All Kinds of Foods

ALL MARKET VENDORS WELCOME

(Winter vending permit available now from PARC)

For more information contact:
David 653-2300 / Heather 653-4809

...THE REVIVAL OF A SALT SPRING CHRISTMAS TRADITION



"Jesus is the reason for the season"

GORDON LEE
The Tree Guy
LTD.

Growing Up With Salt Spring

Bob Akerman shares his stories in print

By **MITCHELL SHERRIN**
Staff Writer

An idea inspired by an inquisitive island kindergarten student has finally come to fruition with a new historical book about Salt Spring by Bob Akerman.

Some 15 members of the Akerman family dropped by Bob's home on Sunday to celebrate his book launch with a mixture of laughter, happy recollections and calls for the 93-year-old islander to share some of their favourite stories.

Asked how he got started on his book, *The Akerman Family — Growing Up*

With Salt Spring Island, Bob motioned to the back cover of his 323-page collection of memories, family history and tidbits about local culture.

The book jacket tells the story of how a thoughtful kindergarten student on a class trip once came to visit the Akerman Family Museum at Bob's home in Fulford valley and said, "Bob, you know everything. You should write a book!"

The raconteur wryly answered the student that he intended to write a book, "When I get old."

And Bob still fondly recalls the child's reaction.

"He looked me square in the eye and said, 'Well then, you better hurry up.'"

A little prodding by the kindergartener proved to be a good thing, noted Bob's grandson Joe.

"It's a good thing because we might have put it off too long."

Akerman worked with Victoria-based writer Linda Sherwood for the past five and half years to glean his best stories for the book as a project for his 76 grandchildren and great grandchildren.

"I have a little recorder. Bob would sit down over tea and tell me story after story," Sherwood said.

She heard stories as diverse as oral history from First Nations ancestors of Burgoyne Bay, yarns regaling old sporting rivalries between Fulford and Ganges, and tales about gyppo logging back in the 1960s.

The Living Word **Luke 2:11&14**

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all men on whom His favour rests."

WINSOME WHITE
Please Read: ISAIAH 9-6&7
JOHN 3-16



GROWING UP: Akerman family members celebrate a book launch of *The Akerman Family — Growing Up With Salt Spring Island*, an historical look at island living that was created under guidance by (from left to right) Linda Sherwood, Darlene O'Donnell (nee Akerman) and Bob Akerman.
Photo by Mitchell Sherrin

"It got longer and longer and better and better and funnier and funnier," Sherwood said.

All of Akerman's children contributed to the book, but his daughter Darlene O'Donnell received special acknowledgement for her assistance to the project.

The book includes a generous sprinkling of historical photos and covers material from the early pioneering history of the island right up to the recent past when Bob's museum was built 10 years ago.

"We've got to have something left for the next book when you do get old," winked Bob's son Pat.

Sherwood was introduced to Bob by Pat to help with the book because she had a background in writing technical manuals for a software company.

"This is the first book I've written that someone would actually want to read," Sherwood laughed.

"I learned a lot about the island and the family and I

heard a lot of good stories."

One of Sherwood's favourites was titled "In Bed with Chickens." It's about a prank that Bob and his son-in-law Tim O'Donnell played on a cousin who failed to attend a card party.

The story recounts how Bob and Tim "borrowed" a hen and a rooster from a neighbour (who had some observations of his own on the matter) and the pranksters popped the chickens into bed with the party-pooper cousin and his wife.

"Boy, all hell broke loose," Bob laughed.

But the prank didn't stop there. Once the chickens were recovered, Bob returned the animals to the neighbour's mailbox rather than the chicken coop.

"We still don't know if the mailman found them first or [the neighbour]," said Darlene.

"They're not all funny stories," said Sherwood.

One of the main reasons Bob wanted to write the book was a desire to record stories his "grannie" (Tuwahwiye

"Mary Anne" Gyves) had shared with him, Sherwood said.

"She had some special powers from the wolves," Bob said.

Bob's grannie stayed in a cave for four days waiting for a vision as a young woman and a wolf came to her in a dream and showed her a song and a dance, he said.

"She seemed to get the power from that wolf and she could do things other people couldn't do."

And he recalled a time — included in the story titled "One Last Talk with Grannie" — when she mustered strength from the wolf for a final visit at the hospital before she passed away near the age of 100.

"I didn't grow up on Salt Spring, but I think these stories would be interesting to a lot of people," Sherwood said.

To get a copy of Bob's book, call his granddaughter Cathy George (653-9364) or e-mail (thegeorges@telus.net), or pick it up at Patterson's Store in Fulford.

IS YOUR WELL WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

Contamination can occur without changes in colour or taste.

\$25.00 per test • Results in 24 hours
Be Safe • Test Annually!



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

656-1334



Salt Spring Island Community Services

268 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
537-9971

ALL OF OUR SERVICES ARE FREE

*** 24 HR. CRISIS LINE:**

Toll free number: 1-866-386-6323.
Caller is connected with the Need Crisis Centre in Victoria.

*** EMERGENCY FOOD BANK:** Open Tuesday, 11-3.

*** COUNSELLING SERVICES:** Crisis and short-term counselling provided by Community Workers.

*** ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM:** Prevention & treatment service is free & confidential. Acupuncture - Detox Clinic.

*** FAMILY PLACE: PARENT & CHILD DROP IN:** Rugg Huggers 11am - 2pm Mondays.

Tuesdays Music & Play 10:30am - 1pm. Call for info: 537-9176.
Wednesday 0 - 6 years. Parent/child.

*** RECYCLE DEPOT:** Open Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00 am-5 pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 537-1200.

*** COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS COORDINATOR:** Call Sharon Glover at 537-4607.

*** Emergency Mental Health Services available:** 4 pm to midnight. Access is available through the Emergency Rm at Lady Minto Hospital. Call: 538-4840.



*For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given:
and the government shall
be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be
called Wonderful, Counsellor,
The mighty God,
The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.*

— Isaiah 9:6

The Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island Christmas Services for 2005

Sunday, 18th December, Advent IV

9:30 AM Holy Eucharist at All Saints'
11:30 AM Holy Eucharist at St. Mark's
4:00 PM Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at All Saints'

Saturday, 24th December, Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Family Eucharist & Blessing of the Crèche at St. Mary's
7:30 PM Festal Eucharist (BCP) at St. Mark's
11:00 Midnight Mass (BAS) of the Holy Nativity at All Saints'

Sunday, 25th December, Christmas Day

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (BAS) at All Saints'

Tuesday, 27th December

Feast of St. John the Evangelist
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist & Baptism at All Saints'

**Sunday, 1st January, Second Sunday
of Christmas/New Year's Day**

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (BCP) at All Saints'



RECYCLING DEPOT Holiday Hours



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Closed Dec. 18	Closed Dec. 19	Open Dec. 20	Open Dec. 21	Open Dec. 22	Closed Dec. 23	Closed Dec. 24
Closed Dec. 25	Closed Dec. 26	Open Dec. 27	Open Dec. 28	Open Dec. 29	Open Dec. 30	Closed Dec. 31
Closed Jan. 01	Closed Jan. 02	Open Jan. 03	Open Jan. 04	Open Jan. 05	Open Jan. 06	Open Jan. 07

Regular hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 5 pm 349 Rainbow Road • 537-1200
The Recycling Depot is operated by SSI Community Services Society.

PULL OUT & SAVE

What's on

YOUR TELEVISION GUIDE

GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD PAGE B9 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2005

Merry Christmas
From the Cade Family



Your MLS® Listing Realtors

ROYAL LEPAGE
Salt Spring Realty
1101-115 Fulford Ganges Rd., SSI, BC, V8K 2T9

Presidents Gold Sales Award

Toll Free: 1-888-537-5515
Cell - (250) 537-7547
Fax: (250) 537-1855
cades@gulfislandsproperty.com
www.gulfislandsproperty.com

S - Salt Spring Island			ExpressVu			StarChoice			WEDNESDAY EVENING DECEMBER 21											
S	Ⓛ	☆	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30		
2	257	308	CBC	Dragon	C.Beach	Simpsons	JFL:Gags	News	Corrie St.	Corrie St.	Jingle All the Way			News: The National	News	The Lion in..				
3	320	621	MC	Johnny Lingo...	Crazy for Christmas	Forbidden Secrets			The Sopranos	Everwood	Chasing Christmas			(2005) Tom Arnold.	Beyond the Sea (2004)	Kevin Spacey.				
4	256		CITY	Daily	Inside Ed.	A Channel News at 5			Fortune	Jeopardy	Chasing Christmas			(2005) Tom Arnold.	Beyond the Sea (2004)	Kevin Spacey.				
5	287	379	KING	Oprah Winfrey	KING News	News	News	Magazine	Inside Ed.	Deal or No Deal	Apprentice: Martha	Law & Order	News	:35 J.Leno						
6	255	358	CH	Days of Our Lives	CH News	News	News	Grow	'70s	'70s	Stacked	Trading Spouses	Standing	Standing	News					
7	250	321	CTVBC	Tyra Banks Show	CTV News	News	News	CornerG	Degrassi	Law & Order	Criminal Minds	CSI: NY	News	News						
8	251	336	GBLBC	Oprah Winfrey	News	National	News	ET	ET Can.	Deal or No Deal	Apprentice: Martha	ReGenesis	News							
9	291	383	KCTS	Arthur	Maya&M.	Cyberch.	Business	News	Classics	Traveler	Great Performances	Mormon Choir	St. Olaf Christmas	News	T. Smiley					
10	120	702	SRC	Kiwis et hommes	Véro	Union	Journal	Affaires	L'Odyssee d'Alice Tremblay			Bons baisers	Téléjournal/Point	Journal	L'héritière					
11	268	354	KNOW	Koala	George	Madeline	Arthur	Mechanic	D.Smith	Wildness	LeadEdge	Industry	Science	R. Sci.	Food	Louisbourg	Scatter.	Dotto		
12	253	359	CITY	CityLine	Ellen DeGeneres	News	News	Million?	Friends	E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial (1982)	Henry	Thomas.	Schmooze	News	:35 J.Leno					
13	620	523	BRAVO	Videos	The Tunguska Project	Treed Murray David Hewlett.			:45BINews	Law & Order	NYPD Blue: Tribute	BI News	:15The Gospel According to St...							
14	522	506	HIST	JAG	Antiques Roadshow	Gun, Germ, Steel	Turning Points	JAG	Antiques Roadshow	Gun, Germ, Steel	China Beach									
15	521	560	TLC	Area 51: Fact	The New Detectives	Psychic Witness	David Blaine	The New Detectives	Psychic Witness	David Blaine	Area 51: Fact									
16	557	541	FAM	:15 Proud	:40Recess	:05 Kim P.	:McGuire	L.Time	Darcy	So Raven	Smart G.	8 Rules	Boy MW	Brotherly	Roscoe	Popular	8 Rules	Roscoe		
17	615	520	A&E	American Justice	Bounty Hunter	Inked	Inked	Inked	Inked	Crossing Jordan	Bounty Hunter	Inked	Inked	Inked	Inked	Inked	Inked	Inked		
18	400	400	TSN	MolsonH.	Hockey NHL New Jersey vs N.Y. Islanders	Hockey NHL Edmonton vs Vancouver			The Journey			Road Trip	Sportscentre							
19	407	419	RSP	Drop In	Miller TV	Prime Time Sports	News	Hockey	Beyond the Glory	Poker Party	poker.com World Open	Sportsnet News	Sportsnet News							
20	23		KSTW	WifeKids	BernieM.	WifeKids	Bernie M.	Queens	Queens	Seinfeld	'70s	Chris	Girlfriend	Veronica Mars	Seinfeld	'70s	SouthPk	SouthPk		
21	24		KVQS	Montel Williams	F.Feud	Yes, Dear	Elimidate	Elimidate	Becker	Queens	Talent for the Game	Krueger	Queens	Cheers	Serve P.					
22	290	382	KCPQ	SaveBell	Fresh P.	Shoot	King Hill	Simpsons	Malcolm	Simpsons	Malcolm	'70s	Stacked	Trading Spouses	Q-13 News	Simpsons	King Hill			
23	502	390	NEWS	Can. Now	Can. Now	CBC News: Hour	News: The National	Life Is a Dream	CBC News: Hour	News: The National	Life Is a Dream	CBC News: Hour								
24	289	381	KIRO	Judy	Judy	News	News	News	ET	Access	The Holiday	Criminal Minds	CSI: NY	News	LateShow					
25	288	380	KOMO	First News @ 4	KOMO 4 News	News	News	News	Fortune	Jeopardy	G. Lopez	Freddie	Lost	News	:35 News					
26	65	394	VISION	Touched By Angel	Minister	Chef!	Quartet Plus Four	Origins of Christmas	Little Men	Minister	Chef!	Quartet Plus Four	7th Heaven							

THIS WEEK'S MOVIES

Salt Spring Driftwood: Main Movie Breakout for Dec 21, 2005 to Dec 27, 2005

- WEDNESDAY, DEC 21**
- 6:00 PM
- 14 ★★★★★ **Treed Murray (2001, Drama)** An executive is trapped when he seeks refuge in a tree from a gang of would-be muggers. *David Hewlett, Clé Bennett (1h45)*
- 6:30 PM
- 3 **Forbidden Secrets (2005, Thriller)** Strange things begin to happen when a soon-to-be-divorced Alex moves back to her family home. *Kristy Swanson, David Keeley (1h30)*
- 7:00 PM
- 10 **L'Odyssee d'Alice Tremblay (2002, Comédie fantastique)** Une célibataire se retrouve magiquement transportée dans un univers de conte de fées. *Sophie Lorain, Martin Drainville (2h)*
- 8:00 PM
- 2 ★★ **Jingle All the Way (1996, Comedy)** A father frantically searches for a last-minute Christmas gift for his son. *Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sinbad (2h)*
- 8:30 PM
- 13 ★★★★★ **E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial (1982, Sci-Fi)** A lonely and bored young boy forms a strong bond with an alien left stranded on Earth. *Henry Thomas, Drew Barrymore (2h30)*
- 9:00 PM
- 24 ★ **Talent for the Game (1991, Drama)** A baseball scout is caught in the middle when the owners exploit a new recruit. *Edward James Olmos, Lorraine Bracco (2h)*
- 9:00 PM
- 4 **Chasing Christmas (2005)** The spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future visit Jack to change his perspective. *Tom Arnold, Andrea Roth (2h)*
- 10:00 PM
- 3 ★★ **Beyond the Sea (2004, Biography)** The life story of singer Bobby Darin, including his marriage to actress Sandra Dee. *Kevin Spacey, Kate Bosworth (2h)*
- 10:15 PM
- 14 ★★★★★ **The Gospel According to St. Matthew (1966, Drama)** Marxism and Catholicism collide in a Messiah who rages against social injustice. *Enrique Irazoqui, Margherita Caruso (2h45)*
- 11:25 PM
- 2 ★★★★★ **The Lion in Winter (1968, History)** A king tries to maintain his power by planning a reunion with his exiled wife and sons. *Power O'Toole, Katharine Hepburn (2h)*

- THURSDAY, DEC 22**
- 6:00 PM
- 14 ★★ **Possession (2002, Romance)** Researchers fall under a passionate spell while researching two Victorian poets. *Gwyneth Paltrow, Aaron Eckhart (2h)*
- 7:00 PM
- 3 ★★ **The Jacket (2005, Thriller)** A veteran is accused of murder and sent to an asylum where he foresees his own death. *Adrien Brody, Keira Knightley (1h45)*
- 10 **Le clan des rois (2004, Drame)** La tranquillité d'un clan de lions est perturbée lorsqu'ils sont attaqués par des nomades. (2h)
- 8:00 PM
- 24 ★★★★★ **Wait Until Dark (1967, Thriller)** A blind woman is left alone in an apartment and terrorized by psychotic killers. *Audrey Hepburn, Alan Arkin*
- 8:30 PM
- 13 ★ **Serving Sara (2002, Comedy)** A process server helps a woman exact revenge when her partner steals her wealth. *Matthew Perry, Elizabeth Hurley*
- 8:45 PM
- 3 ★★ **Paycheck (2003, Sci-Fi)** After his memory is erased, an engineer tries to recall his past and escape police. *Ben Affleck, Uma Thurman (2h)*
- 9:00 PM
- 29 ★★★★★ **Stone Fox (1987, Family)** A young boy is determined to win a dog sled race in order to save his grandfather's ranch. *Buddy Ebsen, Joey Cramer (2h)*
- 10:00 PM
- 14 ★★★★★ **Carlito's Way (1993, Crime Story)** Upon his release, a former convict tries to avoid the corrupting influences of his old life. *Al Pacino, Sean Penn (1h45)*
- 10:45 PM
- 3 ★★★★★ **Mystic River (2003, Psycho-Drama)** Three childhood friends are reunited for different reasons when one loses a daughter. *Sean Penn, Kevin Bacon (2h30)*
- 11:25 PM
- 2 ★★★★★ **The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993, Animated)** Jack the Pumpkin King kidnaps Santa Claus and tries to turn Christmas into Halloween. *Voices of Chris Sarandon, Catherine O'Hara*

- FRIDAY, DEC 23**
- 6:00 PM
- 14 ★★ **The Christmas Wife (1988, Romance)** A lonely widower seeks a companion to spend Christmas with him at his cabin. *Jason Robards, Julie Harris*
- 7:00 PM
- 3 ★ **Cursed (2005, Horror)** Three adults are mauled by a werewolf and must kill their attacker to reverse their fate. *Portia De Rossi, Shannon Elizabeth*
- 10 **Sur les traces du père Noël (1994, Comédie)** Un père divorcé entreprend de remplacer le père Noël, victime d'un accident sur un toit. *Tim Allen, Eric Lloyd (2h)*
- 7:30 PM
- 19 ★ **Once Upon a Christmas (2000, Family)** Santa's daughters must infuse a family with holiday spirit or lose Christmas forever. *Kathy Ireland, John Dye*

Seasons Greetings!

All Thrifty Foods stores will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day in order to allow staff to be with their families.

- Holiday Hours -

December 19-23: 7am - 9pm
Saturday, December 24: 7am - 6pm
Sunday, December 25: CLOSED
Monday, December 26: CLOSED
Tuesday, Dec. 27 - Friday, Dec. 30: 7:30am - 8pm
Saturday December 31: 7:30am - 6pm
Sunday, January 1: CLOSED
Monday, January 2: 7:30am - 8pm

Happy Holidays to all our customers from everyone at:

THRIFTY FOODS™
smiles every day!

New Year's Day

POLAR BEAR SWIM

at Vesuvius Beach

This year's costume theme:
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

Registration: 12:30 p.m.
Plunge: 1 p.m.

Sponsored by Ssplash

Hot chocolate, muffins & prizes!

THRIFTY FOODS™
smiles every day!

OPEN 7:30AM TO 8PM

S - Salt Spring Island			ExpressVu			StarChoice			WEEKDAY DAYTIME DECEMBER 21 TO 27									
S	Ⓛ	☆	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30
2	257	308	CBC	Clifford	DragonT.	Poko	Various	Various	Nanalan'	Dressup	Zooob	News	Da Vinci's Inquest	Various	Various	Various	Various	
3	320	621	MC	Various	Various	Movie	Movie	Various	Movie	Movie	Various	Movie	W Event	Movie	Movie	Various	Various	
4	256		CITY	M Sounds	Season	CityLine	Movie TV	Careers	Ellen DeGeneres	All My Children	One Life to Live	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Seinfeld	
5	287	379	KING	7:00 Today Show	Today Show II	Tyra Banks Show	Ellen DeGeneres	News	News	Days of Our Lives	Passions	Dr. Phil						
6	255	358	CH	Various	Various	Oprah Winfrey	The Price Is Right	Young & Restless	News	Various	Various	Myst.Ink	Fear Factor					
7	250	321	CTVBC	7:00 Canada AM	Regis & Kelly	The View	eTalk	Balance	Planet	Bold & B.	Gabereau	Gabereau	General Hospital	Dr. Phil				
8	251	336	GBLBC	8:00 News/TBA	100 Huntley Street	World Vision	Insider	Various	News	As the World Turns	Passions	Young & Restless						
9	291	383	KCTS	Various	DragonT.	Zooob	Barney	Sesame Street	B.Lions	Rogers	Various	Various	Food	Various	Travels	Reading	Piggley	Postcards
10	120	702	SRC	Variées	Cinémas	Noël Ricardo/Ricardo	Samuel	Ricardo	Bons baisers	Journal	Découverte	Cinémas variés						
11	268	354	KNOW	Variées	Various	:15 Arthur	:Ricardo	:20Padding	:45Wumpa	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various
12	253	359	CITY	M Cooks	M Cooks	Various	Cooks	Relic Hunter	CityLine	Cooks	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various
13	620	523	BRAVO	F. Actors	:45BINews	Various	Law & Order	Street Legal	Street Legal	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Street Legal	
14	522	506	HIST	Disasters	Move	JAG	Antiques Roadshow	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Tour-Duty	M Master.	Move	Disasters		
15	521	560	TLC	Dating	Makeover	What Not to Wear	Younger	Baby St.	Baby St.	Baby	Clean Sweep	Trading Spaces	White You Were Out	Martha				
16	557	541	FAM	:15 Lilo	:45W. Pooh	Various	:35 Farm	Various	Various	:25 King	:45 Lilo	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Barbarian	
17	615	520	A&E	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	TU Airline	Various	TU Plot	Various				
18	400	400	TSN	Sportscentre	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	W TH F Pool	Various	Various	M Review	Poker	World Jr.	Interrupt	Various	Various
19	407	419	RSP	Sportsnet News	M Soccer	Arsen./Chrit.	Sportsnet News	M Soccer	News/Liverp	Sportsnet News	Various	Race	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various
20	23		KSTW	6:00 The Daily Buzz	The 700 Club	Various	Frasier	Divorce	Divorce	The People's Court	Alex	Alex	The People's Court	Home I.	Sabrina			
21	24		KVQS	Various	TH F Paid	Your Day	Various	Paid	Paid	Funny!	Funny!	The People's Court	Various	Twilight	Twilight	Matlock		
22	290	382	KCPQ	8:00 Q13 Fox News	Judge Greg Mathis	Various	Justice	Tony Danza Show	Starting Over	Maury	Jerry Springer	Maury						
23	502	390	NEWS	News	M News	News	News	News	News	News	News	Politics	Can. Now	Various	News	Various		
24	289	381	KIRO	The Early Show	Montel Williams	The Price Is Right	Young & Restless	News	Bold & B.	As the World Turns	The Guiding Light	Brown	Brown					
25	288	380	KOMO	7:00 Morning Am.	Regis & Kelly	The View	KOMO 4 News	All My Children	One Life to Live	General Hospital	Northwest							
26	65	394	VISION	It's a New Day	Mass	Various	Youngren	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	7th Heaven	Flying N.	Martian			

2 MONTH CLASSIFIED AUTO PACKAGE

Advertise your car, boat truck, trailer, RV or motorcycle for sale for up to 8 weeks!

- 20 words
- 1 vehicle per ad
- Private party
- Pre-paid, non-refundable
- Maximum 8 weeks

\$34.95
(8 WEEKS)

537-9933

Gulf Islands Driftwood

Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles for Thursday Evening December 22. Includes programs like Dragon, Simpsons, The Jacket, and News.

Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles for Friday, Dec 23. Includes programs like Ice Age, The Beloved Country, and Groundhog Day.

EXPRESSVU SATellite TV • TRUE NORTH SATELLITES • 538-1705

Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles for Friday Evening December 23. Includes programs like NHL, Boss's Daughter, Assault on Precinct 13, and The Elephant.

Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles for Saturday, Dec 24. Includes programs like The Eagle Has Landed, A Christmas Carol, and Dr. Dolittle II.

Redeemable GIC rates advertisement for Oceans West Insurance Brokers. Lists rates for 1, 3, and 5 years and includes contact information for Mafalda Hoogerdyk.

Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles for Saturday Daytime December 24. Includes programs like Ace L., Edible I., Arthur's Christmas, and Barry Christmas.

Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles for Saturday Evening December 24. Includes programs like The Eagle Has Landed, A Christmas Carol, and Dr. Dolittle II.

Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles for Saturday Evening December 24. Includes programs like The Eagle Has Landed, A Christmas Carol, and Dr. Dolittle II.

Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles for Saturday Evening December 24. Includes programs like The Eagle Has Landed, A Christmas Carol, and Dr. Dolittle II.



Home for the Holidays!

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Plus two cash prizes of \$250.00

We're giving away the ultimate Christmas Gift...
\$1000.00 in travel dollars!

YOUR CHOICE!

- Bring someone home to Salt Spring
- Treat yourself to a trip!
- Treat someone else

Trip provided by The Driftwood and Canadian Travel Team (arrangements must be made with the Travel Team)

- Plus two cash prizes of \$250.00 (Salt Spring Currency)
- Weekly prizes of Salt Spring product baskets!

Shop at any of the participating businesses in the Driftwood Gift Guide and enter to win.

CONTEST CLOSING THURSDAY DECEMBER 22



GIFTS under \$25



'Hiccup' invites you to deck your halls at

Boardwalk Greens 537-5787

- Ornaments, evergreens, wreaths, decorations, floral sprays & more.
- Ornaments & brooches from Russia.
- Glittering glass tealight candle holders, indoor pottery.
- Baskets and ribbons.
- 10% off or a \$5 gift certificate with every \$25 purchase.
- Every purchase eligible for the weekly wreath draw.

* Hiccup not included



GIFT WITH PURCHASE

Our gift to you... with any \$25 purchase of fragrance or cosmetics, receive a 2 piece ceramic bowl set



Live well with

PHARMASAVE®

DOWNTOWN 537-5534
 104 Lower Ganges Rd.
 UPTOWN LOCATION 538-0323
 372 Lower Ganges Rd.

OPEN MON.-SAT. 9-6 / SUN & HOLIDAY MON. 11-5

All boxed CHRISTMAS CARDS

50% OFF

regular retail price

ORDER YOUR NEW YEAR'S BALLOONS NOW!

we'll have them ready for you Dec. 31

LAST MINUTE GIFTS GALORE!

get'm at the Dollar Store!

PARTY HATS, HORNS NOISE MAKERS, STREAMERS AND MORE!

we're ready for New Year's!

Merry Christmas Salt Spring!



DOLLAR STORE

plus a whole lot more!

GANGES VILLAGE MALL
 OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK • 537-2480

Christmas Wrapping Paper, Gift Bags, Tissue Paper, Bows, Ribbon, Gift Tags, Wine Bags & more!

GIFTS under **\$25**



Sabine's Book Shop

Grace Point 538-0025
Open every day & Friday evenings

GIFTS for every **BUDGET**



Handy Gift Ideas

Shop around... then we'll see you at Sleggs

SLEGG LUMBER LTD.
805 Fulford-Ganges Rd., • 537-4978

Mon.-Fri. 7:30-5
Sat. 9-5
Closed Sunday
Salt Spring store only

Frame your loved ones!



Great selection of frames and custom cut mats

537-9917 • 121 MCPHILLIPS AVE.
Open Mon-Fri 8:30 - 5:30 • Sat 9:30 - 5:00

Have a Canucks Christmas!
We carry...



- * Jerseys
- * T-shirts
- * Hats

135 McPhillips Ave., Mon.-Sat. 10am-6pm **537-5148** Open til 8 pm Fridays



ORNAMENTS

the MOON • WEST of the MOON • WEST of the MOON • W
Fridays 'til 8pm 537-1966

Bigger than BIG Christmas Sale
Brand new inventory of Guitars!
...groovy musical gifts!



Over 40 to choose from!

New Godin's & Yamahas!

Guitars starting at \$99

Amps from \$122

ACOUSTIC PLANET MUSIC

#2-150 Fulford-Ganges Rd. • 537-9668

VOLUME TWO BOOKSTORE

Dockside, Moutat's Mall 537-9223

This gift delivers 52 weeks a year.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

- In the Gulf Islands: \$47.50/year Save \$14.17 on the newsstand cost!
- Elsewhere in Canada: \$80.00/year*
- Foreign: \$179.00/year

*plus GST

❄️ GIFTS *for every* BUDGET ❄️



LAST MINUTE GIFT IDEAS

Our Proshop is packed with gift ideas for the golfer on your list

GOLF CLUBS **GOLF BAGS** **GIFT CERTIFICATES** **JUNIOR GOLF EQUIPMENT** **GOLF HATS**
GOLF SHIRTS & CLOTHING **GOLF SHOES** **GOLF BALLS**

Salt Spring Island Golf & Country Club
 537-2121 Open 9am-5pm 7 days a week

SIDE Clothing Co.

- Hoodies
- Tees
- Jeans...

10-50% off

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE
 *free gift wrapping

open 7 days/week • Fridays until 8pm • 537-2330

This gift delivers 52 weeks a year.

Driftwood!
 Ferries pump fuel surcharge for rate hike

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

- In the Gulf Islands: \$47.50/year
 Save \$14.17 on the newsstand cost!
- Elsewhere in Canada: \$80.00/year*
- Foreign: \$179.00/year
 *plus GST

ISLAND ESCAPES

WISHING YOU ALL PEACE, JOY & GOOD TIDES!

We want you to LOOK & FEEL YOUR BEST for the holidays - style clothing & tech wear up to 50% off

Heaps of fabulous GIFT OPTIONS for budgets small and "tall"

STOCKING STUFFERS for everyone on your list: Paddling/travel accessories, socks, gloves & toques, water bottles & lighters...

Drop by for a cuppa hot apple cider...yum!

163 Fulford-Ganges Rd 537-2553 Open late for holiday shopping!

Art Supplies, Puzzles, Games, Calendars and of course Books and Magazines

Lots of Great Gifts on Sale!

Buddha Boards are here again!

Lots of Stocking Stuffers!

Salt Spring Books

104 MCPHILLIPS AVE. • 537-2812 • OPEN TIL 8 FRIDAYS

Give the Gift of Light from AVANTI GLASS STUDIO

*The finest in Contemporary Glass jewellery: Rings, Bracelets, Necklaces, Earrings

NEW! *Garden Ornaments: The Garden Night Light for Angels & Fairies.

NEW! *Wine bottle stoppers with torchwork toppers: chrome and glass

ART GLASS: VESSELS AND GIFTWARE • GIFT-WRAPPING SERVICE
 * Also available at The Waterfront Gallery downtown / 163 Bayview Road in Vesuvius 537-9476
 Open daily December 10 - 24, 10 am - 5 pm and by appointment

Santa's Helpers at GANGES VILLAGE MARKET

Dec. 24 8 am - 6 pm / Dec. 25 CLOSED / Dec. 26 CLOSED
 Dec. 31 8 am - 6 pm / Jan. 1 CLOSED

Christmas Feature

Reactor LED FLASHLIGHT

- 100' beam
- 300 hours run time
- Batteries included

\$29⁹⁷

MOUAT'S

Home hardware

Shop til 8pm Fridays 537-5551

SHOP LOCAL *and* WIN!



This Holiday Season the Chamber of Commerce and The Driftwood are giving away great prizes in the "Home for the Holidays" contest.

FIRST PRIZE:\$1000 Travel Voucher

SECOND PRIZE: ..One of 2 cash prizes of \$250 in Salt Spring currency

THIRD PRIZE:One of 3 giant gift baskets

Enter often at the
Visitor Info Centre



Salt Spring's Satellite Source!

» Satellite Internet



Xplornet is the fast, reliable, safe and secure wireless high speed internet solution for individuals and small businesses. Easy to install and very affordable. Available Canada wide and backed by unsurpassed service and support. Plus VOIP capability.



» Satellite TV

Star Choice offers up to 400 channels to choose from, time shifting and high definition channels, all in one simple package. Local service and free professional installation and a choice of receivers that would best suit your family's viewing needs.



» Satellite Radio

Sirius and XM will provide premium radio satellite service in Canada with over 100 channels of music, sports, local, national and international news, comedy including Canadian premium channels to choose from. All for less than \$15.00 per month.



Mon. - Sat.
10-5:30 pm

THE SOURCE
BY CONSULT CITY
DEALER

Electronics Inc.

162 FULFORD-GANGES ROAD • 537-4522

The Art of Giving

President's
Picks



Smile
Snack



Ask our floral department to help you choose the perfect basket, over 16 different baskets available!

Ask for our full brochure of platters and baskets



Grand Gesture
Gourmet



West
Coast



Traditional
Fruit



THRIFTY FOODS™
Christmas is at our place.

Prices start
at \$29.99

S - Salt Spring Island												ExpressVu												StarChoice												SUNDAY DAYTIME DECEMBER 25																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
S	☆	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	S	☆	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	S	☆	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	S	☆	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
257	308	CBC	Corrie St.	Corrie St.	Corrie St.	Corrie St.	Christmas Parade			Queen /10 Gather..	Child's Christmas	The Nutcracker (1993)	Macaulay Culkin.	320	621	MC	7:45 Sky Captain & World of...	4:45 Good Boy!	Molly Shannon.	1:15 Duplex (2003)	Ben Stiller.	4:45 The Life and Death of Peter Sellers	De-Lovely	256	CITY	6:00 The Yule Log				Driver	Old Auto	Compact	Spin City	World Vision	CityLine	Q Scene	N.Music	Speakers'	Careers	287	379	KING	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Ski & Snow USSA	Skating Holiday Celebration on Ice	Golf Skills Challenge	Flight 29	Enduran.	255	358	CH	Ernest Angley	VanImpe	Listen Up	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	Driving	Homes	D. Down	Collectors	Tech KO	Diva	250	321	CTVBC	Mentors	Mentors	Eagle Commun.	Eagle C.	Balance	Travel	Eagle C.	Question Period	Rent-a-Kid (1997)	Leslie Nielsen.	Magician's House..	251	336	GBLBC	Christmas	Heart City	Pure Adventure	Driving	Ride	The Hour of Power	Vancouver Santa Parade	World Vision	World Vision	291	383	KCTS	Arthur's Christmas	Matzah	Chanukah	LA Holiday	Breton Christmas	Great Performances	Hollywood Palace	Great Performances	120	702	SRC	Raconte..	Henri	Mickey	3 héros	La messe de la nuit	Heywood	Journal	La semaine verte	Regard	Renne	L'Attrape	parents	268	354	KNOW	Todd	4:00 MagicB.	0:05 Arthur	MissBG	C.Bear	Babar	Koala	5:00 Noddy	1:15 Lost	Reindeer	Inventors Special	In Search of Santa	B. Clues	Dora	120	702	SRC	Raconte..	Henri	Mickey	3 héros	La messe de la nuit	Heywood	Journal	La semaine verte	Regard	Renne	L'Attrape	parents	620	523	BRAVO	7:00 Anna Karenina	Sense and Sensibility (1995)	Emma Thompson.	A Walk in the Clouds	Keanu Reeves.	Inside Actors Studio	Antiques Ghost	522	506	HIST	7:00 A River Runs Through It	Move	Full Throttle	Legends of the Fall (1994)	Brad Pitt.	Battlefield Britain	Worst Jobs	521	560	TLC	Jackpot!	Day of Proposals	Tucker.	Tucker.	Tucker.	Tucker.	Tucker.	Tucker.	Tucker.	Tucker.	Tucker.	Moving Up	557	541	FAM	1:15 Z&Cody	4:00 Zoey101	1:00 Raven	1:05 Phil	1:10 Stevens	Boy MW	0:05 Ned	Brotherly	Ultimate Christmas Present	Twas the Night	615	520	A&E	Gotti	Gotti	Inked	Inked	Tremors (1990)	Kevin Bacon.	House	House	Move	Find & Design	House	Flip This House	400	400	TSN	7:30 World	Triathlon	2005 National Spelling Bee	Poker World Series	Year in Review	Football NFL Chicago vs Green Bay	407	419	RSP	News	Plays	Sportsnet Reflection	News	Plays	EPL Pre.	Soccer Classics 2002 World Cup FIFA	Poker Monaco Invitational Tour	287	379	KING	Jack Holt	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Spaces	Paid	Living	Paid	Paid	White Christmas (1954)	Bing Crosby.	289	381	KVOS	Hr. Power	Paid	Hour of Power	Day Disc.	Nutcracker on Ice	Paid	APNA TV	Paid	The Twilight Zone	Almost an Angel (1990)	Paul Hogan.	290	382	KCPQ	FOX News Sunday	Winx	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Program	Paid	The '85 Bears	Sunday	Football NFL Chicago vs Green Bay	502	390	NEWS	Extreme Weather	Extreme Weather	Can. Antiques Rd	Antiques Roadshow	Wild Canada	the fifth estate	C.Can	Province	News	Pop Up	289	381	KIRO	7:30 Sunday Morning	Christmas Tree	WildA.	C'mas	Dream Catchers	Super Bowl Secrets	Champions NCAA	Supercross Preview	L.Town	Go Diego	288	380	KOMO	This Week	NBA Hang	Basketball	NBA San Antonio vs Detroit	Basketball NBA Los Angeles Lakers vs Miami Heat	Walt Disney Parade	65	394	VISION	Islam	Hour of Power	J. Meyer	Living Truth	Faith Live	Food Life	Bible	700 Club	Nations	KeyDavid	Potter's	World	R. Martin	Ministries

S - Salt Spring Island												ExpressVu												StarChoice												SUNDAY EVENING DECEMBER 25																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
S	☆	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	S	☆	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	S	☆	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	S	☆	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
257	308	CBC	Samantha: An American Girl Holiday	Huron Christmas	Festival On Ice	A Beachcombers' Christmas	CBC News: Sunday	Queen /15 White C'mas	320	621	MC	3:00 De-Lovely	1:15 Sky Captain & World of Tomorrow	Hitch (P) (2005)	Will Smith.	Alexander (2004)	Colin Farrell.	256	CITY	Deck the Halls (2005)	Gabrielle Carteris.	Spin City	Spin City	Home Videos	About A Boy (2002)	Hugh Grant.	The Dead Zone	The Story Of...	287	379	KING	N. Marcus Parade	Holiday Fest. On Ice	News	NWCN	Dateline NBC	The West Wing	Law & Order: C.I.	Crossing Jordan	News	Sports	255	358	CH	Myst.Ink	BodyH'ith	The Island Farm Santa's Light Parade	Caitlin	Tech KO	Makeover: Home	Queens	Mother	Half Men	Practice	News	Ins.Ent.	250	321	CTVBC	3:00 Magician's House..	Acc.Jim	Acc.Jim	News	Men of the Deeps	Rita MacNeil	Catch a Falling Star (1999)	Sela Ward.	News	News	251	336	GBLBC	News	Heart City	Simpsons	Bethlehem	News	Malcolm	King Hill	Simpsons	Simpsons	FamilyG.	King Hill	Ice Legends	News	3:35 Caitlin	291	383	KCTS	3:00 Perform.	American Masters	Euro-Christmas	Antiques Roadshow	Nature	Theatre Pt. 2 of 2 from Dec 18	Great Performances	120	702	SRC	2:30 L'Attrape parents..	Homme en Sibérie	Journal	Découverte	P'tite vie	Aimons-nous	Décembre revient	Journal	Pleins feux	Cinéma	268	354	KNOW	Zoboo	5:00 Arthur	1:15 Sagwa	George	Sounds Like	From Wales	Canadian Brass	Bach's Christmas Oratorio	Chasing Christmas (2005)	Tom Arnold.	Speaker's	Count.	253	359	CITY	World Poker Tour	News	ColourTV	Movie TV	Star! TV	Count.	Count.	Chasing Christmas (2005)	Tom Arnold.	Speaker's	Count.	620	523	BRAVO	ArtsMinds	LifeGiving	For the Holidays	A Simple Plan (1998)	Bill Paxton.	Indecent Proposal	Robert Redford.	4:45 This Is My Life	522	506	HIST	Real Da Vinci Code	Da Vinci Code 2/2	First Knight (1995)	Sean Connery.	Real Da Vinci Code	Da Vinci Code 2/2	First Knight	521	560	TLC	Moving Up	Moving Up	Moving Up	Moving Up	Moving Up	Moving Up	Moving Up	Moving Up	Moving Up	Moving Up	Moving Up	557	541	FAM	1:15 Proud	4:45 Fillmore	1:00 Maggie	3:35 Kim P.	0:05 Sadie	Darcy	So Raven	4:45 Roscoe	1:15 Rules	4:00 Movies	A Mom for Christmas	Snow (2004)	Tom Cavanagh.	615	520	A&E	Cold Case Files	Star Wars: Empire of Dreams	Intervention	CSI: Miami	Star Wars: Empire of Dreams	Intervention	400	400	TSN	2:00 Football NFL Chi./G.B.	Football NFL Minnesota Vikings vs. Baltimore Ravens	Sportscentre	Golf ADT Skills Challenge	PGA	Sportscentre	407	419	RSP	2:00 Poker Monaco Invitational Tour	Sportsnet Reflection	T.Tennis	T.Tennis	Tennis World Team	Poker Canadian Tour	Billiards U.S. 9-Ball	287	379	KING	2:00 White Christmas	Queens	Queens	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	70s	70s	CSI: Crime Scene	24	Farscape	289	381	KVOS	Day Disc.	Paid	Fly Away Home (1996)	Jeff Daniels.	Serve & Protect	An American in Paris (1951)	Gene Kelly.	Queens	S.Susan	290	382	KCPQ	2:00 Football NFL Chi./G.B.	Raymond	Raymond	Friends	Malcolm	King Hill	Simpsons	Simpsons	FamilyG.	King Hill	News	3:35 Q It Up	Stargate Atlantis	502	390	NEWS	The Queen's Castle	The Queen's Castle	CBC News: Sunday	Queen's Castle 3/3	Discovery's Canada	CBC News: Sunday	Extreme Weather	Extreme Weather	289	381	KIRO	Stars	WildA.	News	News	60 Minutes	Cold Case	Finding John Christmas	News	AccessH	288	380	KOMO	2:30 Parade	Insider	Children's Hospital	News	News	Home Videos	Makeover: Home	Housewives	Grey's Anatomy	News	3:35 Ebert	65	394	VISION	Day Disc.	VanImpe	Jeremiah	Spirit	Songs	Facts	Love	D.Hope	Youngren	Power	P. Popoff	Armor	Songs	LittleBuck	Quiet	Songs

SUNDAY, DEC 25
6:00 PM
14 ★★ A Simple Plan (1998, Suspense) Three men find four million dollars and try to hide the money until complications arise. *Bill Paxton, Billy Bob Thornton* (2h30)
15 ★★ First Knight (1995, Fantasy) A dangerous love triangle forms between Lady Guinevere, King Arthur and Sir Lancelot. *Sean Connery, Richard Gere* (3h)
7:00 PM
3 ★★ Hitch (2005, Comedy) While helping a client, a professional 'date doctor' falls for a gossip columnist. *Will Smith, Eva Mendes* (2h)
8:00 PM
2 ★★ A Beachcombers' Christmas (2004, Comedy/Drama) The owner of Molly's Reach plans a celebrity hockey game. *Dave Thomas, Graham Greene* (2h)
4 ★★ About A Boy (2002, Comedy/Drama) A carefree bachelor finds himself becoming a father figure to a troubled young boy. *Hugh Grant, Nicholas Hoult* (2h)
24 ★★ An American in Paris (1951, Musical) An ex-GI stays in Paris to pursue a career as an artist and to romance women. *Gene Kelly, Leslie Caron* (2h30)
8:30 PM
14 ★★ Indecent Proposal (1993, Drama) A wealthy financier offers an architect one million dollars for a night with his wife. *Robert Redford, Demi Moore* (2h15)
9:00 PM
3 ★★ Alexander (2004, Adventure) Alexander the Great leads his army to victory over many foes as they travel east to India. *Colin Farrell, Angelina Jolie* (3h)
7 ★★ Catch a Falling Star (1999, Drama) A spoiled Hollywood star flees the spotlight and finds true love in a small town. *Sela Ward, John Slattery* (2h)
13 Chasing Christmas (2005) The spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future visit Jack to change his perspective. *Tom Arnold, Andrea Roth* (2h)
19 ★★ A Mom for Christmas (1990, Drama) A lonely girl wishes a beautiful department store mannequin to life to replace her mom. *Olivia Newton-John, Doug Sheehan* (1h30)
27 Finding John Christmas (2003, Drama) A woman searches for her brother, a former fireman hero, who disappeared many years ago. *Valerie Bertinelli, Peter Falk* (2h)
10:30 PM
19 ★★ Snow (2004, Family) A young man with a toy delivery business sets out to rescue a reindeer before Christmas. *Tom Cavanagh, Jackie Burroughs* (1h35)
10:45 PM
14 ★★ This Is My Life (1992, Comedy) A working mother is torn between a successful stand-up comic career and her daughters. *Julie Kavner, Samantha Mathis* (2h)
11:00 PM
15 ★★ First Knight (1995, Fantasy) A dangerous love triangle forms between Lady Guinevere, King Arthur and Sir Lancelot. *Sean Connery, Richard Gere* (3h)
11:15 PM
2 ★★ White Christmas (1954, Musical) Entertainers stage a musical show to save their commanding officer's inn and find romance. *Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye* (2h)
11:30 PM
10 Tout le monde dit I love you (1996, Comédie) Deux familles de Manhattan connaissent divers épisodes sentimentaux. *Drew Barrymore, Goldie Hawn* (1h50)

MONDAY, DEC 26
7:00 PM
3 ★★ Ocean's Twelve (2004, Comedy) Danny Ocean and his gang of thieves must pull off three major heists in Europe. *Brad Pitt, Catherine Zeta-Jones* (2h15)
10 Mambo Italiano (2003, Comédie) Le monde de Maria et Gino bascule lorsqu'ils apprennent que leur fils est homosexuel. *Paul Sorvino, Ginette Reno* (2h)
8:00 PM
7 Lives of the Saints (2004, Drama) An old-world family emigrates to Canada bringing some dark secrets and passions with them. *Sophia Loren, Kris Kristofferson* (2h)
24 ★★ Girl Happy (1965, Musical) A handsome musician is ordered to keep an eye on the daughter of a tough Chicago mobster. *Elvis Presley, Shelley Fabares* (2h)
9:15 PM
3 ★★ Troy (2004, Action) The Prince of Troy starts a war when he leads the Queen of Sparta away from her husband. *Brad Pitt, Orlando Bloom* (2h45)
11:25 PM
2 ★★ Going My Way (1944, Drama) A young priest revitalizes a parish and wins over an aging pastor and tough parish kids. *Bing Crosby, Barry Fitzgerald* (2h)
TUESDAY, DEC 27
6:00 PM
14 ★★ Playing for Keeps (1986, Musical) Three high school graduates decide to fix up a hotel and turn it into a teen hangout. *Daniel Jordano, Matthew Penn* (2h)
7:00 PM
3 ★★ The Aviator (2004, Biography) Follow the life of film producer Howard Hughes as he influences numerous industries. *Leonardo DiCaprio, Cate Blanchett* (3h)
10 Le Journal de Bridget Jones (2001, Comédie) A 32 ans, Bridget Jones est le centre d'attraction de deux hommes et se sent irrésistible. *Renée Zellweger, Hugh Grant* (2h)
8:00 PM
7 Lives of the Saints (2004, Drama) An old-world family emigrates to Canada bringing some dark secrets and passions with them. *Sophia Loren, Kris Kristofferson* (2h)
23 ★★ All About the Benjamins (2001, Action) A Miami bounty hunter is forced to team up with his nemesis. *Ice Cube, Mike Epps* (2h)
24 ★★ A Gentleman's Game (2001, Drama) A teen golf prodigy learns the painful truth about privilege and power in golf. *Gary Sinise, Mason Gamble* (2h)
9:00 PM
4 ★★ House on Haunted Hill (1999, Horror) A millionaire offers a group of people \$10 thousand to spend the night in a haunted house. *Geoffrey Rush, Famke Janssen* (2h)
23 ★★ Courage Mountain (1989, Action) A group of children must make the journey across the Alps during the First World War. *Charlie Sheen, Leslie Caron* (2h)
10:00 PM
3 ★★ Ned Kelly (1970, Biography) The story of the legendary 19th-century Australian outlaw, whose story outgrew his life. *Mick Jagger, Sue Lloyd* (2h)
14 ★★ Nashville Girl (1976, Drama) A young girl becomes a country star. *Judith Anna Roberts, Leo Gordon* (1h45)
11:00 PM
2 ★★ The Bells of St. Mary's (1945, Drama) A priest bickers with a strict nun while they both try to save a run-down boy's school. *Bing Crosby, Ingrid Bergman* (2h)
11:45 PM
14 ★★ Miracles in Memphis: Elvis Gratton 2 (1999, Comedy) A French-Canadian Elvis impersonator rises from the dead. *Julien Poulin, Yves Trudel* (2h)

LAURIE'S RECYCLING & WASTE SERVICES INC.

We Wish Everyone A Very Merry Christmas & A Safe & Happy New Year

Holiday Hours at Drop Off (Next to GVM)

Dec. 24: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 25 & 26: Closed

Dec. 31: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 1: Closed

CALL 653-9279

AN ISLAND FAMILY SINCE 1861 *Laurie & Nancy Hedger*

S - Salt Spring Island												ExpressVu												StarChoice												MONDAY EVENING DECEMBER 26																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
S	☆	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	S	☆	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	S	☆	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	S	☆	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
257	308	CBC	Dragon	C.Beach	Simpsons	JFL:Gags	News	Corrie St.	Corrie St.	Dr. Who: Invasion			Creature	News: The National	News /25 Going My..	320	621	MC	3:00 Paycheck	Racing Stripes	Bruce Greenwood.	Ocean's Twelve (P) (2004)	Brad Pitt.	1:15 Troy (2004)	Brad Pitt.	256	CITY	Daily	Inside Ed.	A-Channel News		Fortune	Jeopardy	7th Heaven	7th Heaven	For the Holidays	News	3:35 Daily	287	379	KING	Oprah Winfrey	KING News	News	News	Magazine	Inside Ed.	Crossing Jordan	Las Vegas Pt. 2 of 2	Medium	News	3:35 J.Leno	255	358	CH	Days of Our Lives	CH News	Santa's Light	Homes	70s	Crossing Jordan	Las Vegas Pt. 2 of 2	Doc	News	2Chance	250	321	CTVBC	Tyra Banks Show	CTV News	News	CornerG	Degrassi	Lives of the Saints	1/2 cont'd Dec 27	CSI: Miami	News	News	251	336	GBLBC	Oprah Winfrey	News	National	News	ET	ET Can.	Arrested	Arrested	House	To Be Announced	News	291	383	KCTS	Arthur	Maya&M.	Cyberch.	Business	News	Classics	Antiques	Antiques Roadshow	American Exp. Pt. 1	of 2 cont'd Jan 2	News	T. Smiley	120	702	SRC	Kiwis et hommes	Véro	Union	Le Téléjournal	Mambo Italiano (2003)	Paul Sorvino.	Bons baisers	Téléjournal/Point	L'héritière	268	354	KNOW	KoalaBros	George	Madeline	Arthur	ArtAttack	Moving	Rainwolves	Child of Our Time	Frag. of Genius	CanSpell	Canada: History	253	359	CITY	CityLine	Ellen DeGeneres	Football NFL New England Patriots vs. New York Jets	Star TV	Stargate: SG-1	News	3:35 J.Leno	620	523	BRAVO	Videos	Sentimental Journey	Dance With Me	Vanessa L. Williams.	4:45 BI News	Law & Order	Sex&City	4:45 Sex and the City	BI News	4:45 Sex&City	Sex&City	522	506	HIST	JAG	Worst Jobs in Histor	Fly with Me	Turning Points	JAG	Worst Jobs in Histor	Fly with Me	China Beach	521	560	TLC	Little People, Dream	I Am My Own Twin	Without a Face	Two Heads	I Am My Own Twin	Without a Face	Two Heads	Little People, Dream	557	541	FAM	1:15 Proud	4:40 Recess	0:05 Kim P.	1:00 McGuire	L.Time	Darcy	So Raven	Smart G.	8 Rules	Boy MW	Brotherly	Roscoe	Popular	8 Rules	Roscoe	615	520	A&E	24	Flip This House	Cleavage	Crossing Jordan	Flip This House	Cleavage	400	400	TSN	Hockey World Junior Championship IIHF	Fin/Can	PostGame	WWE Raw	WWE Raw	Timeless	Sportscentre	407	419	RSP	3:30 Hockey Spengler Cup	News	Hockey	Hockey NHL Calgary Flames vs. Vancouver Canucks	Sportsnet News	Sportsnet News	287	379	KING	WifeKids	Bernie M.	WifeKids	Bernie M.	Queens	Queens	Seinfeld	70s	OneOne	All Of Us	Girlfriend	Half&Half	Seinfeld	70s	SouthPk	SouthPk	289	381	KVOS	Montel Williams	F.Feud	Yes, Dear	Elimidate	Elimidate	Becker	Queens	Queens	Elvis Presley.	W&Grace	Queens	Cheers	Serve P.	290	382	KCPQ	SaveBell	Fresh P.	Shoot	King Hill	Simpsons	Malcolm	Simpsons	Malcolm	Arrested	Arrested	House	Q-13 News	Simpsons	King Hill	502	390	NEWS	The Passionate Eye	News: The National	The Passionate Eye	News: The National	The Passionate Eye	News: The National	the fifth estate	Can. Antiques Rd	289	381	KIRO	Judy	Judy	News	News	News	ET	Access	Queens	Mother	

Cinema
KING KONG STARTS DEC. 30
 After ruining his reputation with the town, a courageous chicken must come to the rescue of his fellow citizens when aliens start an invasion.
 G: May frighten younger children
 1hr. 21 min.
 Fri. 7pm / Sat. & Sun. CLOSED
 Mon. & Tues. 7pm
 Wed. Dec. 28 & Thurs. Dec. 29
 4pm - early shows

Fri. Dec. 23 - Thurs. Dec. 29
CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY
 Tues. only \$5.50 all seats - Adults \$7.50
 Students / Seniors \$6.50 / Kids under 14 \$4.50

Set in the 1930s during the rise of the independence struggles against British colonial rule, the film examines the plight of a group of widows forced into poverty at a temple in the holy city of Varanasi.
 Directed by Deepa Mehta.
 PG: sexual content
 1 hr. 53 min.

Tues. Dec. 27 9pm
 Wed. Dec. 28 &
 Thurs. Dec. 29 7pm

Best Wishes to our Travellers for 2006
 We look forward to assisting you with your travel arrangements in the coming year.

Seasons Greetings
 Paul, Pat, Alan.

Canadian **Travelteam** **OpenWorldJourneys** BC Reg 3235
 email: paul@travelteam.ca 537-1898 • Cell: 538-8502

What's On This Week

wed. december 21	thurs. december 22	fri. december 23	sat. december 24	sun. december 25	mon. december 26	tues. december 27
live entertainment Carols for Christmastide. With Friends of Simply Organic; audience participation. All Saints, 10:10 am Song Writer's Showcase. Hosted by Gene Grooms & featuring Laughlin Meagher at Barb's Buns, 8 pm other activities Beacon Employment Centre. Open house at office in government building, 1-3 pm	live entertainment Stephanie Rhodes & Friends. Untamed vocals at Tree House South. Christmas With Scrooge. Newman Family Productions' 20th anniversary presentation. ArtSpring, 7 p.m.	live entertainment Alan Miceli. Acoustic guitar at Tree House South. Christmas With Scrooge. Newman Family Productions' 20th anniversary presentation. ArtSpring, 7 p.m. other activities Rollerblading to Music. All ages at Fulford Hall, 7:30-9 pm	live entertainment Christmas With Scrooge. ArtSpring, 2 pm other activities Christmas Market in the Park. Vendors set up at Centennial Park.	other activities Community Turkey Dinner. Sponsored by the United church at Meaden Hall, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.	other activities Boxing Day Classic. Disc golf tournament at Mouat Park course. 10:15 am. Info: Dean: 538-1971.	other activities Random Doubles. Disc golf event at Mouat Park course.
						wed. december 28 live entertainment Simply Organic. Barry Valentine organ recital, followed by muffic & coffee at All Saints, 10:10 am Wednesday Night Live! Open stage at Moby's Pub, 8 pm other activities Seniors Excursion Program. Ladysmith trip planned. Info: Ruth, 537-5188.

What's On is online at
www.gulfislands.net

cinema

- Chicken Little** — After ruining his reputation with the town, a courageous chicken must come to the rescue of his fellow citizens when aliens start an invasion.
- Water** — Set in the 1930s during the rise of the independence struggles against British colonial rule, the film examines the plight of a group of widows forced into poverty at a temple in the holy city of Varanasi. Directed by Deepa Mehta.

cable TV

SSTV Cable Channel 12 broadcasts continuously for 24 hours beginning at 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 24. (Note the different date!)
Christmas Music Special — A special Christmas program over the holiday weekend that offers highlights from two recent shows at ArtSpring. First up is the Tuned Air choir with its Winterfires II performance, directed by Bruce Ruddell and anchored by pianist Chris Kodaly. They bring to the stage an eclectic blend of music with special guests.
Next up is the EnChor! Show with seasonal tunes performed by young singers from Salt Spring's elementary school.

exhibitions

- SS Painters Guild** — paintings done under instruction are shown through December 31 in the **ArtSpring** open space.
- Avanti Glass Studio anniversary and Christmas show** continues daily through Dec. 24.
- Deb Hagarty** shows photography at **Moby's** through December and January, and at **Jana's Bake Shop**.
- Jill Louise Campbell Fine Art Gallery** is open until 8 p.m. on Friday nights leading up to Christmas. Features **Spirit Calls**, from Jill's Native Northwest Collection.
- Ella Topaz** shows mixed media work at **Island Savings Credit Union**.
- joji** has paintings at **Barb's Buns** and at **Salt Spring Books** for the month of December.

SOLID MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
 Sliding scale \$15-\$25 And \$50 for families
 Benefits AIDS work in Africa • Call 537-9935

Ganges
 Mouat's Centre
 7:30 am - 8 pm
 7 days a week

THRIFTY FOODS™
 smiles every day!

Squeeze Me!

TEMPUR
 SWEDISH MATTRESS & PILLOWS
 1-800-887-4321
www.tempurcanada.com
 Tempur is sold in over 50 countries worldwide, with hundreds of dealers across Canada.

A better night's sleep, no springs attached!

UNCLE ALBERT'S FURNITURE
 107 2nd St. Duncan Mon.-Sat. 9-5:30
 1-800-593-5303 Sun 11-4

CHEVROLET PONTIAC BUICK GMC
PETER BALJET
 GM

DRIVE & WIN
 YEAR-END EVENT

\$0 DOWN PAYMENT* \$0 DUE @ SIGNING*
\$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT* \$0 PAYMENTS THIS YEAR*
Aveo from \$188 - Optra from \$205 - Cobalt from \$226

Contact a sales representative for details

6300 Trans Canada Highway, Duncan / Sales / Service 250-746-7131 / Parts 250-746-4466 / Body Shop 250-748-4370

PETER baljet
 GM Canada

DL8347

Ganges sewer got the go ahead

45 years ago

• McGill's Bakery Ltd. of Salt Spring baked its 100,000th loaf of bread since opening in 1960. At the time, the company was a major manufacturer and employer on the island.

• Nearly 70 people attended a meeting at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall to discuss problems at the local golf club.

40 years ago

• Several new oil tanks were added to the Esso plant operated by Norman Mouat.

35 years ago

• Two Saanich men were rescued from the ocean by islanders Earl and Jay Hardie, who saw kayakers in distress near their property.

30 years ago

• B.C.'s health minister approved a plan to provide 40 beds at the Gulf Islands Intermediate Care facility on property adjacent to Lady Minto Hospital.

DOWN THE YEARS

• The Driftwood began using the latest Compu-graphic typesetting machine to provide straight columns in the newspaper.

25 years ago

• Ganges received approval from the Capital Regional District to proceed with a sewer plan subject to confirmation of \$825,000 in funding from the federal government.

• Students were unable to attend island schools when the region was hit with 20-25 centimetres of snow.

20 years ago

• Gulf Islands School District began providing a bus service for Pender Students to and from the water taxi dock.

• A \$25,000 B.C. Lottery grant was received to finance

completion of a boardwalk, bandstand and amphitheatre at Centennial Park

15 years ago

• A recount after an Islands Trust election on Salt Spring found that only 34 votes separated second-place finisher John Stepaniuk, who was elected, from challenger Max Soder. Bob Andrew topped the polls.

10 years ago


• Two Salt Spring men were rescued from a remote trail on Mount Tuam after the battery in their truck died the night before.

Five Years Ago

• Save Salt Spring Society sued the province over failure to protect island drinking water, as part of protests against logging undertaken around Maxwell Lake by the Texada Land Corporation.

• Salt Spring Co-op Pre-school opened a new school on Aldous Road, following large amounts of community

support given to the long-established non-profit society.




Smythe Roofing

ALL TYPES OF RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

"Quality Workmanship - Reliable Service"

Vince Smythe
Ph: (250) 213-6316
Fax: (250) 478-4352
info@smytheroofing.com



Here's my card...



Driftwood
Tracy Stibbards
sales representative
250-537-9933
tstibbards@gulfislands.net



BERNIE REYNOLDS
Certified Technician

Tel: 537-4208
Fax: 537-4252
Pgr: 537-8168

270 Sarah Way
Salt Spring Island
BC, V8K 2X8

SINCE 1964



Send E-Cards this Xmas!

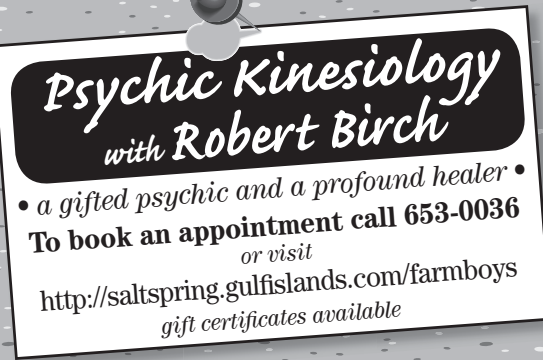
CUSTOM E-CARDS
JPEG format from \$19.99

Earth friendly, postage free, time saving!

Imagine That
graphic design & print services

Aye Chihuahua!

158 Eagle Ridge Drive 537-1877 www.imaginatethatgraphics.ca



Psychic Kinesiology
with Robert Birch

• a gifted psychic and a profound healer •

To book an appointment call 653-0036
or visit
<http://saltspring.gulfislands.com/farmboys>
gift certificates available



The Island's Complete
Hot Tub & Pool
Sales & Service Centre

SPA SUPPLIES
mention this ad
25% off

Holger Hermann, BFA
HOLGER@hermann.ca
537-5147

Gulf Island Pool & Spa
Serving all the Gulf Islands since 1999
SERVING PENDER, MAYNE, GALIANO, SATURNA



WENDY BOWMER
custom made clothing,
alterations & repairs, unlikely projects
Fittings and consultations now at
STITCHES QUILT SHOP
120 Hereford Ave.
Tuesdays & Fridays noon-4:30 pm
No appointment necessary.



RE:DESIGN

ESTHER EVANIK BROWN
INTERIOR DESIGN

Space Planning / Drafting / Color Consultation
Fabric & Furniture Selection / Window & Wall Treatment
PH. (250) 537-2275 CELL (250) 213-6028
E-mail: EstherEvanik@hotmail.com
Helping You use what You already have!



Christmas Day
Community Turkey Dinner
(Organic Vegetarian Dishes Also Served)
Sunday, December 25th
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
AT MEADEN HALL
(downstairs of Legion building, 120 Blain Road)

Sponsored by The United Church

Free Admission

Everyone Welcome

Volunteers Phone:
Gary: 537-2293 or
Tom: 653-4353

Come and Enjoy Good Food and Great Companionship!

DEADLINE THURSDAY 3 PM DEC. 22
 Display Ad Deadline: 3 pm Wed., Dec. 21 - Too Late to Classify Deadline: Noon Tues., Dec. 27

Driftwood Classifieds

Notices
 6 DEATHS

HAYWARD'S FUNERAL SERVICE GANGES

PATRICK BEATTIE
 Funeral Director
 Box 315, Ganges P.O.
 SSI, V8K 2V9
 Tel: (250) 537-1022
 Fax: (250) 537-2012

Elizabeth Lee
FUNERAL CONSULTANT
 537-1023

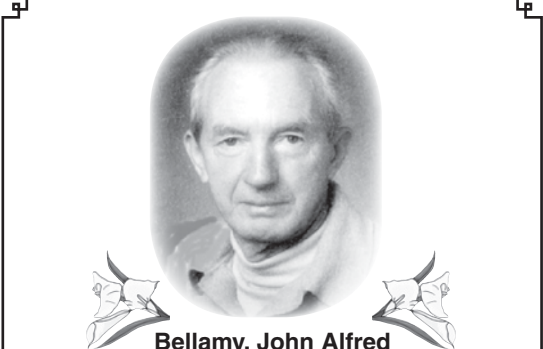
REGULAR CLASSIFIEDS BARGAIN HUNTER ADS \$7.50
 Value of goods must not exceed \$100.00
PRIVATE PARTY, MERCHANDISE ADS ONLY 20 WORDS OR LESS \$9.75
 Additional words 40¢ each
 Run your ad for 2 weeks and get a third week FREE!
PRIVATE PARTY, MERCHANDISE ADS ONLY \$1.00 per line
 Sorry, no refunds, no changes.
 Deadline MONDAY 4PM
TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY
 20 words or less \$11.75
 Additional words 45¢ ea
 Deadline TUESDAY NOON

IN MEMORIUM & CELEBRATION ADS
 1 column x 4" \$21 (reg rate \$47.00)
GET YOUR AD NOTICED!
 We now offer bold and centered headlines
\$1.00 per line
 Not available in Too Lates or Free/Recyclables
DISPLAY CLASSIFIEDS \$12 per column inch
 (minimum size one inch)

REGIONAL CLASSIFIEDS
BUY VANCOUVER ISLAND \$119
 Your 25 word classified ad appears in the Gulf Islands Driftwood (Salt Spring & Pender Islands) and 15 community papers on V.I.
 Over 262,455 readers.
BUY LOWER MAINLAND \$109
 Your 25 word classified ad appears in 15 community papers in the lower mainland. Over 525,455 readers.
BUY BC INTERIOR \$129
 Your 25 word classified ad appears in 22 community papers in the interior. Over 208,856 readers.
BCYNA NETWORK CLASSIFIEDS \$360
 Your 25 word classified will appear in more than 110 community newspapers in BC and the Yukon. Over 2.3 million readers.

PAYMENT
 • We can accept payment by cash, direct debit, Mastercard or Visa.
 • Classifieds are prepaid unless you have an advertising account.
PLACING AN AD
 • In person at 328 Lower Ganges Road, Ganges
 • By telephone, 250-537-9933, or fax, 250-537-2613
 • By email to classified@gulfislands.net (no attachments please)
 • By post to Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3.
POLICIES
 Please check your ad after the first insertion. Should an error appear in an advertisement, Driftwood Publishing Ltd. is only liable for the amount paid for the space occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred. Driftwood Publishing Ltd. will accept responsibility for only one incorrect insertion.

6 DEATHS



Bellamy, John Alfred

John passed away peacefully on November 24, 2005, at his home in Qualicum Beach.

He is survived and lovingly remembered by his wife Betty of 34 years. John will be sadly missed by his 4 daughters, Verna (Ray) of Port Alberni, Sandra (Caroline) of Salt Spring Island, Debra (Don) of Victoria and Lenora (John) of Surrey. They will miss his sense of humor, kindness and fatherly advice. He took delight in and was proud of his 7 grandchildren, Brent, Dale, Lara, Mike, Jody, Darrell and Daniel, as well as his 5 great grandchildren, Claudia, Ursula, Aldous, Kaitlyn and Jessica.

John is predeceased by his first wife Norma, his brothers George of Nanaimo, Tom of Port Alberni and sisters Nellie Robertson of Vancouver and Lou Tombs of Port Alberni. He is survived by sisters Edith Anderson of Nanaimo and Susan Watson (George) of Port Alberni. John will be missed and remembered by many nieces and nephews, co-workers and friends.

Born December 30, 1916 in Headquarters on the Alberni Canal he was raised and schooled in Port Alberni. He joined the Royal Canadian Navy in 1939 holding the rank of Chief Petty Officer while serving as Electrical Refrigeration Engineer. Following his retirement from the services in 1945 he enjoyed a long and rewarding career at the Vancouver General Hospital. He and Betty retired to Qualicum Beach from Port Coquitlam and began enjoying their first winters in Kehehi, Maui, before moving on to Lake Tamerisk in Desert Centre, California, for successive winter sojourns.

John was an avid and competitive golfer. He had a keen interest in aircraft, photography, gardening, fishing and in particular enjoyed astronomy where he had the opportunity to teach children's groups. He loved the outdoors, taking in nature during long walks while rarely missing a sunset. Family memories of the cabin on the beach at Qualicum have been enriched by his presence and times spent together. Holding an Amateur Radio license for many years, he was an active member of the HAM radio organization as well as a member of the Masonic Lodge.

The family would like to thank Dr. John Atherston and all the caregivers for their kindness and devotion. A very special appreciation is extended to caregivers Millie, Reinette and Marilyn.

"Soar now, like an eagle and be free Dad... as you like to be! We love you and will miss you deeply."

There will be no service by request.
 Yates Funeral Service (1-877-264-3848)
 in care of arrangements.

8 CARD OF THANKS

I WOULD like to thank the following people: Colin, Teresa, Dave, Catherine, Jamie, Elodie, Jen, Bruce, Shane, Dawn, Wendy and anyone I forgot to mention for their kindness, compassion and support through my enormous loss of my sweetheart lover friend. Love is a bond that cannot be broken; it's a common thread that remains with us. Our tremendous loss of your presence is noticed in the stillness at the table, gathering of friends. Your humour, laughter, quick chef giftness will live on in our memories, thoughts, photos. D.C.

9 SEASONAL GREETINGS

PUMP PRIMERS, past and present. Catherine wishes you all a restful Christmas with good health and good cheer.
 MEALS ON WHEELS drivers. You are angels on wheels. Wishing you many more miles of health and good cheer. Catherine.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

to all my Quilting and Genealogy friends. May this holiday be all that you hope for and all the best in the New Year. Claudia.

KEN, PAT, Barney and the Sasquatches at Bigfoot Herbs wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a great 2006.

HEAVENLY BLESSINGS on Salt Spring's Christmas angel - Rita Dods - from everyone.

SEASON'S GREETINGS to all family members & friends. Also to all neighbours in the Hedger Rd. area. Terry Byron "El Rancho Costa Plenty".

9 SEASONAL GREETINGS

MERRY CHRISTMAS and Happy New Year to all my friends and acquaintances on Salt Spring. From Margot Caspar.

TO ALL my lovely friends and most excellent family...it is wonderful to be home on the island for Christmas surrounded by you all. Hugs and kisses, Emma

20 COMING EVENTS

FOR A complete calendar of coming events check the Driftwood Community Calendar, in our office in the Upper Ganges Centre, 328 Lower Ganges Road, or on our website at www.gulfislands.net. Use the calendar for event planning and to make sure your date doesn't conflict with someone else's.

SOLSTICE SOOTHER

A classic multi use card for only \$25! Perfect Holiday gift of Health and happiness. Unlimited classes from Dec. 19 to 31. One person per card, food for Yoga, Belly dance, NIA and Pilates. Try one - try them all!. Ganges Yoga Studio, 537-2444.

YOGA PROPS & GIFT CERTIFICATES

Various items to assist in home practice, for sale now at Ganges Yoga Studio. 537-2444.
 JIN SHIN DO workshop, Feb. 11, 1 - 5pm. Instructor Bonnie Rush. \$60 (\$55 for advanced booking) incl. manual. Senior Centre, across from GVM. Info Claire 653-9898.

6 DEATHS

BRYN-JONES
 J. DAVID Hugh passed away surrounded by his family on December 14, 2005 at Lady Minto Hospital in Ganges, B.C. David was born on May 28, 1931 in Maracaibo, Venezuela to Hugh and Helena Bryn-Jones of North Wales.
 David came to Canada at the age of 8 to attend St. Michaels University School in Victoria, B.C., where he received many academic and athletic awards. He completed his first degree at U.B.C., earning a scholarship to attend Harvard Business School where he completed his M.B.A.
 Moving north to Toronto, he worked in advertising for many years before venturing on to start a chain of restaurants called "The Copper Kettle".
 David moved to B.C. in the early 1980's where he continued to apply his business acumen before retiring to Salt Spring Island. In recent years he became known on S.S.I. for creating Grandpa's Fudge. He especially enjoyed meeting people and selling his homemade fudge at the Saturday Farmers' Market.
 David is survived by his four children and five grandchildren, all of B.C.
 We would like to thank many excellent caregivers at Lady Minto and Victoria General Hospitals. In particular, nurses Karen and Ryan at Lady Minto Hospital were warm and compassionate, giving our family the information, the space, and the gentleness we needed.
 A memorial service for David will be held in January; to be announced in the Driftwood. Dad wasn't into flowers much, but he would be honoured to have you support Lady Minto Hospital or the S.P.C.A.

8 CARDS OF THANKS

On behalf of the **Salt Spring Island Junior Golf Association** special recognition is extended to all those involved in making the **5th Annual Richard Vermeulen Memorial Cup Golf Fun Day** another resounding success. The tremendous community spirit exemplified in the generous support of this important event is very much appreciated. Our sincere thanks goes out to the many individuals and organizations without whom this special day for **JUNIOR GOLF** would not have been possible.

Thank You to the Hole Sponsors:

- Seaside Restaurant
- The Vermeulen Family
- The Dumaresq Family
- Cottage Resot
- Woodley Family
- The Coast Group

Thank You also to the Individual Sponsors:

- David and Joan Dumaresq
- Bob and Judy Hager
- Barry and Beth Drummond
- Joel and Marousa Dumaresq
- Stefanie and Chris Lynch
- Mel and Lorraine Topping
- Don Nemeth
- Pete Schure
- Randy Cunningham
- Mike Hardy

And thank you to the DONORS for their generous contributions:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| The Local Bar and Bistro | Tamara Lemke |
| The Local Liquor Store | Old Salty |
| Island Star Video | Coastal Currents |
| The Moka House | Stanley Laing |
| Wearovery Where Clothing | Harlan's Chocolates |
| Thrifty Foods | Great Canadian Dollar Store |
| Pegasus Gallery | Windsor Plywood |
| Calvin's Bistro | Pharmasave |
| Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply | Admirals Seafood |
| Harbour House Hotel | Skin Sensations |
| Joanne and Ian Milford | Ganges Village Market |
| SeaChange Seafood | Steve Marleau |
| Esthetics by Penny | Joe and Judy Clark |
| Off the Waterfront Gallery | The Plant Farm |
| Golden Island Restaurant | Bill Haworth |
| Houseboat | The Staff of The 19th Hole |
| Debbie and Gord Hollingsworth | |

And especially Golf Pro Steve Marleau

This outstanding support helped add more than \$4,000.00 to the JUNIOR GOLF FUND. And finally, thanks to all of the golfers for their continued participation. Without YOU this event would not be possible. We look forward to seeing all of you again next year for the 6th Annual Richard Vermeulen Memorial Cup Golf Fun Day in support of JUNIOR GOLF.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

20 COMING EVENTS






YOGA SCHEDULE 2006
 New website, new schedule, new classes! Check it out! www.gangesyogastudio.com.

GANGES YOGA STUDIO
 Looking for classes in Belly dance, Nia, Pilates, Yoga & Meditation? Solstice Soother schedule, Dec. 19 - 31. New 2006 schedule ready to pickup at the studio!

INTRO TO PILATES

Time to finally get into shape! New pre-registered session with Diana Bell at Ganges Yoga Studio. Jan. 8 - Feb. 26, 8 wks., \$75 incl. tax. 537-2444.

10 CELEBRATIONS

Happy 60th Birthday John






9 SEASONAL GREETINGS

Celebrating the ancient Pagan rite of Winter Solstice, we wish our friends and neighbours enjoyment of longer brighter days following the 21st!
 Andy & Caroline Hickman
Seasons Greetings from Cranbrook
 To All Our Family and Friends
 Caroline & Jack Reynolds and Boys


20 COMING EVENTS

POLAR BEAR

SWIM
January 1st, 2006
Vesuvius Bay Beach
Registration: 12:30 pm
The Plunge: 1:00 pm
Theme: Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fire
Hot Chocolate & Muffins for all brave souls

VANCOUVER ISLAND health authority
 Prevention Services
The Birthing Woman Prenatal Classes
 Please join us in 2006
Tuesday, Jan. 10th
Thursday, Jan. 19th
Tuesday, Jan. 31st
5 - 7 pm
 in the Meeting Room behind Lady Minto Hospital
 Register at the Health Unit or call Chris at 538-4880 for more info
Fee: \$25
Drop-Ins Welcome

BEACON Community SERVICES
Beacon Community Services Employment Centre invites you to join us for refreshments and Christmas Cheer at our Christmas **Open House**
Wednesday, Dec. 21st
1 - 3 pm
 343 Lower Ganges Rd. Suite 206 (Provincial Government Building)
537-5979

OUR LADY OF GRACE
Roman Catholic Church
 135 Drake Road,
PARISH PRIEST:
 Father Jules Goulet O.M.I.
 Phone: 537-2150
Welcomes you to
Christmas & New Year Masses

CHRISTMAS EVE
 7 pm Family Mass with contemporary choir
CHRISTMAS DAY
 9 am Mass with traditional choir
 11 am Mass with contemporary choir
There will be no Christmas Mass at St. Paul's
NEW YEAR'S EVE
 5 pm Mass
NEW YEAR'S DAY
 8 am St. Paul's
 10 am Our Lady of Grace
Everyone Welcome!

20 COMING EVENTS

The Gatehouse

190 Reynolds Road

JANUARY CLASSES

Yoga, Meditation, Feldenkrais and Nia
653-4308 for schedule and information

The Community Gospel Chapel
Presents:

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Saturday, Dec. 24th
7 pm

Christmas Day Service
Sunday, Dec. 25th
10 am



147 Vesuvius Bay Rd.
537-2622
Everyone Welcome!



Come to the
Farm for Xmas Gifts
Nov. 25 - Dec. 24
Fri., Sat., & Sun. 11-4
Gifts for Everyone!

- Wool - socks & comforters
- Sheepskin - rugs & splippers
- Candles - beautiful & handmade
- Lamb - by the piece or box
gov't inspected

Some Collectables & Curios
Sunset Farm
1325 Sunset Dr.
537-2082

SSI United Church
111 Hereford Ave.
invites you to their

Christmas Events

SATURDAY, DEC. 24th
Christmas Eve Candlelight
Service of Lessons & Carols
7:00 PM

SUNDAY, DEC. 25th
Community Turkey Dinner
at Meaden Hall
11:30 AM

SUNDAY, JAN. 1st
Worship Service with
Rev. Al Tysick
10:00 AM

Phone 537-5812
for more info

25 EDUCATION

Come and join our dynamic learning environment!

Salt Spring Centre School
has spaces in our grade 1/2 and our grade 3/4/5 classes for January '06

- Five days a week
- Affordable tuition
- Work Exchange position available

Phone for more info.
537-9130

"We learn by doing"



RUDOLF STEINER study group,
Wednesday nights, 7:30pm.
North end. Call 653-4184.

26 LEGAL

Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that **Ausma Smith and Saint Elmo Dugal Smith of Burnaby, BC**, intend to make application to Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB), Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Coast Region office for a **License of Occupation for Residential Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown foreshore land located at **Owl Island, near Prevost Island**.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **File #1412754**. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Senior Land Officer at 501 - 345 Wallace St., Nanaimo, BC, V9R 5B6. Comments will be received by ILMB until **January 23, 2006**. ILMB may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please visit our website at www.lwbc.bc.ca under **Current Land Applications** for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor at Integrated Land Management Bureau's regional office.



26 LEGAL

NOTICE TO Creditors and Others. Re: Estate of Johanna Kreeft. Notice is hereby given that creditors and others having claims against the estate of Johanna Kreeft, deceased late of Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, are hereby required to send them duly verified to the undersigned executor Reina Maria (Renee) Kreeft at 872 Long Harbour Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2L8 on or before December 30, 2005, after which date the assets of the said estate will be distributed having regard only to claims that have been received.

1990 FORD TAURUS. 4dr sedan, vin#1FACP50U4LG146511 Chris Larry Larsen. \$12,908 owing. Sale of car, January 6, 2006 at 3301 Amies Rd. Pender Island BC.

1993 Eagle Boat trailer, vin#4EAJT3R12P2050858. Joseph Reny \$11,354 owing. Sale of trailer January 6, 2006 at 3301 Amies Rd., Pender Island, BC.

25 EDUCATION

YOUR LIFE STARTS HERE! Jump start your career with CDI College & graduate in months - not years! Business, Technology, Health Care & much more. We have locations throughout Canada & classes are starting all the time! Call today toll-free 1-800-561-1317

A NEW CAREER? Train to be an Apartment/Condominium Manager. Many jobs! Job placement assistance. All areas. Government registered program. Information/brochure: 604-681-5456 / 1-800-665-8339. www.RMTI.ca

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS are in demand. Start your online career training today! At-home and on-site job placement assistance for all graduates. Call now! 1-800-466-1535 or www.canscribe.com.

29 LOST AND FOUND

FOUND EARRING, outside Apple Photo. Silver spiral design. Owner may claim at the Driftwood.

MISSING - "PETER" the cat. Long grey hair, very timid, small nick in ear. Lost around Slegg Lumber. 537-0655.

FOUND: CANE, fell off roof of car on Fulford-Ganges Rd. in front of Calvin's. Owner may claim at the Driftwood office.

34 NOTICES

Salt Spring Island Public Library Association

Notice of General Meeting of Members

A General Meeting of members of the Salt Spring Island Public Library Association will be held

January 12, 2006
beginning at **4 pm at the Mary Hawkins Memorial Library**
129 McPhillips Ave., Salt Spring Island, BC

Business to be conducted:
Appointment of Auditor for Fiscal Year 2005

40 PERSONAL

LIFEMATES the relationship people. Single? Meet your mate, guaranteed! Call Canada's largest and leading relationship company today at 1-888-54MATES (62837) or visit us at www.lifematescanada.com.

CRIMINAL RECORD? Canadian pardon seals record. U.S. waiver permits legal American entry. Why risk employment, licensing, travel, arrest, deportation, property confiscation? Canadian - U.S. Immigration specialists. 1-800-347-2540.

Employment

50 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INVESTORS WANTED - golf course - 18 hole 6420 yards. - beautiful mtn/iceocean views - 35 minutes from Victoria, B.C. Multiple residential/hotel etc. on 5 acres in centre of golf course. Ready to start construction. Minimum investment 1 million. Reply to Box 8 c/o The Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3.

OWN YOUR OWN STORE - Country Depot, TrueValue Hardware, V&S department stores - new & existing locations. No franchise fee - earn dividends. Call TruServ Canada today - 1-800-665-5085 www.truserv.ca.

WORK AT HOME ONLINE. 36 people needed immediately. Earn a part- or full-time income. Apply free online and get started! <http://www.wfhhc.com>.

GREAT CANADIAN DOLLAR STORE franchise opportunities. More than 130 stores across Canada; one of the most thrilling and affordable franchises to own. 1-877-388-0123; www.dollarstores.com.

55 HELP WANTED

PERMANENT PART-TIME position in south end craft studio. Will train. Computer skills and visual acuity a must. Send resume to The Old Island Stamp Company, 109 Meyer Road, SSI, V8K 1X4.

CHILDCARE NEEDED: south-end, full time, long term, starts Jan 1. Brandi 653-4612.

SALT SPRING Coffee Co. seeks full time production assistants for our roasting facility on Alders Road. Mature applicants welcome. Great wage and benefits. Please send resume and cover letter to ainsley@saltspringcoffee.com.

SALT SPRING Coffee Co. seeks experienced full time bookkeeper available early January, great wage and benefits. Please send resume and cover letter to greg@saltspringcoffee.com.

BOOKKEEPER/RECEPTIONIST for environmentally focused company. Experience required with Simply Accounting. Send resumé to Box 9 c/o Driftwood Publishing, 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2V3.

EXPERIENCED CAREGIVER required for young woman with disabilities. Experience, driver's license necessary. Phone 653-9280 for more info.

A JOB AT HOME on your computer. Up to \$493.51 weekly; Code e8 www.MyHomePCJob.com.

55 HELP WANTED

CHEAPER THAN SCROOGE - Telephone Reconnect! First month of phone service only \$24.95 + connection fee! Everyone approved! Phone Factory Reconnect - Where talk is cheap. 1-877-336-2274; www.phonefactory.ca.

NABORS - The Employer of Choice! Nabors is looking for Journeyman or 4th year apprentice Heavy Duty Mechanics in various locations throughout Alberta. The successful candidates will be responsible for a combination of shop and field based activities, including all maintenance activities. The Candidates must be able to work a flexible schedule, and knowledge of service rigs would be an asset. Nabors Canada offers a competitive compensation package including industry leading benefits and pension plan. Submit your resume to the Attention of Laura Starchuk by email: laura.starchuk@nabors.com or fax 403-343-6131.

WANTED: HEAVY DUTY Mechanic for Fort Nelson trucking company. Must have valid driver's license and able to work independently. Have modern shop and service truck. Fax resume to 250-774-6248 or email garycornish@northwestel.net.

BE 1ST IN B.C.! Established Canadian adult toy home party company expanding. Consultants sell fun, sexy educational products / lingerie. (Sm - 5X) Experience / car an asset. info@BonniesBedroom.ca.

60 WORK WANTED

J/M CARPENTER/CONTRACTOR available for work. Additions, renovations, sun decks, new construction, etc. Quality and integrity. References. 537-2820.

WELDER FABRICATOR/ maintenance person looking for full time work. Moving to be closer to my daughter. 604-722-0775.

CALLING ALL writers and two-finger typists requiring: type setting, word processing, copy editing, layout, or help with self-publishing. Let's discuss your project. Lorraine Lowry 653-4126, e-mail llowry@uniserve.com.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS Salt Spring! Carpentry, plumbing, emergencies, electrical, drywall, etc. One call does it all! Matthias 537-2925.

TWO EAGER VERY HARD-WORKING HANDYMEN

- Clean up, Recycling & Hauling your junk to the dump
 - Chainsaw Work/Firewood
 - Alder & Brush Clearing
 - Gardening & Maintenance (mowing and trimming)
 - Fencing • Welding
 - Carpentry
 - Painting & General Labour.
- COURTESY ESTIMATES. REASONABLE RATES 653-9101**

Beacon Community Services

Looking to Hire?

- In your Business
- At Home
- Seasonal work

We can post your job openings for free. Inquire about our Wage Subsidy Program for prospective employees.

Employment Centre
Beacon Community Service
343 Lower Ganges Rd.
Suite 206
537-5979
Open: Monday-Friday
10am - 3:30pm

116 CLEANING

Colin's Window Cleaning

- Interior • Exterior
- Business • Residential

537-1856

116 CLEANING

CLEANING ARTIST available. Friendly, efficient, experienced. Excellent. ref. One time or more. Also guest house management & house sitting. 653-4084.

110 CATERING

Shima Sushi Catering

Have an authentic sushi chef serve sushi in your home!

We make natural sushi:

- no farmed fish
- no MSG
- no preservatives

Organic sushi is available.

We offer courses on preparing sushi.

Please call to make arrangements.
Shima Sushi Catering (250) 653-0071

117 COMMUNITY SERVICES

ALANON/ALATEEN A program for family and friends of alcoholics. For further information call 537-2941, 653-4288 or 537-4909.

FAMILIES OF Schizophrenics meet in homes for mutual support. Call 537-2543.


CRISIS LINE for Salt Spring - toll-free 1-877-435-7544.

DRESSINGS FREE to cancer patients by the Order of the Eastern Star. Contact Ida McManus, 537-5423.

SALT SPRING Mood Disorder Association meets every 2 weeks on Tuesdays for family & patient support and education. Please call Pam 537-2186 for details.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS - 537-5664.

IS YOUR life affected by someone's drinking? Call Al-Anon at 383-4020.



The aims and objectives of the **LADY MINTO HOSPITAL FOUNDATION** are to raise funds which will be used to expand and enhance the delivery of medical care by the Hospital to Gulf Islands residents. You can help the Foundation attain these goals by a gift of funds, real or personal property, memorial bequests, endowments, life insurance or securities. All donations will be recognized in the Hospital and receipts for Income Tax purposes will be issued.

Please help YOUR Hospital so it can help YOU.
135 Crofton Rd.
Salt Spring Island,
V8K 1T1
538-4845
www.ladymintohospitalfoundation.org

Alcoholics Anonymous Services Meetings

Salt Spring 537-7573

Galiano 539-2222

Pender 629-3631

Women's only - Thursday nights 5:30 p.m. - 537-7573

156 RENTALS

PARTY TIME RENTALS

From **TENTS to UTENSILS**
•NO GST •LOWEST PRICES
•BEST SERVICE
Pick ups at *Love My Kitchen*
Susan or Joy 537-4577
537-0909 cell
partytimerentals@telus.net

173 TRAVEL

ALL INCLUSIVE HOLIDAYS... Cheapest airfares and package prices in Canada. Discounted cruises, hotels, cars. Book online now and save. www.canadatravels.com or call toll-free 1-800-563-5722.

Merchandise

300 ANTIQUES

ARTS & CRAFTS furniture: solid oak settee/sofa, desk, & bookshelf. Original, exc. cond. Approx 100 years old. Looks like Stickily. 537-1466.

302 APPLIANCES

KENMORE, ALMOND fridge & stove, \$150 each. Kenmore dishwasher \$100. All in good working order. 537-5024.

APPLIANCES
Kitchenaid, Whirlpool, Frigidaire, Maytag & more!
LARGEST SELECTION ON SALT SPRING ISLAND
537-2111

310 BUILDING SUPPLIES

ALMETCO 6' PATIO sliders w/ wood screen \$200/ea. and Starline 6' patio sliders, no screen, \$125/ea. 60 available. 538-5562.

CEDAR LUMBER for sale. All sizes. Custom cutting available. 538-8733.

SEE US FOR A FAST QUOTE ON ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS!

- Flooring
- Heating
- Eaves
- Plumbing
- Roofing

For all your building requirements, large or small!

SLEGG LUMBER LTD.
804 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
537-4978

322 COMPUTERS

COMPUTER PROBLEMS? Set-ups, Installing Software, Tutoring, Internet. Troubleshooting. Yes, we make house calls days/evenings/wkends. \$30/hr. Over 20 years exp. Phone Robert. 537-2888. Arvana Consulting.

CALL BOB McIvor for hardware, software and networking support. We do housecalls. 537-2827 or (cell) 701-8022. Please go and back-up your important data now!

330 FOOD PRODUCTS

Christmas Free Range Chickens

from **Schwartzentruber Farm**
Call Doug 653-9529 *

CALDWELL'S OAKSPRING FARM
Since 1882
Currently available:
• FREE RANGE GRAIN-FED PORK
• FRESH CUT LUMBER
537-5380 or 537-2152

331 FARM GATE

HORSE MANURE. You pick up. Fill your truck for \$20 obo. Donation to Pony Fund. Kim 537-8916.

333 FIREWOOD

SOUTHEND FIREWOOD seasoned, split \$100/ cord. You pick up. 653-9394.

335 FURNITURE

KIDS BEDS - high quality. Brand new, Canadian made, hardwood (Lodgepole pine), loft bed and toddler log bed. Had for only 3 months, paid over \$650. Must sell, \$425 obo for both or \$325 for loft, \$125 toddler log. 537-9967.

SOLID MAPLE drop leaf table, 42" round with 2 matching chairs. Exc. cond. \$150 537-1466.

340 GARAGE SALES

LIONS GARAGE Sale: Fridays & Saturdays only 10 am - 12 pm. Many household items. Note: We no longer offer pickups. We do not accept appliances. Drop-offs accepted only on Fri. & Sat. morning. Please, no garbage! 103 Bonnet Ave.

343 HEALTH SUPPLIES

SHOPRITE SCOOTER (electric), older model. "Blondie's" cute as a button, works good. New battery baskets. Care/parts booklets. \$800 firm. 537-1649 aft.-eves., lv. message.

350 MISC. FOR SALE

ANTIQUUE CLEARANCE Sale. SSI Antiques is reducing stock to relocate. At least half of stock must be sold. Great deals on fine furniture. Saturday, 10am - 3pm or by appointment. Merchants Mews, Unit 21 - 315 Upper Ganges Rd. 537-7861.

REFLECTIVE DRIVEWAY signs, big 4 inch letters, better than the rest. Multi-coloured vinyl graphics at competitive prices. Call 537-1833.

2006 DIARIES - time to re-order. If you wait for Christmas they won't be available! Call Dawn at ext cetera 537-5115.

EXPERT CLOCK repair and restoration - antiques my specialty. Free estimates, reasonable rates. Free house calls for shut-ins and heavy clocks. Mark's Clockworks, 537-5061.

EXPERT WATCH repairs by certified watchmaker. Located between Crofton and Duncan. Serving the Cowichan Valley over 25 years. Call L.D. Frank - Jeweller and Watchmaker, 250-748-6058 (Duncan).

STORAGE TANKS: water, septic, sewage-holding (polyethylene). Ecological Systems: sewage-treatment plants, effluent filters. Visa, Mastercard, American Express accepted. GIS Sales & Rentals, call 653-4013.

PLAN NOW for summer water shortages. Roof-top collection, above ground and in-ground storage tanks, bulk water. Isles West Water. 653-4513.

MICROWAVE, great shape \$50. Cast iron bathtub, square cornered, in good condition \$150. 537-4155.

ITALY ETERNO dress shirts. New in boxes, sz. 15 in. neck. \$40 for 1 shirt, silk tie & tie clip. Lots of colours. Only a few left. Perfect Xmas gift. 537-1469.

FAMILY JEWELS is open every day until Christmas. Canadian Diamonds, Seiko watches, Derek Alexander fine leather purses & wallets. 10 - 5, 161 Fulford-Ganges Road. 538-5560. P.S. wrapping it up is always free.

THE PERFECT GIFT!

A Shower of Blossoms. Haiku & images of Salt Spring. Edition of 200 signed books. At Volum II, Windflower Moon & Solace (Fulford) or call Elehna de Sousa 653-0001.

BONSAI

Large selection at Peninsula Flowers Nursery, 8512 West Saanich Rd., Sidney BC. 250-652-9602 or bonsaibc.ca

45" LECLERC FLOOR loom. In excellent shape. \$400. Phone 250-337-5510.

POOL TABLE. Brunswick Balke Collender. 1917 - 20, 4.5 ft x 9ft. Slate table and accessories. \$7000/ 604-722-6435.

HEAVY CANVAS punching bag, louvered mahogany bi-fold, small kitchen table, double sofa bed, wheels microwave cart, wooden storage shelving unit. 538-1601.

HITACHI VHS. Pentax SFXn camera and various accessories. Sanyo 8 mm camcorder. Relosys Dimera digital camera. Yamaha keyboard. 653-9549.

BERNINA SEWING machine with stand & all accessories including walking foot. Serviced by Sawyers, \$350. 537-4093.

MANUKA HEALING Honey from New Zealand, UMF 20+, \$25.95, UMF 10+, \$20.95, 250 grams. 653-4127.

CAMERAS (older & newer, no plastic ones), interesting photographic accessories and old photographs wanted to buy. Call 653-4639.

HOT TUB for sale. Four person, free standing, good condition. Rebuilt pump, new heater, \$1300. 537-5147.

LARGE QUANTITY of new & used artist oil paints, linseed oil & mineral spirits. Stevenson, Grambacher & Winsor and Newton. Call Moana, 538-0953.

USED WALK-FIT 4000 tread mill, \$125. New, Body Rider, BR1800A elliptical exerciser, \$75. New top quality American National waveless waterbed mattress & liner, cost \$580 US asking \$400 Can. GE Potscrubber portable dishwasher \$50. 537-5046.

CEDAR GARDEN benches. Traditional style, 6 feet long. As seen at high school. Last 2, \$500 each. Braden 537-4923. Great Christmas gift.

350 MISC. FOR SALE

INVENTORY SALE - Glass shelving, mirrors, float glass, sealed window units, vinyl and aluminum windows. New and used, assorted sizes - Fantastic prices. Gulf Island Glass, #3 - 327 Rainbow Road, 8 am - 4:30 pm Mon.-Fri.

BOOKCASES, WALL-UNITS, TV stands, ent. centres. Lots small & big! Curio & china cabinets, jewelry armoires, desks, coffee & sofa tables. Good selection. Cheap! Loveseats & wing-back chairs from \$79. Like new sofa/loveseats from \$479. Solid wood 5 pc. dinette \$199. Oak solid wood full-size 9 pc. dining suite \$2388. Hat/coat racks \$15. Cherry/marble fern/plant stand \$49. 39" Simmons Beauty Rest pillow-top box, mattress set \$299, 2/\$499. 39"X80" Serta Perfect Sleeper pillow-top box, mattress set \$399, 2/\$699. Asst. queen box, mattress sets from \$149. King size pillow-top mattress set w/10 yrs. warranty \$669. Headboards from \$29. Deluxe daybed \$199. As new sofa/bed \$399. All leather sofa, loveseat, chair & ottoman \$1999. Leather recliners from \$369. Blk. s/steel bar fridge \$169. 4-pack lamps \$99. Housewares, bar stools, tools, etc. Cheap. Buy & Save, 9818 4th St., Sidney. buyandsave.ca.

TREADMILL - OLDER but like new, \$100. 537-5024.

HANDKNIT SWEATERS for sale (gently used). Also yarn, wool bats, cotton fabric, collectible kitchen and serving items (Medalta, wood, china, crystal). 537-9733.

ELECTRIC FIREPLACE \$100. 537-4394.

TRANSFER HOME-MOVIES to DVD. Super 8, 8mm, 16mm, film & D8, HI-8, 8mm & mini-DV tapes. Call for estimate. Check our website: www.saltsspring-sound.com. 537-0065.

CLASSIFIED ADS WORK - you're reading them now! Place a 25-word classified in 105 BC & Yukon newspapers for only \$360. Call this newspaper for details, or phone 1-866-669-9222. www.communityclassifieds.ca

BRAND NEW PC! Everyone's approved! Get a fully loaded MDG computer with an Intel P4 3Ghz from 99 cents/day. Includes everything you need: 512MB RAM, 17" LCD flat panel, Windows XP. Plus free 3.1 MP digital camera and free* printer/scanner/copier for first 500 callers (*call for conditions) 1-800-236-2504.

AT LAST! An iron filter that works. IronEater! Fully patented Canada/U.S.A. Removes iron, hardness, sulfur, smell, manganese from well water. Since 1957. Phone 1-800-BIG IRON; www.bigirondrilling.com.

PHONE DISCONNECTED? Connect for just \$59.95 and your first 30 days are free. Transfer from your current reseller for free! Call Tele-Reconnect 1-866-392-5066 www.telereconnect.com.

NEED A COMPUTER? Don't have cash? 100% financed! Poor credit accepted! Fast delivery! Money back guarantee! Free digital Camcorder! (100 available). Call now toll-free 1-866-841-7669. www.canadiancomputerfinancing.com.

BUILDINGS DIRECT - 25 YEARS. 20x26 now \$3600. 25x30 \$4900. 30x40 \$7900. 40x60 \$12,990. Extensive range of sizes and models. Ends/accessories optional. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422.

SALT SPRING MINI STORAGE

347 Upper Ganges Road "When convenience and security matter" 537-5888

351 MISC. WANTED

FIBERGLASS OR aluminum dinghy. Reasonable. 537-2887.

370 PETS/LIVESTOCK

CLASSICAL DRESSAGE Lessons. Your horse only. \$35/hour. Ann Watson, 653-4184.

WANTED: A nice home for a beautiful, healthy, mature cat. Her present owner has developed an allergy and they must reluctantly part company. Phone 537-5779.

FARRIER SERVICES Barefoot Hoof Care. KAREN ELY 537-7111

379 FREE/RECYCLABLES

THIS COLUMN is designed for free recyclable items only (no animals). There is no charge to place items in this column. Ads can be submitted in person at the Driftwood office (328 Lower Ganges Road) by normal deadline (Monday 4 pm.) or by phone 537-9933, fax 537-2613 or email driftwood@gulfislands.net.

SALT SPRING Island Recycle Depot is located at 349 Rainbow Rd. We are open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm. This service is operated by Salt Spring Island Community Services. Please call The Recycle Depot at 537-1200, or Community Services at 537-9971 for information on materials accepted for recycling.

OAK DESK, 65" long, 36" wide, 30" high. 3 drawers. 537-4655.

FREE TO a good home: 1972 Volvo 145S (wagon). Freshly rebuilt engine, needs minor work. Little rust. Very cool project. 537-4734.

CONSOLE RECORD player. 537-4394.

CORNER CABINET with lazy susan. Kitchen cabinet with double sink. 537-8991.

SIGHTFIRST A LIONS PROJECT RECYCLE YOUR OLD GLASSES Your old prescription lenses can be a gift of sight. Boxes located at: Pharmasave, Bank of Montreal, Bank of Commerce, Island Savings Credit Union, Gulf Islands Optical

390 WEBSITES

SALT SPRING Music is on the Internet at www.saltsspringmusic.com. Hear song samples before you buy. Pay by cheque or credit card. More than 40 CDs available.

Real Estate

410 REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONVENIENCE STORE. Gas, diesel, propane. Located on busy Highway between U.S. border, Lethbridge, Alberta. Newly renovated. Will look at trades. Motivated seller. Bernie Realty, 403-647-3656.

490 WEBSITES

REAL ESTATE listings for the Gulf Islands are viewable anywhere in the world with Internet access. www.gulfislands.net.

Rentals

500 APT/SUITES FOR RENT

NEW HOME. Basement suite for rent. 2 bedroom, close to town, NS, available now. Call 537-1748.

2 BDRM OCEAN View Suite near Walker's Hook, Ocean View deck with awning, shared w/d, fireplace. \$1200/mo. inc cable/hydro. No Pets. Long term. Available Jan. 1. Please call David at 604-688-7690 or email david@i-toolkit.com.

SMALL APARTMENT. Suite quiet person with rental references, \$275 inclusive. 537-2476.

SUBLET 700 SQ. FT. loft apartment, \$700, utilities included. Cats OK. Great for small family/single parent. 537-4996.

BACHELOR'S SUITE, NS, NP, close walk to town. \$500, utilities included. Available January 1. 537-8747.

AVAILABLE JAN 1 - close to town. Sunny, brand new two bedroom basement suite. Full kitchen, bathroom, laundry \$1000 per month, includes hydro & water. NS. Long term preferred. Phone 537-1748 or 537-1603.

LIKE NEW - turnkey, fully furnished bachelor suite with private entrance & new appliances. \$650 includes utilities & cable TV. Suitable for 1 person. Avail. now to April. NS, NP. 538-0999.

500 APT/SUITES FOR RENT

FABULOUS NEW SUITE! BRAND NEW, fabulous 1 bedroom, oceanview suite, central location, only 3 min. to Ganges, NS, NP, \$750 + hydro. Available immediately. Call 537-5388.

510 COMMERCIAL SPACE

OFFICE SPACE available. One 4 room suite and one 2 room suite suitable for professional, studio or retail/workshop use. Home Design Centre, 320 Upper Ganges Road. Inquiries 537-5340.

LANCER BUILDING Office Space Available 250-537-6468

520 HOUSES FOR RENT

ST. MARY LAKE, 2 bdrm cottages, fully furnished, NS, N/P, avail. Oct. 1 - Apr. 1, from \$600 per mon. plus util. Phone 537-2585.

HOUSE, 3 BDRM., south end, \$900 plus util., long term. Reply to Box 5 c/o The Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3.

ST. MARY Lake, 1 bedroom, long term, NS, no dogs, suits 1-2 mature & quiet adults, references, \$750 + utilities, Jan 1. 537-5681.

3 BDRMOCEANViewSuite near Walker's Hook, Walk out patio with ocean view, shared w/d, fireplace. \$1200/month incl. cable/Hydro. Pets ok. Long term. Available Jan 1. Please call David at 604-688-7690 or email david@i-toolkit.com.

1 BDRM CABIN. Private, like new, WD. Beaver Point area \$700 plus util. Available Jan 1. 653-4557.

3 BEDROOM DUPLEX mid-island. Hardwood floors, fresh paint, woodstove. Avail. Jan.1, long term. References, N/S, N/P \$900/month 537-4319.

1 BEDROOM LOFT chalet-style home on shared property. Close to beach, \$650 + utilities. Available January 1, 2006. 537-2476.

CHARMING, 600 SQ. FT. cottage, wrap-around deck, french doors, skylights, W/D, wood/elec., with separate studio. Avail. immed. or Jan. 1, \$850, long term, N/S, N/P. References. 537-2294.

1 BEDROOM CABIN in Ganges, W/D, nonsmoker please. Available January 1, \$800/month. 537-2728.

520 HOUSES FOR RENT

3 BEDROOM DUPLEX, Jan. 1, \$825, Maliview. Kids & pets welcome. 537-2650 before 9pm.

PENDER ISLAND - Beautiful ocean & valley view home. Cute & cozy. 1 yr. old. Hardwood floors, huge loft, 2000 ft. wraparound deck, many windows & skylights, 1/2 acre lot in Magic Lake, long term tenant pref. with refs. \$850/mo. 604-277-6694.

SOUTH END, 1 person cabin for rent. NS, NP \$500/mo. 653-4244.

JAN. TO MAR., 3 bdrm house. Furnished, ocean view, walk to ferries & shops in Fulford Village. ADLS. \$1400/mo. (1 - 3 months avail.), NS, NP. 653-4810.

SMALL HOUSE, excellent condition, end of Byron Rd. 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bthrm, W & D. Mt. Baker view from deck. NS, \$950/mo. Available Jan. 1. Call Val 537-9531.

FULFORD VILLAGE, rustic & secluded cabin in the woods, woodstove, wood incl., claw-foot tub, has hydro, \$995, NS, cats ok, 604-255-5230. Avail. immed.

NEAR FERNWOOD dock. Charming new 1 bdrm cottage. Furnished. Available Dec. 1 - Mar. 31. NP, NS, \$700 includes telephone. 537-1373, 7am - 8pm.

Island Explorer

Property Management Ltd. & Real Estate Services 537-4722 1-800-800-9492



2 BDRM COTTAGE southend waterfront, avail. immed., long term \$950/mth

2 BDRM OCEANVIEW avail. immed. \$950/mth

3 BDRM FURNISHED avail. immed. \$1650/mth

LARGE FURNISHED OCEANVIEW HOME avail. immed. for 6 months \$1650/mth

4 BDRM OCEANVIEW avail. immed., long term \$1700/mth

Island Explorer is a fully licensed, bonded management company under the laws of the B.C. Govt.

ROYAL Property Management Ltd.

69053 Mid Island

2 bdrm Home 1.5 bthrm appl shared dwelling NS NP \$1150.00

72934 South End 3 bdrm furnished school year lease harbour view 5 appl NS NP \$2175.00 + util

68910 Mid Island 2.5 bdrm 2.5 bath exec twm hse 5 appl NS NP school year lease harbour view \$2100.00 + util

76964U Mid Island upp. level has 2 bdrms, fireplace, balcony, shared laundry sm. pets OK. NS \$1000.00 + util

76960L Mid Island lwr level 1 bed suite w/fireplace, sliding doors patio, shared laundry sm pets OK. NS \$750.00 + util

77429 Mid Island updated 60 x 10 mobile home 2 bdrm 2 appl long term lease onsite workshop not included NS NS \$900.00 + util

77432 Mid Island 2 bdrm twm hse ocean view Bayside furn. avail. 1 Jan 06 5 appl. NS NP \$2500.00 + util

78772 Mid Island modern design home single level occupied inlaw suite 2 bdrm + office 5 appl. NS NP \$1700.00 + util

68183 Mid Island 2 bdrm twnhse furn 5 appl. Summerside \$885.00 + util

pool/exercise facil. NS NP \$2250.00 + util

68182 Mid Island 2 bdrm twnhse furn 5 appl. Summerside pool/exercise facil. NS NP \$2500.00 + util

72935 Mid Island 2 bdrm twnhse unfurn 5 appl. Summerside pool/exercise facil. NS NP \$1675.00 + util

78953 Mid Island 2 bdrm exec Home w/inlaw suite ocean view 5 appl fenced yard unfurn NS NP avail. Jan. 1 \$1900.00 + util

68182 Mid Island 2 bdrm twnhse furn 5 appl Summerside pool/exercise facil NS NP \$2200.00 + util

79462 Mid Island 1 bdrm + sun room modern home unfurn 5 appl view Sansum Narrows NS NP \$1900.00 + util

79465 Mid Island 2 bdrm twnhse unfurn 5 appl Summerside pool/exercise facil NS NP \$1675.00 + util

79464 Mid Island 60 x 12 mobile home 2 bdrm 5 appl unfurn NS NP \$885.00 + util

69391 Mid Island manufactured home 60 x 20 unfurn 4 appl woodstove NS NP \$885.00 + util

See these Homes at www.royalproperty.ca

537-5577

Home Sweet Home SERVICES FOR HOME & GARDEN

204 ARCHITECTS

250-653-4931 www.yardleyarchitect.com

Jonathan Yardley Architect

Neil Morie architect #4 Fulford Marina Bldg ph. 653-4812 fax 653-4813 creative design responsive to site craft and client

222 CONTRACTORS

Quality Homes of Distinction Villadsen Construction (1980) Ltd. Building Island Homes for three generations. Kent John 537-5463 537-9857 Fax 537-5407

213 CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

GULF ISLANDS Carpet & Upholstery Care

- Eco Friendly Products Residential & Commercial Wall to Wall, Spot & Area Rug Cleaning Upholstery Cleaning Cars/Trucks/Rv's/Boats Flea & Odor Control Industrial Dryers

Lorne Bascom Spring Cleaning! 537-4944

220 CONCRETE

GULF COAST MATERIALS Serving the Gulf Islands Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne, Penders

- READY MIX WASHED GRAVEL REINFORCED STEEL BAGGED CEMENT SEPTIC TANKS SCAFFOLDING RENTAL

537-2611 Rainbow Road

291 UPHOLSTERY

Blue Velvet Upholstering Merchant Mews 6-315 Upper Ganges Rd. 537-4369

Sudoku! Answers

9 1 4 8 5 7 2 3 6
6 3 5 4 2 1 9 7 8
8 7 2 6 9 3 4 5 1
4 9 1 2 3 5 8 6 7
2 5 8 7 4 6 3 1 9
3 6 7 1 8 9 5 4 2
1 2 9 5 7 4 6 8 3
5 8 6 3 1 2 7 9 4
7 4 3 9 6 8 1 2 5

530 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

ROOM FOR rent: \$330, incl. hydro in large heritage house, share with other low key tenants. 10 minute walk from Ganges. Michel, 538-0205.

535 SITUATIONS WANTED

HOUSE SIT or short term accommodation. Mature, competent Bowen Island artist considering purchasing a home on Salt Spring seeking a 1 to 3 month stay at minimum cost or as an exchange. Good with animals. Samantha 604-947-2254.

540 WANTED/RENTALS

LOOKING FOR property to put my 1992 mobile home. I am a long time S.S. resident working in home care support for our elderly. I can pay \$275/mo. as pad rent and I've been at my current Vesuvius location for 6 years. If you can help please call 537-8764.

690 WEBSITES

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION for the Gulf Islands is a mouse-click away. www.gulfislands.net.

Transportation

805 AUTOMOTIVE, REPAIRS

AIR MILES
are here!

PAYLESS
We Value the Island™

COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS

Unleaded Fuels • Diesel Tires • Batteries • Accessories

537-4554 or 537-9300

Monday-Saturday 8 am-7 pm
Sunday 9 am-6 pm

Corner of Rainbow Rd. and Jackson Ave.

825 CARS, SALES

1983 VOLVO STATIONWAGON. Solid car, 129,000 original miles, automatic, new transmission, tires & timing belt. \$2000. 653-4190.

1987 CHEVY VAN. Runs like a dream. A little rusty. \$500. 537-4208, 653-4201.

HYUNDAI PONY 1986 only 71,000 K, great shape, rust proofed. \$1,100. 537-1152.

BAD CREDIT? NO CREDIT? Bankruptcy? No problem. You work - you drive. Apply online www.dreamcatcher-loans.com or call toll-free 1-800-648-8418.

NEED A CAR or truck? Good credit, bad credit. Want a Visa? #1 success rate. Delivery in BC. www.drivehome-now.com or 888-501-1148.

845 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, SALES

23 FT. MOTORHOME, 1979, sleeps 6, propane furnace, 3-way fridge, full size bathroom, stove, oven, double sink. Suitable for live-in. Open to offers. 537-1563.

OVER 200 NEW & used motorhomes, diesel pushers, 5th wheels, trailers, vans, campers. Total RV Centre. Special RV financing. Since 1984. Voyager RV - Hwy 97, Winfield, BC. 1-800-668-1447. www.voyagerRV.ca

850 TIRES

WINTER TIRES. 2 steel belt radials, M&S, P225/70 R15. Mounted on rims. Fitted chains. Like new. 537-2274.

855 TRUCKS/4X4S

F150 1994 1/2 TON V8 Super Cab. Good condition. New Brakes & Battery, 2 wheel drive. Reduced to \$5000 OBO. Wendy or John 537-5856.

1992 DODGE DAKOTA 4X4. Extended cab with canopy, fully loaded. Excellent condition \$6000 firm. 537-7440.

2000 NISSAN PATHFINDER, 153K, loaded incl. leather, sunroof, 4X4, 5 sp., tan with tan interior, exc. condition, \$19,500 obo. 537-4726.

1987 DODGE RAM 50 173,000 km. Canopy; box liner. Body & interior in great condition. Recent Michelins. 2.6L, 4-cylinder gas engine gives good economy and power. RWD, runs great, drives great, looks great. \$3000. Phone 537-9265.

856 BUSES, VANS

1994 MAZDA MPV seven passenger van, very well maintained, recent transmission. \$3950. Phone 537-4536.

900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

GOTTA SELL your car, truck, boat, RV, trailer or motorcycle? Advertise it in the Driftwood for 8 weeks at only \$32.95. (private party ads, 20 words, 1 vehicle per special, must be prepaid.) Call 537-9933 for details.

VEGGIETALES. PERSONALIZED, interactive learning CDs, Silly Songs CDs and adventure books. 877-977-8222.

CHRISTMAS DINNER special, tables, chairs and place settings for 12 only \$50, "no dishes to wash." We also deliver. Book early at The Rental Stop 538-0388.

CHRISTMAS PARTY special, tables, chairs and place settings for 24 only \$85, "it's sooo easy." We also deliver. Call for details at The Rental Stop 538-0388.

PLEASE NOTE: Too Late to Classify ads are accepted until 12:00 pm Tuesday at the rate of \$11.75 for 20 words or less and 45 cents for each additional word. The Driftwood cannot be responsible for errors or omissions as these ads may not be proof read because of time constraint.

BOOKS FOR Christmas! Wonderful selection, second hand prices. Watch for Boxing Day specials. Sabine's Bookshop. Grace Point, 538-0025

NEW TO Salt Spring? Call Welcome Wagon for a Community Visit. Gifts & greetings from local businesses. Andrea 537-8464.

WANTED: STEREOs, radios, amps, speakers, etc. Old or new. 653-4458.

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS! Sugar plums & spice facial, reg. \$80, now \$68. Hot stone massage, 1-1/2 hr., reg. \$135, now \$100. Beauty secret, reg. \$275, now \$200. Gentleman's relaxation package, reg. \$192, now \$155. Gift certificates available. Skin Sensations Day Spa, behind the palm tree, Grace Pt. Sq. 537-8807.

NORTON ESTATES. Homes in the \$225 - \$250,000 range for those living/working on SSI. Contact Trish @ 537-1033 or email: info@ssaahc.com

GULF ISLANDS Optical. 50% refund on the cost of your eye test when you purchase a full set of frames and lenses. Lancer Bldg. 537-2648.

HELP SUPPORT Cusheon Creek Restoration Program. Shop at the "Blackburn Mall". The Salt Spring Transfer Station donates proceeds to Salmon Enhancement.

ACCELERATED DIAL-UP makes web surfing and e-mail downloads up to 5 times faster! Packages from \$14.95 mo. Web Hosting \$9.95, ADSL \$32.95. Local, dependable internet. Call Barb at 538-0052 or visit www.saltspringinternet.com

FREE DINNER at the Treehouse South on the day of your birthday when you eat with 2 other adults.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT is pasta night at the Treehouse South. Buy 1 pasta get 2nd pasta for \$3. Mix and match 7 pastas and 12 delicious sauces.

TREEHOUSE BRUNCH worth the drive to Fulford. Bennies breakfast burritos, omelets and much more served every Sat. and Sun. from 8am to 3pm.

GULF ISLANDS Optical - 2 for 1 Fall Sale runs until Dec 31. 537-2648.

BODYWORK WITH Heart. Open to receive compassionate, healing touch through Reiki, Reflexology or massage with Julie Howard. 537-9433. Winter specials, package discounts & gift certificates.

900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

HEY GUYS! We've got all your Christmas shopping done for you! And...we are open every day until Christmas so you can come and pick it up. Cathy Ward and Samantha Bourdin. Family Jewels 161 Fulford-Ganges Road. 538-5560 P.S. Wrapping it up is always free.

WANTED: 2 STOVES. Used and reasonably priced. CSA, airtight efficient woodstove. Plus Pallet stove. Both in good condition please. 537-9612.

CREATIVE CRAB. Create the space you've been dreaming of. Let me help you, clean up that clutter, rearrange your furniture. Organize, simplify and beautify your space, room or home. Call Julie Howard 537-9433. Holiday gifts available.

GREAT CAR! 1982 BMW 320i, black, very little rust. Reliable, comfortable and beautiful island car. Must sell, we have too many vehicles! Reduced for January sale \$1000. Call to view 653-0046.

SAM ANDERSON Appliance Repair closed December 22 - 29. Happy Holidays.

WANTED: REMOTE phone/answering machine; duvet or heavy quilt; interior/exterior doors with windows (French or single); shower stall (glass/metal/fiberglass). Thanks. 537-1677.

SEASONS SPECIALS & free spot remover. Carpet & upholstery cleaning. Plenty of time left before Xmas. Possible same day service. Reynolds Carpet & Upholstery and Flood Restoration, 537-4208, page 537-8168.

NEW WORK by Thomas R. McPhee - Kiln cast glass sculptures and jewelry at Thunderbird Gallery, 3105 Grace Point Square.

THE SPCA Supervisor will be on vacation from Dec. 15 to Jan. 3. Cat adoptions will still be possible, but volunteers will be running the shelter with limited services. Messages will be checked. Please call for further info. 537-2123.

RE-DESIGN INTERIORS. Gift Certificates available towards professional interior design services. Esther Evaniuk Brown (1-877) 537-9887.

LOOKING FOR property to put my 1992 mobile home. I am a long time S.S. resident working in home care support for our elderly. I can pay \$275/mo. as pad rent and I've been at my current Vesuvius location for 6 years. If you can help please call 537-8764.

CEDAR GARDEN benches. Traditional style, 6 feet long. As seen at high school. Last 2, \$500 each. Braden 537-4923. Great Christmas gift.

7750 BLACKBERRY (large screen) \$200. Please call 537-7659.

FOR SALE: used aquariums and accessories for fish, reptiles and hamsters - Salt Spring guppies and tropical, fresh-water, electric blue lobsters. 537-9612.

NEW YEARS with Auntie Kate at Tracy's. More info 537-4138.

NEW STOCK arrival: come visit Ganges Tea Company, next to Teddy Bear Takeout - teas, strainers, honey spoons and more - 50% off selected items. 537-4062.

MRS. CLEAN. As of January 1, hours of operation will be 8:30am - 6pm, Fri. 8:30am - 8pm, Sat. 8:30am - 6pm, Sun. 9am - 5pm. 537-8844.

900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

CHAMPION JUICER, used for one week, cost \$450, asking \$300 obo. Artificial Christmas tree, 5'. Used once, perfect condition. Decent quality. cost \$70, asking \$25. 537-1373 between 7am - 8pm.

WANTED: A nice home for a beautiful, healthy, mature cat. Her present owner has developed an allergy and they must reluctantly part company. Phone 537-5779.

BOXING WEEK Sale. CD's 20% off, LP's 50%. Guitar, strap & gig bag, \$150. Salt Spring Sound & Vision, 131 McPhillips. 537-0065.

"TAPENADE" our olives arrived. Tapenade now in stock at the Cheese Farm, The Bread Lady and Sat. Dec. 24 Market. Happy Christmas everyone. Tony and Tye.

WANTED: HOUSESITTER Feb. 2 - Mar. 2. Free rent in exchange for caretaking cats & house. N/S, south end, wood heat. 653-9475.

TWO COMPUTERS for sale. One EMAC, as new \$800. One Compaq, 4 years old, fair condition \$200. Call 653-9988.

DANCE INTO 2006 with warm tropical sunshine! Raggaie bash featuring cultivators reunion. Sat. Dec. 31 at Beaver Point Hall, 8pm.

ANYONE WHO has extra tickets for Harry Manx on New Years Eve, please call Deb at 537-0679.

HAPPY YULE to all from Salt Spring Woodworks. Open Wednesday through Saturday 10am - 5pm at 125 Churchill Road.

DANCING BEARS Hemp Studio open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 12-4pm. Hemp cotton knits sale \$12 to \$22. 653-4966.

SQUARE FOOT Charlie would like to thank the home owners and contractors for a great Cement Creative 2005. I wish you all a prosperous and healthy 2006.

COPPER KETTLE "Hope" Medallions available at Salt Spring Books and Stationery. A beautiful ornament for your tree or mantle. Help us do our work. \$10 each. Hope is the Best Gift.

EXTREMELY RELIABLE and knowledgeable service from All Islands Septic. Check it out on our website www.allislandsseptic.com. Give Rob Roodenburg a call @ 538-pump (538-7867) . Rob wishes all his wonderful clients a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

CARRIAGE RIDE with the family? Stormy and Moray will be available December 23/24 and December 30/31 (weather permitting) at Centennial Park 12-3 pm. Call 537-5804.

A MEMORY to last a lifetime - Take a carriage ride to the Scrooge Show! Make a reservation. 537-5804.

FREE: KID'S bed, wooden frame with drawers and mattress. You pick up. 653-9195.

WANTED JAMES and the Good Brothers LP to buy or borrow or any info on locating. Call Skye 537-9809.

BOXING WEEK Sale at Sport Traders!! Tons of savings. 30% off everything in stock.

NOW AT Sports Traders: outdoor research headwear, Gore-Tex waterproof hats tested in the heartiest downpours of the world.

SUNNY SOUTHEND home. 3 bdrm, fresh paint, carpets, satellite. Long term \$950. W/D. Phone 653-4458.

This Week's Horoscope
by Michael O'Connor

TIP OF THE WEEK:

Christmas celebrates the advent of the birth of a Jewish boy who came to help his people from the religious and political ignorance and tyranny of his day. Jesus of Nazareth, the child born with Christ Consciousness - the realization that God dwells in the body, mind and soul of all people and all life, beyond belief or dogma. History and legend say three wise men followed a star which has come to be known as the Star of Bethlehem. Who were these men and why did they and their entourages cross great distances to follow a star? Is that not the domain of Astrologers? Oh yes, Astrology and Astronomy were very much one and the same in ancient times. Incidentally, Astrologers and Astronomers alike now believe that the Star of Bethlehem was a great conjunction of planets but which actually occurred in 7 B.C.E., from the standpoint of the Gregorian calendar. Today, people largely experience this sacred event as an opportunity for gift exchange which, unfortunately also invite financial pressures and stress for most. Of course, exchanging gifts does bring family and people together. As for the Christ Consciousness, for many this seems to be a foreign notion - especially to the materialistic minded otherwise regarded as rational realists. The fact is that the Christ Consciousness is actually a science which takes the whole materialistic reality and literally turns it inside out, yet honours it even more for without a spiritual perspective on material reality, divide and conquer will remain the way of rationalized reality. Christmas is a time to meditate upon Christ Consciousness - the essential unity of all life.

ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 20)

A charge of leadership and power is suddenly flowing through you. The Sun's journey through Capricorn is the main indicator. Other planetary alignments spell ambition and independence. You may, however, feel restless and distracted by a variety of possibilities and directions. You want to try and/or taste everything. This could produce an aloof and indifferent response to the pleas of others. Stay in your heart yet speak your truth.

TAURUS (APR 21 - MAY 20)

Getting in touch with the fuller reality of your sense of truth is beginning to activate your strength. Ploughing through one fear after another is likely these days. Looking back over your life to gauge all that you have done and achieved is your way of feeling confident now. Confidently finding your place in the world where you can feel more secure is a core motivation. Expand your thinking to awaken your vision!

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN 21)

Negotiating new deals continues. Certain situations are ending now and it is time to consider what else can or needs to happen. The urge for personal freedom is strong and could prove challenging on relationship fronts. Balancing your desire to be understood with the need to be understanding is the key to harmony. This is where clear communications comes in to the picture. Recognize your own fears and be willing to truly hear what others want or need to say.

CANCER (JUN 22 - JUL 22)

Taking new initiatives on relationship fronts is a central theme now. Pushing through and beyond limitations is important to you. However, are you being fair or simply rebellious? Impatience with what is in anticipation for the future could be a source of stress for both you and others. The prospect of not realizing certain dreams and ideals may lead to escapism. Accept things as they are now and exercise gratitude.

LEO (JUL 23 - AUG 23)

Assuming a more sober and practical approach in your daily affairs will probably fit nicely on your New Year's resolution list. Desires to forge ahead are strong, yet may not be flowing nearly as smoothly as you would like. You have reasons to feel confident in yourself, yet not in others. That they may well pose reflections of your own

imbalances is a possibility worth considering. Recognize the limitations of others and your actual needs then aim to improve the quality of your own approach with realistic and decisive action.

VIRGO (AUG 24 - SEP 22)

Activating your creative leadership towards a more flexible and constructive approach is now in focus. A process of learning and unlearning implies the need for self-control. Balancing your aspirations for material and spiritual realities requires prioritization and focus. Flowing with uncertainty on relationship fronts still seems inevitable. To whom do you feel obliged and why? Go easy on yourself and work with what is.

LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22)

Establishing a more solid and reliable base close to home is in the spotlight. All that you did or did not do in the past is apparent to you now. Diligence is rewarded and defiance or daydreaming is revealing their price. Balancing your current reality with your dreams is important now. Are you more focused on principles than personalities? If so, is it working or is it causing a lack of true empathy? Bring high expectations of yourself and others back to earth.

SCORPIO (OCT 23 - NOV 21)

A cold dry wind is blowing strongly through many people's lives these days. You may be eager to break free from it all and experience more warmth joy. Unfortunately, barriers of one kind or another may be in the way. Staying practical and realistic with current realities is probably necessary now. Intend to follow through tending to productive activity balanced with more playful events. Avoid drilling holes with your wandering intellect - past and future - and stay close to your body.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22 - DEC 21)

Re-assessing your skills, talents, worth and value is now in focus. Thoughts and considerations about employment, work experiences, learning skills and trades, and travel may all be dancing in your mind. You are willing to work, yet you may not feel as energetic as you would like. Outline your existing skills with a resume, reach out and make calls and put your best foot forward. You are on the verge of decisive action.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22 - JAN 19)

With the Sun now in your sign a wave of energy and ambition may be rising within you. You are ready and eager to make some very important yet potentially difficult decisions. Know that you are not alone as that is the general astro-weather. Getting in touch with the person you feel that you are and need to be now and acting from this knowing is key. Let go of the past wealth, glory, power, failure or whatever and come back to this present moment.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20 - FEB 19)

A time of rest and retreat is the call now. Doing more business behind the scenes may prove to be an acceptable alternative. You are eager to expand your position, yet changes and renovations at foundational levels may be necessary first. A commitment to change and reluctance to do so is a call to activate your imagination to determine what might happen if you do not change. Meditate upon the actual needs of this time.

PISCES (FEB 20 - MAR 20)

Awakening to the realities of your current situation implies your career or social standing, choice of friends, beliefs, faith or lack of it and money. A deep sense of purpose and mission may be at play in your attitude, choices and actions. Is this emerging from your mind or your heart or both and do you know the difference? If you can feel confident in saying that you are following your true destiny you will, no matter what, persevere.

HOROSCOPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...



Arvid Chalmers Ltd.
Real Estate

arvid@saltspring.com
537-5568

- ACROSS
- 1 Quebec's ____ Bay
 - 5 Blast from the bleachers
 - 8 Trade
 - 12 Blackest black
 - 13 Mine output
 - 14 Valley
 - 15 Vapour
 - 16 Sticky stuff
 - 17 Vessel
 - 18 British Columbia's ____
 - 21 Ingest
 - 22 Weave
 - 23 Bloodthirsty
 - 26 Ontario's ____
 - 30 Petroleum
 - 31 Plains Indian
 - 32 Itsy bitsy thing?
 - 36 Rattle on
 - 39 Bret to Bobby
 - 40 Palm leaf paper
 - 41 Newfoundland's ____
 - 45 Baby wheels
 - 47 Globe
 - 48 Gamblers memos
 - 50 Levesque or La Salle
 - 51 Nazi preceder
 - 52 The elephant boy
 - 53 Done with
 - 54 ____ de Vichy
 - 55 Snare
- DOWN
- 1 Skirt part
 - 2 Corn month in Israel
 - 3 Stockings
 - 4 Buck's crowning glory?

- 5 Revolve
- 6 Exotic equine
- 7 Until now
- 8 Slim
- 9 Ontario's ____
- 10 Brewery produc
- 11 The P in KPH
- 19 ____ La Ronge
- 20 Hit the road
- 23 Watch pocket
- 24 Davis Love or Charles Howell ender
- 25 BPOE member
- 27 Lapel adorer, for short
- 28 Saguenay summer
- 29 Poetic ever
- 33 Chemical compound
- 34 Word often seen with neither
- 35 Chant
- 36 British Columbia's ____
- 37 Matterhorn, for one
- 38 Revolutionary
- 41 Window part
- 42 Region
- 43 Bellow
- 44 Wind instrument
- 45 Weir or Tracy
- 46 Gun, in a way
- 49 Dine

Canadiana Crossword Double Talk

By Bernice Rosella and James Kilner

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
		18		19				20		
			21				22			
23	24	25				26		27	28	29
30									31	
32			33	34	35	36	37	38		
			39			40				
			41			42			43	44
45	46				47			48		49
50					51			52		
53					54			55		

**An Old Fashioned Christmas
at Saltspring Island Baptist Church**

in Sanctuary Woods
520 Lower Ganges Road

Christmas Eve by Candlelight
6:30pm December 24th

Christmas Day Morningsong
10:30am December 25th



PATTERSON MARKET LTD.

our family serving your family since 1915

BC Ferries Schedule

Salt Spring Island (Fulford Harbour) – Swartz Bay Departures

IN EFFECT SEPT. 25, 2005 - JUNE 27, 2006 CROSSING TIME: 35 MINS
CHECK WWW.BCFERRIES.CA FOR LATEST SCHEDULES

Holiday Note: On Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, the first sailing of the day will leave Fulford Harbour at 7:50 am. This sailing is not usually available on Sundays, but will be on these dates only.

Depart Fulford Harbour Sunday to Saturday	Depart Swartz Bay Sunday to Saturday
--	---

6:15 am	1:50 pm	@7:00 am	3:00 pm
@7:50 am	3:50 pm	9:00 am	5:00 pm
9:50 am	5:50 pm	11:00 am	7:00 pm
11:50 am	7:50 pm	1:00 am	9:00 pm
@Daily except Sundays		@Daily except Sundays	

**“SHEEP” ISLAND FUEL
we're still the “sheepist!”**

Operating hours:

PATTERSON MARKET LTD.

Mon. - Fri. 8am - 6pm / Sat. & Sun. 9am - 6pm
Holidays 10am - 5pm

9	4	5			
			1	7	8
	7	6	3		
4	1				7
	8	7	6	3	
3				5	2
		5	4	8	
5	8	3			
		6	1	5	

**THIS WEEK'S
Sudoku!**

PUZZLE / LEVEL: WHITE BELT

Happy Holidays to All!



Fine Shoes Sold & Soled!

**Ganges · Village
Cobbler**

537-5015

**SEE A PHOTO
THAT YOU LIKE?
Order your reprint
at The Driftwood.
537-9933
Driftwood**

Calling all babies born in 2005

Mom, Dad! Grandma, Grandpa!

Show off your latest addition in a special keepsake. The 2005 Baby Album is open to all babies with a Gulf Islands connection. Parents and grandparents may enter and the baby does not have to be born locally. Fill out the coupon, submit your photo* and be sure to write the baby's name on the back. For only \$9.99 (plus gst = \$10.69) your baby's picture will be published in the Driftwood Baby Album, Wednesday, January 11, 2006.

**DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 29.
ALL ENTRIES ELIGIBLE TO WIN A
\$100 RESP FROM ISLAND SAVINGS CREDIT UNION.**

* to ensure good reproduction, close-up photos work best.

**More than one baby to include? If more than one
space is required, a discount is offered.**

Return this coupon with the photo and \$10.69 by Dec. 29. Mail or drop off to:

Baby's Name: _____	Driftwood 328 Lower Ganges Rd. Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2V3 * Pick up your photo at the Driftwood after January 11, 2006. no purchase necessary to enter
Date of Birth: _____	
Parent's Name: _____	
Address: _____	
Phone: _____	
Photo submitted by: _____	Phone: _____

Spirit of Salt Spring



Mouat's Trading Company raised \$610.00 at their staff Christmas party for the Salt Spring Foundation's Community Endowment fund and in partnership with Thrifty's Foods \$610.00 for the Food Bank. From left is David Griffiths from Mouat's, Bob Rush of the Salt Spring Foundation, and Russ Benwell from Thrifty's. Thanks to all who made this possible. Happy Holidays.

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
328 Lower Ganges Rd
537-9933

Claudia Picks a WINNER!



Place a classified ad in the Driftwood & your name is automatically entered to win a **BC49** lotto ticket.

**BUY IT!
SELL IT!
FIND IT!**

THIS WEEK'S WINNER IS in the Driftwood Classifieds

CHRISTY ROBLEY
Come to the Driftwood office
to claim your prize
328 Lower Ganges Rd.

Driftwood
537-9933

Remember, Driftwood classified can be viewed online
www.gulfislands.net

Jerrily Merryly...



'Tis the season to share...

visit the
**Jill Louise Campbell
Art Gallery**

Open Tues-Sat 11-5pm
...for good cheer

"Village View"

www.jlccgallery.com

We're ready for you!



OPEN
7:30AM
TO 8PM

THRIFTY FOODS™
Christmas is at our place.

DON'T DRINK & DRIVE!



Be Responsible this Holiday Season

This message brought to you by these community minded businesses

*Enjoy the
Holiday Season*
PLEASE DRIVE RESPONSIBLY
Li Read
RE/MAX
Realty of Salt Spring



TIM DUKE
PLUMBING & HEATING LTD.
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Phone: 537-8887
Emergency Pager:
537-8108
Prompt
Service
Fair Pricing

Have Fun!
But...be safe!
THRIFTY FOODS™
smiles everyday!
537-1522



SAVE-ON GAS
*Drive safely
and have a Merry Christmas*
111-149 FULFORD-GANGES RD
537-5671

Drive Carefully
See you in the New Year!
**Windsor
Plywood**
166 RAINBOW ROAD • 537-5564


USE A "DESIGNATED" DRIVER
AND HAVE A
HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON
HARBOUR HOUSE
537-5571

**THINK & SURVIVE
DON'T DRINK & DRIVE**
Have a safe
Happy Holiday
SLEGG LUMBER LTD.
537-4978

*Drive Safely
this Holiday Season*
PHARMASAVE®
Downtown Uptown
537-5534 538-0323

**SILVER SHADOW
TAXI**
24 - hours service
537-3030
*Too much to drink?
We'll be glad to drive you home.*

*Have a safe
Happy Holiday*
Bob Saunders
SAUNDERS SUBARU
Sales & Service 1-888-898-9911



Shipstones
taproom&lounge
**GET HOME
SAFELY!**

Have your
"one for the road" at home!
Get home safely.....
"The Local"
LIQUOR STORE
Gasoline Alley

Drink Responsibly!
Moby's
marine pub

**Inwin
COLLISION**
I.C.B.C. ACCREDITED SHOP
115 Desmond Cres.,
Ganges
537-2513
ICBC Car shop VALET
Accredited Collision Repairs & Valet Service

DRIVE SAFELY...
USE A
DESIGNATED DRIVER
Wishing you a happy hazard-free holiday season
SALT SPRING FIRE DEPARTMENT

GANGES
VILLAGE MARKET
*Please use a designated driver
and enjoy
the Holiday Season*

Hayward's
FUNERAL SERVICES
Serving the Gulf Islands since 1867
Box 315 Ganges P.O. 24 hour service
Salt Spring Island 537-1022



*Have a
Safe Festive
Season*
SSI Recycling Depot
349 Rainbow Rd
Tues - Sat, 10am - 5pm

SALT SPRING'S DECORATING STORE
*Drive Sensibly
Don't Get Canned!*
**PAINT
PLUS**
538-5555

THE LOCAL BAR
Please don't drink and drive!
December 8th - 29th, 2005 (6 - 8 pm)
We will assure
safe passage home fee of \$5.
Merry Christmas

GET HOME SAFE
Please don't drink and drive !


Stay out of the headlines!
Don't drink and drive.
Gulf Islands
Driftwood
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960

Here's To Friendship...
Yours... We value it!
Don't Drink and Drive
Remember...we want you to be with us for a lifetime!
GULF ISLANDS BREWERY 653-2383
www.gulfislandsbrewery.com

