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THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

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

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Arlene 537-4090

Fall fair

photos
Driftwood photographer Derrick Lundy captured the fall fair with his camera. See some of the images Page B7.

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Weather

Sun and clouds are forecast today (Wednesday) and tomorrow, with full sun expected Friday and through the weekend. Highs to 18 C Saturday; overnight lows to 8 C Thursday.

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Trust hears final marina words

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Staff Writer

Residents have one last chance to convince Salt Spring Island trustees a proposed marina development on Ganges Harbour should or should not proceed when a public hearing on the matter resumes tomorrow (Thursday) at noon.

Trustee Kimberly Lineger decided to extend the hearing after the more than 200 people crammed into the Salt Spring Island Baptist Church for two hours on September 13 were unwilling to continue without Local Trust Committee chair David Essig, who had to catch a ferry.

Since Essig's vote may end up breaking a deadlock between Salt Spring trustees Eric Booth and Lineger, participants argued it made no sense to continue the hearing in his absence.

As he left, Essig said he was overwhelmed by the turnout.

"In the nine years I have served as a trustee, I have never known the harbour meant so much to so many," he said.

Though Essig gave Bylaw 404 first reading on June 30, he justified the decision by saying it made way for increased public debate.

Early this week, Essig was unwilling to comment on his plans for Thursday's vote, though he acknowledged his decision could be the deciding factor.

"I will keep an open mind and wait until all arguments have been put forward," he said.

Bylaw 404 would permit construction of a three-story hotel, residence and retail complex on 597 square metres (6,426 square feet)

MARINA DECISION A2



COW COMB: Natascha Wille keeps her brown Swiss cow — Robyn — in fine shape at last weekend's Salt Spring Fall Fair. The cow, with her calf, became famous as the Rotary Club's muffin madness cow, dropping her first "muffin" on a square purchased by winner Marit McBride. More fair photos, Page B7. Watch for Harvest Time, featuring dozens of fair images, in next week's Driftwood.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

Students keep seats at local schools

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Everything is coming up roses at the Gulf Islands School District now that local schools have maintained a second consecutive year of stable enrolment.

"This is a good news story," said school district superintendent Wendy Herbert.

After School District #64 predicted an enrolment decline of 67 students (with an attendant loss of approximately \$385,000 in revenue) for this year, classes actually maintained even numbers when school doors opened in September.

"At this point, we're looking relatively healthy compared to last year's numbers,

with just a slight decline," Herbert said.

A preliminary count of island students shows that the district lost less than two full-time equivalent (FTE) students after tallying all regular classes, international students, adult learners and alternative-education programs.

Compared to last year's enrolment of 1682.25 FTE

students, School District #64 currently counts 1680.99 FTE students attending, Herbert said.

"All of our grades are in the hundreds, except for Kindergarten and Grade 1, which are in the 80s, and Grade 6, which is currently at 94."

SCHOOL ENROLMENT A5

CRD upholds PARC-Holman positions

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

Four Salt Spring speakers addressed the Capital Regional District (CRD) board last Wednesday, hoping for intervention in island pool and tennis issues.

Board members listened politely to all parties, but those pressing for the sta-

tus quo from the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) were rewarded in the end.

Splash indoor pool society president Darlene Steele asked the board to direct the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) to spend the funds authorized by last November's \$4.212-million

referendum, so a leisure pool can be included in the project.

Mike Best requested that a \$585,000 contract not be awarded to Cover-All Pacific for construction of a fabric-covered tennis structure at Portlock Park.

"We want you, the CRD, our voted representatives,

to direct our PARC board, which is not elected, to apply all the funds made available from Bylaw #3207, the tax referendum, and all the funds from the Community Development Initiative grant to build the indoor swimming pool facility which

POOL, TENNIS A3

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RCMP bust south-end harvest

Salt Spring RCMP members found over 52 marijuana plants and more than 10 pounds of dried marijuana bud following the raid of a South End property on September 16.

Police were acting on the fruits of a weeklong investigation after news of the grow op came forward during an assault investigation.

Const. Lindsay Ellis estimated the dried marijuana was worth

RCMP REPORT

\$30,000, but could not put a total value on the operation because individual plants produce varying yields.

Officers also seized growing equipment and trafficking paraphernalia from the property.

"I've seen a lot bigger here on the island, but it was definitely a lucrative

operation because of all the dried marijuana," said Ellis.

In other RCMP news: Police arrested a Salt Spring man on the scene without incident and charged him with production of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance for the purposes of trafficking.

He has been released and is scheduled to appear in Ganges court in October.

Earlier in the week, on the evening of September 14, an officer on foot patrol in Centennial Park witnessed a vehicle driving erratically along Fulford-Ganges Road.

The patrol was able to catch a glimpse of the culprit and fined the male driver \$109 for creating unnecessary noise under the Motor Vehicles Act after he was caught screeching his tires outside the Ganges fire hall.

MARINA DECISION

From Page A1

of fill just off Lower Ganges Road on the current Ganges Marina site.

The company is holding an open house on its proposal at the Harbour House Hotel tonight (Wednesday) from 6-9 p.m.

It also manages marinas in Deep Cove on the mainland and the Sunshine Coast's Farrington Harbour.

Despite frequent interruptions by an impatient crowd, developer Robyn Kelln reassured trustees improvements to the area would address the public's concerns over increased traffic at the intersection of Lower Ganges and Rainbow Roads.

Concessions include creating turning lanes along Lower Ganges Road, completion and maintenance of an 870-foot boardwalk, and dedicating 570 feet of shore-

line parkland.

In addition, a commercially zoned lot across the street would be rezoned for multi-family residential use.

Kelln said this was a great opportunity for the community to benefit from much-needed improvements to roads, landscaping and a completed boardwalk.

But concessions and amenities offered by the company were not enough to quell the discontent from audience members angered the decision stage had come this far.

George Ehring of the Save Our Shoreline group formed in response to the application, said the benefits would pale in comparison to the decision's consequences.

"The law itself creates the precedent," he said. "The law, once passed, provides the basis on which other

cases can be decided."

Frequent applause from the crowd led trustee Lineger to request people control their applause in order to ease her headache.

"You are not the first trustee who has been given a headache by the people's passion to save the island and you surely won't be the last," said Mort Ransen in response to her plea. "Most of us are refugees from other areas where mismanagement and poor planning have left cities unlivable."

He reminded trustees they now hold the harbour's future in their hands and have the chance to preserve what makes the island such an attractive place.

"Changing this bylaw is another nail in the coffin of the Salt Spring Island that I came to live on," he said.

In compliance with Lineger's request for silence, participants showed their support by silently waving their arms in the air.

While the crowd spoke out largely against the proposal, Dwight Jones addressed the interests of those who had moved here for the region's boating reputation.

He said the sailing community contributed millions of dollars to the local economy every year.

"The job of government is to look at the cumulative impact of its decision," he said.

Losing this facility, he

continued, would have a tragic impact on the island's employment opportunities and economy.

"What's next?" he asked trustees. "Getting rid of the ferries and going back to 1845?"

Opponents told trustees they were not against development, but merely wanted to hold off on a final decision until the completion of a "comprehensive harbour plan."

Salt Spring Harbour Authority manager Bart Terwiel said rising boat and plane traffic in the harbour was making it increasingly unsafe.

"If you take the time to study traffic on land, why not study the project's impact on marine traffic too," he said.

B&B operator Tamar Griggs encouraged people to take the harbour's fragile marine ecosystem into account.

"We are at a critical point in the life of our harbour," she said. "Do we want a dead harbour or a vibrant one?"

"Let the boardwalk remain incomplete as a monument to our dedication to preserving the island's natural environment."

Members of the public can send in correspondence in favour of or against the project until the public hearing concludes at 4 p.m. Thursday afternoon.

It will be followed by the LTC meeting.

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WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN: Rescuers were left scratching their heads after an SUV driver from Alberta managed to get his vehicle stuck in Fulford Harbour on Saturday. Rising water left few options other than waiting for low tide before the vehicle was towed out.
Photo by Rick Neufeld

POOL, TENNIS PLANS

From Page A1

will contain a lap pool, a leisure/therapy pool, a hot tub and a sauna/steam room," said Steele.

"We want the lot. We want what you got."

PARC vice-chair Rosemary Trump presented PARC's contrasting case to the board, stressing PARC's desire to keep pool operating costs to a minimum so its resources will not be drained.

"We cannot let a huge pool deficit compromise our ability to serve all of the other recreational needs on Salt Spring. We do not want our community to be 'pool poor.'"

"Our project is now in motion. To change the scope of the project at this time will cause delays and will be expensive," said Trump.

While Ssplash hoped the CRD would force PARC to change its mind about returning \$2-million of its pool funds to taxpayers, another idea for resolving the PARC-Ssplash conflict was shelved.

Salt Spring's regional director Gary Holman had proposed holding another referendum in November to see if voters want the entire \$4.2-million spent on the pool facility.

However, he tabled the motion at the CRD meeting, noting he was swayed by PARC's financial arguments.

"Ultimately I was persuaded by that position because I think it was more financially prudent," he told the board.

He said the project estimated last year to cost \$4.5-million "is now \$5.5-million without the leisure pool."

On the tennis front, Best referred board members to the 23 points made in a written submission with attach-

ments they had already received from him. The facility's cost and loss of free court time at Portlock were his two main concerns, he said.

He also presented a petition against the project signed by more than 800 people at that point, which he said Tuesday now has 1,000 signatures.

"The main thing is they do not want public funding of a facility that is one-sport specific and gives preference to a club," Best said later, pointing to advance booking privileges and cost discount Salt Spring Tennis Association (SSTA) members will receive.

SSTA president Jay MacAulay criticized the wording of Best's petition, noting that the SSTA is a non-profit society which anyone can join, not a "private club," that it will help run the facility in order to "keep the costs down," and that it was contributing \$140,000 from past years of bubble rental fees at Portlock Park, so that \$600,000 was not being borrowed.

When MacAulay spoke last week it was understood that \$100,000 of the \$2-million Community Development Initiative grant would be applied to the tennis facility. However, PARC has since revealed that those funds cannot be applied to the project since they were granted solely for the Rainbow Road recreational complex.

PARC finance committee chair Carol Dodd said PARC now anticipates having to borrow \$445,000 at five per cent interest, which would be repaid in five years from requisitioned tax funds and net revenue from tennis facility fees.

By year 15, the entire \$495,000 cost (which includes interest) would be repaid through fees. She added that none of the figures are set in stone at this point.

Holman repeated his assertion that the bidding procedure criticized by Best did not earn "a gold star," but said he supported the concept because user fees would pay back the capital cost.

Also regarding process and in response to information in a September 3 SSTA e-mail report to members from MacAulay, Holman confirmed that PARC operations manager Dave Gibbon had in fact issued a purchase order to Cover-All Pacific for initial project work on September 1, before the CRD had given final approval to the contract on September 14.

Splash is still collecting petition signatures for its cause and now has 1,800 in hand, aiming for the 2,000 its executive feels will convince Holman to reconsider his pool position.

At the CRD meeting he indicated a change of heart was possible if more petition signatures were received.

"We are trying to support a positive decision by demonstrating that the community understands and wants the leisure pool to be built at the same time as the main swimming pool complex," said Steele on Tuesday.

Steele said her recent discussions with islanders indicate they understand the issues and know what they voted for last year.

"What we're doing is supporting him to make the decision to do what the community wants."

FOR THE RECORD

Voices and Visions panel moderator David Rumsey was incorrectly identified in a story in last week's paper.



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Need more information:
All background documents, maps, meeting dates and contact information can be found at:
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Canada

Final pleas heard on Norton Road plan

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Staff Writer

Opponents and supporters of a proposed 26-home Norton Road affordable housing project agree the island's affordable housing crisis should be addressed.

But whether the Norton Road project is the way to go was debated at the September 13 public hearing on Bylaws 406-407, which if passed by the Local Trust Committee (LTC) will let the development proceed.

Trustees will vote on the matter at Thursday's LTC meeting scheduled for 4 p.m. in the Baptist church on Lower Ganges Road.

More than two-dozen speakers argued against the development at the hearing, claiming it would increase traffic, cut into the island's agricultural land and set a precedent for increased development.

Amidst the nearly 100 people in attendance, a handful spoke in support of the project, saying the current lack of housing could potentially destroy the island's heritage.

While both sides agreed something should be done to remedy the shortage of affordable housing, opponents urged trustees to consider alternative proposals

before giving second and third readings to proposed Bylaws 406-407.

"Let's start small and begin with success rather than rushing ahead and having to struggle with failure later on," said Community Housing Task Force (CHTF) member Janis Gauthier.

If approved, the 26 homes would be made available to island residents and be subject to a registered housing agreement to ensure affordability.

In a letter presented to the Islands Trust, the CHTF requested more research be done.

Gauthier said CHTF research on projects in the Whistler area revealed people were hesitant to buy into a market-controlled housing project, current developers lacked an adequate exit strategy should the units fail to sell and said the plan contributed to the densification of land outside the village core.

Speaker Susan Berlin said trustees ought to define what "affordable" really means and determine the project's benefit to the community.

"If the public is to give you (the developer) certain benefits, there has to be some benefit to the community," she said. "Sure, this will help 26 families on the

island, but we have to look at the impact of each development with respect to the whole community or else we are doomed."

Project manager Tom O'Connor said the development would help preserve the community by allowing young families to remain on the island.

He also cited improvements such as use of water conservation devices, widening the shoulder along Norton Road and addressing safety issues at the intersection of Norton and Lower Ganges roads.

Units would be available for rental should they remain unsold, he informed trustees.

"I have never seen a plan that's as close to the official community plan as this one," he said. "I mean it. I'm not trying to blow smoke up your bums."

O'Connor said he had "supreme confidence" residents' concerns could be satisfied and said it was a step towards creating more affordable housing.

"We've got to make a start," he said. "We've got to deal with this gigantic problem that's hit our island."

"We've done a great job with the haves and the have-nots but we haven't done anything for people in the middle."

A small contingent of people donning "Yes to Norton Road" buttons said it is about time to address the island's housing problems.

Darin Craig, a construction worker who has lived on Salt Spring for 20 years, urged trustees to approve the project because islanders were finding it harder to remain on the island.

"There are a lot of young people trying to keep their kids on the island," he said. "Unfortunately, they're having to leave the island because they can't afford to buy here and the island heritage is going down the drain."


Craig, himself a Norton Road resident, said the project was well planned and would help reduce traffic because it is so close to services in Ganges, which meant residents could walk to town.

Trustee Kimberly Liner said traffic was an important consideration since increased development between Upper Ganges and Atkins Roads has created unforeseen safety concerns.

"When you look at previous decisions, they've all had a cumulative impact that we could never foresee," she said. "We are now going to create another potentially dangerous area and I am concerned about that."

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ROOTS forum seeds discussion over Trust

A September 23-25 forum on Salt Spring for Islands Trust supporters throughout the region will address how the Islands Trust can best fulfill its "preserve and protect" mandate.

Space constraints have forced organizers to restrict registration to 150, but all are invited to Friday night's panel discussion featuring Briony Penn, Robert Morales, Kathy Dunster, Mike Larmour and David Essig.

Organized by the Renewal of the Origins of the Trust group, the forum is at Gulf Islands Secondary School and Friday's panel discussion begins at 7 p.m.

Essig said he looks forward to the event. "It's always helpful for us to know how our constituents are feeling and I think this will help address that," he said. "The more dialogue we can have the better."

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GARBAGE DUTY: Grades 4 and 5 students from Salt Spring Elementary School took some time out last week to clean up the shoreline around Ganges Harbour.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

Schoolyard scuffle looms

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Deadlocked after 15 months of negotiations, neither B.C. teachers nor school employers seem willing to give up any ground and islanders can now only wait to learn results of local teachers' strike vote on Friday.

"If it means pushing a little harder against the envelope, so be it. Teachers in this province have been bullied long enough and I think it's time to tell the government, 'Enough is enough,'" said Gulf Islands Teachers' Association (GITA) president Jean Claude Levesque.

"What we want is a negotiated settlement — a fair one."

The B.C. Teachers' Federation (BCTF) was vocal about its intentions in May before the election, Levesque said.

"We said, 'If we don't receive movement toward a pay increase, we want a return of our working and learning conditions from the illegal stripping of our contract.'"

GITA members voted

about a possible strike on Tuesday night and BCTF vice-president Susan Lambert was on hand to discuss the immediate future with teachers.

"You don't take a vote until you are feeling very frustrated and you feel like you have no other options open," Lambert said.

"Teachers will give us a mandate and we will probably take some form of job action following the vote. Results of the vote will be announced on Friday and very shortly after that, we will be announcing our plans."

According to Lambert, teachers are advocating for parents and children when they fight for better classroom conditions.

"Here in the Gulf Islands you have a four-day week that's absolutely attributable to the underfunding of public education."

Gulf Islands School District trustee Russ Searle is highly aware of the current labour situation since he also sits as a director on the B.C. Public School Employers

Association (BCPSEA).

"We don't know what they're going to do when they do their strike," he said. "The last time they did a phased-in strike and I would be very surprised if they didn't try to do the same thing."

While BCSPEA hasn't received a wage proposal from BCTF, employers estimate that it would cost an additional 35 per cent to bring teachers' salaries to parity with Alberta, he said.

Labour minister Mike de Jong ordered an independent assessment on Monday to see if a negotiated settlement would be possible.

BCPSEA chair Ron Christensen has insisted that teachers accept a net-zero offer.

"What we do will depend in large measure upon what they do," Searle said.

CUPE employees are likely to honour a BCTF picket line, but principals would still attend schools, he said.

"However, we don't know how safe it is to have the whole school full of children if there is only the principal."

What's On This Week?
See Page B10

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SCHOOL ENROLMENT

From Page A1

Grade 11 and 12 numbers tend to be higher because some kids take longer to graduate than others, she said.

"It's gratifying to see our elementary grades in the low hundreds."

But enrolment numbers fluctuate daily, she noted.

"If you and I were to talk on Wednesday, I might be down a few."

Final enrolment figures will be submitted to the Ministry of Education at the end of September to determine district funding.

Concerns about declining enrolment and reduced funding (with a forecast deficit of \$1.1 million announced in March 2004)

were instrumental in school board decisions to adopt a four-day week for both 2004/2005 and 2005/2006.

After a predicted decline of 45 students in 2003/2004, enrolment actually dropped from 1715 FTE in September 2003 to 1686 FTE (29 students) in 2004.

The district forecasted a further decline of 67 students for this year and trustees voted in favour of preserving programs by adopting the four-day week as a cost-cutting measure to save \$350,000.

As an additional bit of good news, the district also received a \$415,190 increase to the student base allocation from the provincial government this year.

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BC Adult Graduation Diploma

In September GISS will be offering classes for completion of the BC Adult Graduation Diploma. For students 19 years and older five classes are required for grade 12 graduation. Starting at 10 week intervals, these courses will be offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings at 6:00pm:

Communications 12,
English 12,
Geography 12,
Math 11e (Essentials),
Social Studies 11,
Business Information Management 12,
Math 11.

Other courses are available through Home Study or On-Line if specific courses are required for college entrance or job placement.

Many options are available. Students can take courses to complete an unfinished Dogwood, can start or finish at any time during the year, and can take two years to finish the required courses. In some cases work experience can count as a course. Students are not required to write the Provincial Examinations.

For further information check the Gulf Islands Secondary School Website, the GISS Counseling office, or School District #64.

Len Sokol 537-9944 ext. 248 lsokol@sd64.bc.ca

Guilty plea entered in assault trial

Testimony from an islander served to undermine his own defence when William Schmidt was found guilty of assault during Ganges Provincial Court on September 13.

Charged with assault against a female friend (name withheld to protect the victim) from an incident on October 31, 2004, Schmidt argued he was just trying to send the woman home after an argument.

But Justice Michael Hubbard noted that a technical definition of assault includes application of force without consent. And, in Schmidt's case, Crown

evidence included photographs of significant bruising that covered the victim's arms, legs and head.

"I find, that even in your own version of events, you were using more force than was appropriate," said Hubbard. "You did indeed commit assault."

During Schmidt's testimony, he described how the two long-time friends had a fight after drinking approximately 12 beer each over the course of the day. (The victim testified she drank five beer.)

Conflicting versions of events were heard by the court.

"As usual, in a case where there has

been a substantial amount of drinking, the two stories do not agree," Justice Hubbard said.

During sentencing, court heard that Schmidt had a criminal record with five previous charges (mischief, break and enter, impaired driving and possession of a prohibited substance) from 1983 and 1999.

Hubbard ordered a suspended sentence with six months probation, a letter of apology, a victim's indemnity surcharge of \$50 and recommendations of anger and/or alcohol counselling as directed by a probation officer.

Impaired driver nets fines, driving ban

An island woman pleaded guilty to two charges of impaired driving and a third charge of driving while prohibited during Ganges Provincial Court on September 13.

"You represent a considerable threat to yourself and the public at large," Justice Michael Hubbard told Patricia Mulligan, 57, during sentencing.

But he imposed only the mandatory-minimum penalties — \$1,700 in fines and

a 12-month driving prohibition — after he heard that Mulligan had suffered a number of personal difficulties preceding her arrest through testimony by both defence counsel Michael Jakeman and Crown counsel Barb Penty.

Court heard that Salt Spring RCMP stopped Mulligan after receiving a complaint of someone driving on the wrong side of Leisure Lane on August 29, 2004.

At that time, Mulligan pro-

vided breathalyzer readings of 0.220 and 0.230 (almost three times the legal limit of 0.080).

She received additional charges when she was stopped while driving erratically along Lower Ganges Road on March 29, 2005.

Mulligan was stopped a third time on April 26 with further indications of impairment — whereupon she was charged with driving while prohibited — but Crown counsel elected to with-

draw an additional count of impaired-driving in response to Mulligan's guilty plea on other charges.

In total, Crown dropped 12 counts in seven different files against Mulligan.

Justice Hubbard also waived possible imprisonment and ordered concurrent driving prohibitions for each of the three charges.

"The Superintendent of Motor Vehicles may take [Mulligan's] licence for a longer period," he noted.

**What's On This
Week?
See Page B10**

**What time does
PATTERSON MARKET
close?**



Local court considers Drambuie and magic-mushroom crimes

A Salt Spring man who admitted possession of "magic mushrooms" received a conditional discharge, six months probation and 20 hours community service during Ganges Provincial Court on September 13.

Court heard that Salt Spring RCMP interviewed Dylan Moffatt, age 25, after he twice evaded a police road check along Fulford-Ganges Road on June 12.

A subsequent search of Moffatt's Volkswagen van found alcohol, a minute amount of marijuana and a bag containing 17 grams of psilocybin. Moffatt was also ordered to pay a \$50 victim's indemnity surcharge.

In other court news:

• An islander pleaded guilty to shoplifting liquor and received a conditional discharge with six months probation and a \$48 restitu-

tion order. Russell Mazzei admitted he'd taken a bottle of Drambuie from a local liquor store on December 1, 2004 after he'd dropped off a flat of empties.

In addition to probation and community service, Mazzei was ordered to write a letter of apology to a store clerk. He admitted threatening the clerk when confronted during the December incident.



It's about their learning conditions

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A message from the Gulf Island Teachers' Association

GLOSSI

Gays and Lesbians of Salt Spring Island and GSA Gay and Straight Alliance in Gulf Islands Secondary School would like to thank corporate and individual sponsors who generously supported the successful and wonderful Pride event "Voices and Visions" at ArtSpring on September 10, 2005.

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Student info system a work in progress

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Staff Writer

Glitches with a new computerized student information system being phased in at Gulf Islands Secondary School mean teachers, students and administrators will need to do things the old-fashioned way for at least the next two months.

According to GISS principal Nancy Macdonald, more time is needed to upload student data onto the province-wide information database.

"We are trying our best," she said. "It is a bit of a step back before we can move forward."

Problems with the new tracking system mean it will not be fully operational until

early November, according to Macdonald.

Until then, she said, everyone will just have to go back to keeping track of students' attendance and marks by hand. While mid-term information reports will not be available online, teachers will issue written reports.

British Columbia's Electronic Student Information System (BCESIS) is a massive information bank containing data on the province's student population between kindergarten and Grade 12.

While the system promises to streamline the availability of attendance, marks and behavioural reports, Macdonald said the system must first get past the prob-

lems it has experienced since the district adopted it earlier this year.

Once all the kinks are worked out, students and teachers will be able to access records online by using a user name and password.

Transferring student information between school districts and with the Ministry of Education will be greatly enhanced, she said.

School district director of instruction Terry Corcoran said the \$30,000 program will ensure all students in the district are registered on the network, though he anticipated it would take two years to get everyone on board.

While other districts in the province have experienced

their share of headaches with the new system, he said, the end result would make it all worthwhile.

"We really believe that the end result will save us a lot of time," he said. "There is a huge amount of data that schools will have to manage and this helps address that concern."

Macdonald said worries about privacy and the access to information have subsided as people have grown more accustomed to retrieving data online.

"The concern over Big Brother is not so much a worry," she said. "Most students think it's no big deal. It's just the way the world works."



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Library land purchase on November ballot

The future location of Salt Spring's library will be an issue for voters to decide on November 19, following Capital Regional District (CRD) approval of a referendum bylaw last week.

The Salt Spring Public Library Association has a chance to purchase the property next door to its current spot on McPhillips Avenue, with the two lots allowing enough space to build a new library.

"The referendum is an opportunity for the community to show its support for the direction the library is going and the location," said library board chair Garth Hendren.

"Support for the referendum will allow us to keep the library in the core."

Unlike most referendum questions, this one does not seek authority to increase taxation levels. Instead, it amends the library's establishment bylaw, giving the library board the means to borrow up to \$600,000 for acquiring land and buildings. In addition to using

funds already accumulated for replacing the library, debt repayment will be done with the existing annual tax requisition through the CRD.

Since the library has not quite "taxed to the max" of the authority set by a 1999 referendum, the debt repay-

ment could result in a slight increase in costs for taxpayers, explained regional director Gary Holman.

Raising funds to actually construct a new library is another issue, noted Hendren, but purchase of the land is the critical first step.



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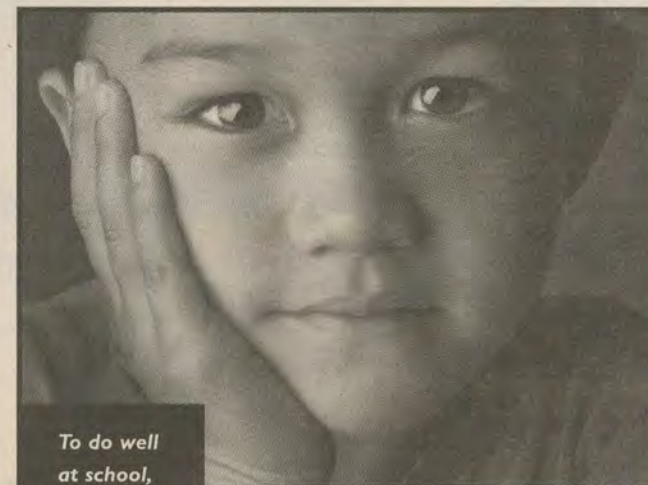
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SAM ANDERSON



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Ganges Marina Development: The Public Hearing Continues!

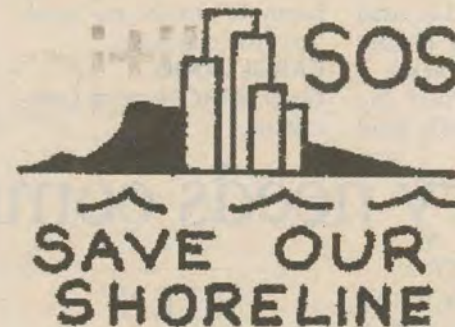
Due to the overwhelming turnout at the public hearing on September 13 regarding the proposed B&B Ganges Marina development, the trustees have had to schedule additional time for more comments from the community.

As a result, the public hearing on the marina development will continue on Thursday, September 22, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. in the Baptist Church, 520 Lower Ganges Road.

This will be your final opportunity to speak to the trustees on this issue. We urge you to attend the re-scheduled public hearing on Thursday.

Many people have raised their concerns over this development, regarding:

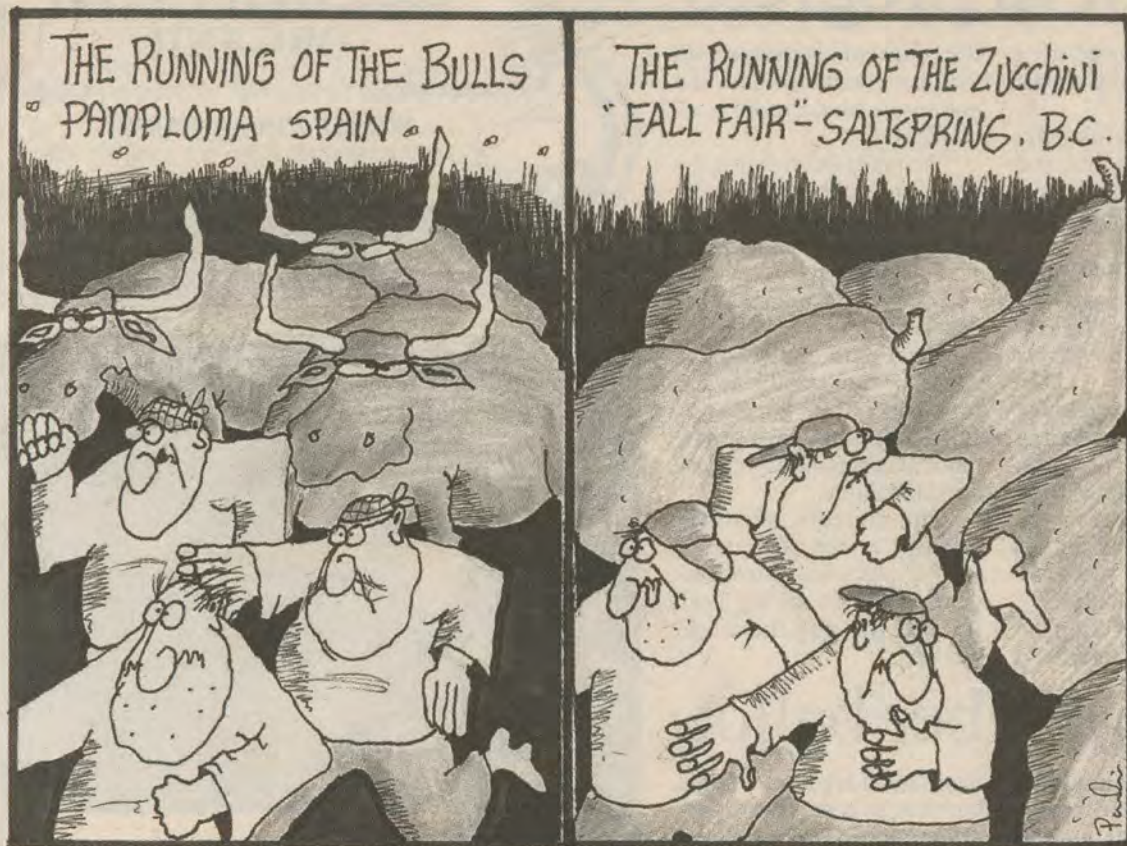
- the infilling of the harbour for commercial use
- the need for a harbour management plan
- the potential damage to the harbour's sensitive ecology
- the creation of private land for private profit
- the ongoing development of Salt Spring Island and the loss of community
- and many, many other concerns.



Please attend the rescheduled public hearing. The trustees will vote that same evening on the bylaw that would allow the development. Let them hear from you before they vote!

For more information: saveourshoreline@saltspringwireless.com

OPINION



Clear up crystal ball

School District 64 superintendent Wendy Herbert is right when she says the second consecutive year of stable enrolment is a good news story.

Without interviewing every Gulf Islands family to extract their reasons for committing to the public school system, remaining on or moving to the islands, it would be impossible to know why that is the case.

It should be safe to assume the district's attempt to serve every kind of student possible, from home learners to adults needing an education upgrade, which has been ongoing for several years now, has been successful.

It may be less certain to claim the four-day school week has not scared away families with school-age children, although if enrolment had dropped this year, that would certainly have been touted as a factor by four-day week opponents.

What the numbers do confirm is that the school district's crystal ball could use some de-fogging. For two consecutive years its predictions of declining enrolment were front and centre in the rationale to save funds by switching to the four-day week.

This September and last, many more kids showed up at island schools than were expected when forecasts were made in the spring, calling into question a major decision-making factor.

Declining enrolment in the long term is a real concern, as a comparison between kindergarten and Grade 12 enrolment figures show, but it appears the sky is not falling as quickly as far and as fast as the school district and trustees have believed.

Volunteer heaven

Salt Spring's wondrous fall fair put smiles on thousands of faces once again, as the 109th edition unfolded as it should under sunny skies.

Hundreds of volunteers make the island's biggest event of the year go around, pointing out how willing hands and hearts are essential to any community's success.

Next week the island's first Newcomers Social brings more recently arrived island residents together with established non-profit groups. We urge anyone who considers themselves "new" to come out and mingle with a welcoming group of islanders.

Driftwood

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Letters to the Editor

Not diverted

I was very disappointed when I overheard a member of the Ssplash executive collecting signatures on a petition and telling people that money was being diverted from the swimming pool to build the tennis facility.

This is not so! The aquatic facility and the tennis facility are two separate projects.

The tennis facility will be financed by \$140,000 collected by the SS Tennis Association from rentals of the bubble and by less than \$460,000 in short-term borrowing capacity.

According to our business plan, the two covered courts at Portlock Park will make a profit after expenses every year.

In the first five years, that profit and then taxes will be used to pay back the short-term borrowing. After five years, the profit will be used to pay back the tax monies used in the first five years.

We anticipate that the monies will be fully paid

back within 15 years and after that the annual profit can be used for tennis and/or other recreational activities.

The multi-purpose pool will be financed by the \$2,000,000 provincial grant and by borrowing paid for by taxation.

The pool will always have a several hundred thousand dollar annual deficit.

The borrowing will be paid back by your taxes in 15 years. But the deficit, paid for by taxes, will go on forever and will never get smaller.

Both the tennis courts and swimming pool will be public facilities and may be used by any resident of or visitor to Salt Spring Island.

PARC is committed to giving you, the taxpayer, the best recreational facility we can for your taxes. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

CAROL DODD,
 Chair, PARC Finance Committee

Transport solutions

SEEDS (The Saltspring Ecovillage Education and Development Society) is in the process of purchasing 94 acres between Isabella Point Road and Musgrave Road.

If we are successful, and with community support, we will establish an ecovillage, a small agricultural settlement demonstrating a variety of appropriate technologies.

This letter describes the project's approach to transportation alternatives, which we hope will have broad application for the whole of Salt Spring.

This is a timely subject, given current events.

Hurricane Katrina and high gas prices are finally persuading the mainstream media to mention possible linkages between fossil fuel use and climate change, peak oil and rising gas prices.

On Salt Spring we have few alternatives to the automobile.

Our rural settlement pattern results in distances too far to conveniently walk. Our scattered population is insufficient to support a bus service unless operating costs are subsidized.

Hills and heavy traffic on narrow winding roads make cycling an option only for the fit and intrepid.

However, there are many ways for Salt Spring to reduce automobile dependency, some of which are outlined in the Salt Spring Community Energy Strategy and in the Salt Spring One Tonne Challenge kit (www.saltspring-onetonnechallenge.org).

Reduce our fossil fuel consumption we must, by over 20 per cent per capita, if we are to meet Salt Spring's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets by 2012, and if we are to provide some resilience for the financial hardships ahead if oil prices continue to rise.

An ecovillage is, in part,

a fossil fuel addiction recovery program.

A fundamental part of the Salt Spring ecovillage fossil fuel reduction strategy is the concept of a clustered car-free settlement, with a parking area at the edge of the property.

Hand carts and electric golf carts will eliminate the need to keep a car beside each house.

As the ecovillage achieves self-sufficiency, many automobile trips become unnecessary.

The ecovillage will have a hybrid or biodiesel car-share co-op vehicle, and a ride-share system to reduce single occupancy trips.

Fulford is within easy cycling distance, and a shuttle bus, probably powered by biodiesel, will be available when needed.

The combined strategies of trip reduction, ride sharing, increased fuel efficiency, and fuel switching to bio-fuels and electricity (some of each we intend to produce

on site) are intended to cut our transportation fossil fuel use by at least 50 per cent.

We hope that our demonstration will be useful to other islanders looking to cut fossil fuel consumption.

Apart from the financial and GHG benefits of a reduced dependency on fossil fuels, Salt Spring can expect to enjoy less crowded roads and better local air quality if these strategies are adopted on an island-wide basis.

SEEDS is seeking community support and feedback, and financial support from individuals and organizations interested in living and participating in the Salt Spring ecovillage project.

If you would like to get involved, please call me at 537-2616 or email elizwhite@saltspring.com. More information is available at www.islandseeds.org.

ELIZABETH WHITE,
 Salt Spring

Library needs community support for land purchase plan

By TILLY CRAWLEY

Last winter, after the big storm, part of the roof of the library sagged under the weight of the snow and came to rest on the bookshelves below. It happens every time we have a big snowfall.

Part of the library building was originally a cottage and boathouse, not a strong construction, and certainly not designed to support the weight of thousands of library books. The building now has severe structural problems that are beyond the possibility of repair.

Not only do we have a sagging roof, but also an

VIEW POINT

uneven floor, shaky foundations, an unstable wall, and many areas that are not up to modern building code standards, such as windows, wiring and fire protection. The library is not wheelchair friendly, energy efficient, or earthquake proof.

Within the library all the services are in good shape — a wonderful interlibrary loan service, children's pro-

grams, literacy and computer classes, and the very popular free access to the internet and databases. We also have a growing collection, and that is causing another headache — the library has run out of space, and not only for books, tapes, etc.

We need more workspace for our volunteers (they deserve it), more storage space, more seating and space for study, a larger meeting room, and more space for more of those popular computer terminals. And of course, as the population grows, we need more of everything to accommo-

date more people.

Clearly the library is in dire need of a new home. We know that many people in the community would prefer the library to stay in the village core, and indeed many of us have a sentimental attachment to our present location. Now a unique opportunity has arisen for the library to acquire the adjacent property, which would give us room for expansion, something that is not feasible on our present lot, where the library building sits right on the lot line on one side.

The present building has a very short life span now and

we need to have a new building in place by 2008 or by 2009 at the latest if we can. Of course a new building will require a major capital expenditure.

The library serves a large segment of the population, and is a vital part of our community. We hope that a new library will have the support of that community, and we urge the public to consider giving priority to the library when determining where our limited tax dollars should be spent.

A lot of people on the library board and its committees have been hard at work

for a long time researching and planning the future of the library.

Trying to work out what we will need in a library in 15-20 years time has not been an easy task, particularly when we have to try to imagine what technological changes might take place in that time. Over the next few months we will be sharing our ideas with you, and we hope the community will respond with ideas of their own.

The above was submitted on behalf of the Salt Spring library board

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: *What food for thought does the fall fair offer you?*



Bruce Patterson

A celebration of community.



Lynell Vipond

Recognizing what our community offers to everyone.



Derek Sweet

It's a good time to spend with friends and family.



Kit Lewis

Close community.



Malcolm Bond

I wonder how the farmers at the first fair would view this one.

Letters to the Editor

Puzzled

Last Tuesday night I attended the public meeting with regards to the Ganges Marina development. This was the first meeting of its kind that I have been to, and to say it was an eye-opener is an understatement.

I'm not anti-development, nor am I pro-development. I'd say that I look at it on a case by case basis, probably landing on the anti side more often than not. However, I am totally puzzled at the vehemence of the opposition to this project that was expressed at the meeting.

Now, if the end of Ganges Harbour was a pristine environment, without the touch of human hand, then I could understand it, but everyone knows that Ganges Harbour is a dog's breakfast of aging docks, ugly buildings and the infamous unfinished boardwalk.

My question is, how are things going to be better by adhering to the status quo? If, by saying "no" to the development, we could put the harbour back the way it was 150 years ago, then I'd be firmly on the no side. However, this is obviously not a viable option, so it seems to me that it would be in everyone's best interest to

see the boardwalk finished, parkland dedicated for community use, improved traffic flow and the safety of added sidewalks. Are any of these things going to get done if the development does not fly?

The tourists aren't going to stop coming just because the Ganges Marina development is nixed. Their numbers will continue to grow and the traffic and parking problems will get worse. The road from Calvin's to the end of the proposed development just looks like a mess right now, and I haven't seen anyone coming up with an alternate proposal to beautify it and make it a safer place to walk.

The naysayers at the meeting are an articulate and educated group of people. My suggestion is that they put their considerable talents into a positive, rather than a negative, campaign and work out some solutions to that old perennial problem — parking in Ganges.

On a recent visit to the San Juan Islands, far from encountering rampant development and L.A.-style car culture, we found that communities had developed ways to keep the majority of traffic out of the downtown areas and put them out of

sight on the edges of town.

One more thing. If I hadn't been sitting down, I'd have fallen down when I heard that our Parks and Recreation Commission is not interested in acquiring the parkland offered by Ganges Marina development. What exactly do they do, if not acquire and maintain parks for the use of the community?

MANDY SPOTTISWOODE,
Long Harbour

Elect quality

Based on the August 31 editorial, the Driftwood seems to think that good or bad political decision-making on Salt Spring depends on the number of politicians making the decisions.

I beg to differ. It's not the quantity, it's the quality of those we elect that makes the difference.

Yes, I might agree that the workload for trustees here has grown to the point where we need to "do something." But what we should do is stop pretending they have a two-day-a-week part-time job, and pay them a reasonable salary to take on what has become probably a four or five-day-a-week job.

JUDI STEVENSON,
Mount Belcher

Public vote

Please mark down on your calendar the date and time of the next public hearing on Bylaw 404. It's on Thursday, September 22, between noon and 4 p.m. at the Baptist church on Lower Ganges Road when submissions from the public will be heard.

The public hearing is a continuance of the meeting of September 13, which was cut short to allow Local Trust Committee chairman David Essig time to catch the last ferry.

I hope that a public vote will be taken before the Trust goes into their meeting for a final decision on the bylaw. It is important that they act wisely on the results of a public vote rather than on somewhat "silver-tongued" assurances from the B&B Ganges Marina.

However, we are consoled by Robyn Kelln's parting injunction that "the trustees will decide what is best for the entire community."

PATRICIA MASSY,
Old Scott Road

Fairways

I do not understand the timidity of our Local Trust Committee. At a time when we need bold, visionary lead-

ership they're pussyfooting around a decision to fill in a minuscule speck of Ganges Harbour.

Look — tourism as we know it is all but over. From now on most Americans, faced with remorselessly rising gas prices and the need for passports if they're going to cross the border, will stay at home, rent their DVDs on-line, and watch them on the wide-screen plasma TV screens of their own home theatre systems.

Clearly, our economic future doesn't lie in tourism; it lies in becoming a world-class retirement community (WCRC).

And if there's one thing we all know a WCRC requires it's a world-class golf course (WCGC). Forget about expanding marinas. As the era of cheap petroleum comes grinding to a halt, yachts — along with their fellow behemoths, RVs and SUVs — are headed for the junkyard.

It's time to seize the future. It's time to assure our island's prosperity for our children and their children alike. It's time to fill in all of Ganges Harbour and turn it into a WCGC.

Think of the unique fea-

tures that will make Salt Spring's first WCRC's WCGC truly world-class (WC). From what I've been told, eelgrass makes an inimitably challenging "rough."

PARC is sure to find enough money to cover the whole course with a bubble for year-round enjoyment. Pockets of the harbour can be left unfilled to provide unique saltwater hazards.

These ponds can be stocked with harbour porpoises and herring; other endangered species — snakes, newts, herons, what have you — could find a new home on the fairways.

The inevitable environmental preserve-and-protect complaints can be satisfied by a commitment to make the course sustainably organic.

It's time for the community to pull together. Let's put our old divisions behind us. There's really no time to lose. So-called WCRCs with a fraction of what we can offer are springing up all over Vancouver Island, undercutting our fair share of the market.

The time for courageous leadership is now.

MURRAY REISS,
Fulford Harbour

MORE LETTERS A10

Live within our means rather than pursue urban schemes

By **BEN GOODMAN**

Salt Spring is a special place (as are many small island communities) and is worth protecting.

The greatest threat we face is gradually turning our island into an urban suburb.

Why oh why do many newcomers (particularly those from urban centres) start agitating for urban amenities the moment they step ashore? Why oh why do they want to turn Salt Spring into a mirror image of the urban community they just left behind? I cannot understand this mindset.

Increasingly, decisions are being made or contemplated by the Islands Trust, Capital Regional District and Parks and Recreation Commission that have a distinct large city/urban bias, favour development or are against the OCP.

It took several years to develop an OCP that met the varying

GUEST COLUMN

desires of the community. To simply approve change after change to this plan rather than saying a resounding "no" to requests for changes counter to the interests of the community is wrong.

Statements made by the Islands Trust officers over the past few months indicate a very disturbing trend:

Driftwood, July 6/05: "In a perfect world, we'd like to spend another six months to a year reviewing the development of the waterfront," said chair of the Islands Trust, David Essig.

What is the rush, other than the haste with which the developer wants to proceed? On as important an issue as waterfront development and the precedent it sets,

taking the time is critical to making the correct decision, a decision that favours the community, not the developer.

Driftwood, August 3/05: "The reason I voted for it (Ganges Marina bylaw first reading) is because I felt it was time to bring some rigour to the process and bring it into the public sphere." David Essig

Would it not be far more appropriate to vote for something because you agreed with it? Voting no would also keep the issue in the public sphere.

Driftwood, August 3/05: "This is not the most comfortable way I want to move forward with vacation rentals but I am willing to go through this route just to see how it works." Kimberley Linerger.

Would it not be far more appropriate to take the time to be more certain of a major change to the OCP than "just to see how it

works?" And, in the meantime, stick to the OCP, which denies vacation rentals? Why not stick to the OCP "just to see how it works?"

And on other issues:

Why is Pender Island, a community of about 2000, able to build a pool for \$40 per capita, and yet Salt Spring is planning to spend over \$400 per capita? This amounts to 10 times the amount per capita when the population is only five times higher on Salt Spring.

Why must Salt Spring use public money to build a cover for tennis courts at a cost of \$600,000, \$445,000 of which will be borrowed by PARC/CRD.

In communities the size of ours across the country where covered courts do exist, it is private organizations and clubs that provide the funding, not the taxpayer.

The Islands Trust ought to

stand up for the community that they serve. Stick to the OCP. Start saying a resounding "no" to this continued pressure on our community.

Do not approve this massive change to the heart of Salt Spring by permitting this waterfront development.

Do not approve the expenditure of \$600,000 to cover two tennis courts — stick to the original plan where the tennis association replaces the bubble with a bubble using their own funds.

Start conserving and living within our means rather than embarking on very costly, urban programs.

You will find that you have massive support from the community that you serve.

The writer is an artist, kayaker and horseback rider living on Salt Spring.

More letters

Bridge it

Although there may be positive attributes to a walkway along Ganges Harbour, there are very significant environmental impacts. These negative impacts can be largely avoided by constructing any walkway as a bridge structure. A timber deck on top of a pile-supported structure is an economical way of building a boardwalk. The environmental impact is largely confined to the shade created by the deck. Similar structures such as piers may alter the environment but done properly create new habitat possibilities. There is absolutely no reason to consider any additional fill in Ganges Harbour.

Similar concepts are now widely used to reduce the environmental impact of highways. Structures are built across sensitive ground rather than building on fills. Even during the construction process no equipment touches the ground. Instead, the entire structure is built from one or several ends. Construction of a boardwalk or similar feature could also be easily done from a barge. Regardless of how Bylaw

404 is considered, please do not allow fill into the harbour for any purpose.
DON GILLESPIE, P. Eng.,
 Heidi Place

Deep six

We are deeply concerned over the proposed development and zoning changes regarding the Ganges Marina property. We are even more aghast at the proposal to infill 6,425 square feet of harbour for any reason. The infill of Moutats developments and Centennial Park were done at a time when whaling, clear-cutting forests and DDT were all considered to be great ideas. Many of us have moved on to recognize the integral part we play in the natural world and how our environment must take precedence over personal profit, but apparently there are those in the Trust and Advisory Planning Commission (APC) who have not.

I grew up in Sidney, B.C., in the late '50s and '60s and can remember the great numbers of sea birds and active intertidal zone from Canoe Cove to Bazan Bay. The village incorporated,

developed its marinas and condo spaces 20 fold in 40 years, changed much of its shoreline particularly in Sidney, and the result is the loss of its fish, shorebirds and residual charm.

The health of Ganges Harbour and its eelgrass beds and herring spawn are essential for the salmon runs, shorebirds and cycle of life in our ecosystem. We fully support Briony Penn and the Salt Spring Island Conservancy's call for a full government study of the harbour and long-term Ganges Harbour management plan before any developments are considered. Rezoning, density transfer, infill, increased commercial activity on the property, Coney Island boardwalk and Bylaw 404 — deep six the lot, we don't need it!

Trust and APC members need to be reminded that it's not about egos and ambition, it's about preserve and protect!
RICK and JULIETTE LAING,
 Salt Spring

Telus

I have had a number of residents drop by the picket line to inform me of the long waits and poor service they are receiving from Telus. Yet Telus continues to claim there has been no change in service since they locked out union employees July 2005.

How many Telus customers haven't I heard from? Service is only going to get worse as the jobs continue to back up and the fall rain and wind moves in.

You as consumers are not powerless. Contact the CRTC (1-877-249-2782 or [ww.crtc.gc.ca](http://www.crtc.gc.ca)) with your complaints. Telus has minimum service standards to honour and it is the job of the CRTC to ensure these standards are met.

Secondly, you can write a letter to the Minister of Labour, Joe Fontana (House of Commons, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6) and ask him to order binding arbitration. The Canadian Industrial Relations Board has already stated this is the solution, but Telus isn't interested. My co-workers and I want to get back to work and the TWU is willing to negotiate, but we need help to get Telus to the table.

Thank you for all the support you have shown, and please feel free to stop by the picket line if you want more information.

GARY BYWATER,
 TWU member,
 Salt Spring

No politics

I am shocked. How could Mr. Dixon expose his narrow outlook and mean heart so publicly (September 7 letter to the editor).

Does Mr. Dixon feel it's OK to step over a neighbour who has fallen down and not help him because he is rich?

Shame, Mr. Dixon! You were asked to help people who have lost everything. Leave politics out of this!

RAY SPIERS,
 Sky Valley Road

MORE LETTERS A11

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More letters

Committed

We wish to thank Peter Vincent for his well-thought-out column in last week's Driftwood. It was encouraging to hear the recognition of value for the community benefits offered in the B&B Ganges Marina proposal.

For the record, we agree and we will provide these amenities and guarantees prior to the final approval of our construction.

ROBYN KELLN,
Project manager,
B&B Ganges Marina

Changes

In my opinion, Driftwood sometimes causes about as much confusion as it puts to rest. A few modest changes to last week's edition could have done a lot to ease some local misunderstandings. For example:

• Gary Holman's topnotch and highly informative letter about the new tennis facility and about how it will represent only a minor load on taxpayers should have been enlarged and featured instead of being relegated to the middle of the pack of

ordinary letters. He is a CRD Director and is not just tossing off opinions or spreading rumours.

• Bill Curtin wrote an excellent letter about chlorination that should probably be keeping most of the swimming pool crowd awake at night. It should also have been featured, but instead was de-emphasized amidst other letters. He is a PARC official who works hard to serve community interests, and he deserves more respect.

• On the other hand, an article that did get featured, "Otherwise," was little more than a rant against PARC members needing to accept criticism. Well, sure. But for my money, the folks who take time out of their lives to serve the community with PARC have generally served us very well. I think they deserve accolades as well as scrutiny. I think they deserve and require face-to-face contact. In any case, on their very worst day, these willing amateurs could not possibly begin to waste money as stupidly as our professional politicians do.

To sum up: there are those who get things done, and there are those who complain. It would seem that anyone who expects a perfect ending had better get perfectly involved at the beginning.

RON STURM,
Beaver Point Road

Harbour choice

I urge the trustees to say "no" to Bylaw 404.

We worked hard to develop our official community plan (OCP), which clearly states no infill in Ganges Harbour except that which is necessary to complete the boardwalk. The OCP is not to be ignored when proposals come its way.

Briony Penn's Power Point recently presented to over 200 people in an SOS meeting was a stunning documentation of the richness of our marine heritage in the harbour: with the marine birds diligently documented by the Waterbird Watch, marine mammal birth and death, and critical herring spawns

from 1934 to 2000 (when funds ran out to continue the study). Herring, being the backbone of our marine ecosystem in the Gulf Islands, is a key species to save, protect, and encourage. Restoring eelgrass in the harbour will have a far greater impact than our little harbour: it will impact the whole health of the Georgia Strait.

As Briony pointed out, we are at a critical point in the health of our harbour. We can go either way — a dead harbour, or a vibrant one — one that satisfies the soul. We need an unbiased marine assessment of the harbour and its potential for marine life before we develop it to its hilt.

Sure, I'd like to see the boardwalk completed! But at what expense? How about having the unfinished boardwalk a great monument to our dedication to restore the ecosystem that was once and still is vital in the harbour? Proudly, we could call it "Herring Swim Lane"!

Note that the public hearing for Bylaw 404 will be

continued on Thursday, September 22, noon to 4 p.m. at the Baptist church. Please attend! It is important to continue to demonstrate to the Islands Trust that our com-

munity is concerned about the future of our harbour.

TAMAR GRIGGS,
Bold Bluff

MORE LETTERS A12

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Pender Islands
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629 - 3711

Gulf Islands Secondary School
Adult Education Programs
call Len Sokol
537 - 9944 extension 248

Phoenix Alternative
High School
call Steve Berry or Lee Sigmund
537 - 1009

Galiano Island
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HOSPITAL CAKE CUTTING: From left, hospital foundation president Wendy Shea, auxiliary representative Vivian Dawson and Capital Regional District rep Ted Daly cut the cake at Friday's grand opening celebration.

Photos by Derrick Lundy



LUCKY LADY MINTO: Everyone was smiling Friday afternoon at the official opening of the new palliative care room and operating room upgrade at Lady Minto Hospital. Below, past medical staff president Dr. Georges Benloulou, Paul Sadler (hospital maintenance head) and others help unveil new signage.



GISS and Saturna get school upgrades

Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) and Saturna Elementary received the lion's share of \$425,000 in school improvements conducted over the summer months.

"The Saturna school has gone through an absolute transformation and it is so much better," said Saturna school board trustee Susanne Middleditch. "I didn't realize how bad it was until I saw how good it is."

The \$65,000 Saturna renovation project included installation of a new roof, seismic upgrades, a new floor and brightened classrooms.

"The building is quite an old building and we've been waiting to see if student enrollment justified the work," said Dave Henshall, facilities manager for School District 64.

"The numbers have sta-

bilized and come back a little."

The \$320,000 spent on GISS upgrades saw the addition of two classrooms, fire safety upgrades and a new dust collection system after the original one was destroyed in a fire earlier this year.

"This will give students and teachers a little more space to manoeuvre," said Henshall. "To make things work properly, some programs needed the extra space."

Phoenix Alternative High also received \$20,000 for building upgrades and a new wheelchair ramp at its new location in a house on Jackson Avenue.

Salt Spring Island Middle School, Fernwood, Salt Spring Elementary, Fulford and GISS were also coated with some fresh paint to welcome the new school year.



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**Letter to the editor?
Press release?
What's On calendar
event? Send it to
news@gulfislands.net.**

RANTS & ROSES

RANTS

Rants to the busy-bodies poking their nose — again — into the rights of seniors to have a Save-a-Tape box (number 74) at GVM and suspected pilfering of the same. And interference at Return-it-Centre regarding seniors deposit account (number 68). The removal of seniors posters continues. Why the skullduggery about old Driftwood articles concerning seniors? Ronald Milton

ROSES

Roses to Richard Murakami for attempting to provide affordable housing for the

"service personnel" on Salt Spring Island. SG

A big bunch of rainbow roses to Irene Lundy for keeping such good care of the special garden in front of the fire hall at Central in memory of our dear friend Tony Head. K

Dozens and dozens of beautiful roses to the volunteers at the Info Centre for going the "extra mile" and to Peter Vincent for helping an off-island breeder find the owners and the deaf, white Jack Russell. He was thrilled.

Heavenly roses for the person or persons responsible for the uplifting, reflective messages on the Pentecostal church sign on Lower Ganges Road beside the golf

club. I enjoy them every day.

A garden of roses for Arvid Chalmers, who dressed to the nines for the Phantom Ball and helped us with our very successful campaign. Together we raised \$46,000! Hope to see you again next year as our phantom star!

Masses of roses to Jacky for lending "Emma" at Rising Stars' dressage show and to Norah for all the great coaching. You guys are the best!

Roses to Rita Dods for being everybody's mom through all these years.

Rainbow roses to GLOSSI, the volunteers, ArtSpring and the panelists, the GISS Gay-Straight Alliance and the Glass Onion for making the Pride weekend so amazing.

Roses to Morgan Donnelly, who was kind enough to recover my lost PDA from the parking lot at 3:30 a.m., track me down and then drive all the way to the Fulford ferry terminal to hand it over to me! It was a wonderful gesture and it reinforces my faith in the decency of islanders. DR

A huge bunch of roses to the Copper Kettle group which did such a great job of clearing the path along North End Road from Whims to Fernwood! It is much appreciated. BMC, AMc and SL

Roses (and heather) to the Salt Spring Scottish Country Dancers for hosting such a great open house on Monday evening! Their welcome to newcomers could have put a spring in anyone's step. Thanks again for the welcome — see you next week. RB

et cetera

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Tremendous



A person of interest, in this case a man, thought he would prune the tree of knowledge. Talk about stupid. Now the question remains, how many men does it take to recognize something stupid? There is an answer to be had as long as you're not stupid enough to ask a man. Those able to recognize stupidity when they see it have knowledge. On the other side of the equation, knowledgeable people are continually fraternizing with the tactically stupid; leaving one to wonder why the world isn't more screwy than it is. Priceless as it is the price of knowledge keeps going up so if we let it get cut down or at least pruned we will have some firewood to take home. Knowledge should always serve a practical purpose, except in the case of life. "Life is its own purpose." Knowledge, however, since Adam and Eve, has interfered with life causing purpose to exist in a state of confusion as to its true purpose. It is only human arrogance that believes life has a purpose or plan. So I, for one, think (then I am a man) the whole thing should be cut down because so far, knowledge has caused a lot of trouble as we all know. A little knowledge is a dangerous thing, and a lot is lethal

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Short cuts to cooking for one or two with Sarah Lynn

Chowder: The Oxford English Dictionary traces the word chowder to the fishing villages along the coast of France from Bordeaux to Brittany. A simple dish of chowder, in the past considered to be "poor man's food", has a history that is centuries old. Chowder is a delight to anyone's palate. Fish chowders were the forerunners of clam chowder. True chowder lovers delight in their pursuit of the perfect chowder, from creamy white to clear and briny & even tomato based. I hope you enjoy my rendition in this Smoked Salmon Fish Chowder.



- In a large pan place **2 chopped celery stalks, 2 grated carrots, 5 medium potatoes, cubed, & 1 medium onion, diced.** Cover vegetables with **4 cups water.** Cook until well done, about 25 minutes. Add **1 vegetable bouillon cube** dissolved in a little hot water. Stir together in a separate bowl **1 can evaporated milk, 1 tablespoon flour & 1 tablespoon butter.** Add to soup mixture, stirring just to boiling point. Let cool for 5 minutes then stir in **1 cup grated cheddar cheese.** Add **3 tablespoons dill weed, 1 small packet of Sea Change smoked salmon & salt and pepper** to taste. Serve with a fresh Ganges Village Market multigrain baguette.

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- 2 celery stalks
- 2 carrots
- 5 medium potatoes
- 1 medium onion
- Vegetable bouillon cube
- 1 can evaporated milk
- Flour
- Butter
- Cheddar cheese
- Dill weed
- 1 small packet Sea Change smoked salmon
- Salt
- Pepper
- Fresh Ganges Village Market multigrain baguette

B&B GANGES MARINA

Final Closing Agenda September 22, 2005

To All Concerned Citizens and Interested Parties Effected by the Proposed Bylaw 404

PLEASE, READ THIS...

	Options	Existing Zoning	Bylaw 404
1.	6400 sq fill fronting Lot 3 approved in DP24-89	Yes	Yes
2.	Environmental assessment and habitat enhancement	Lot 3 280'	Extended All properties 840'
3.	Permitted building sizes all commercial and residential Properties from Trust Staff Report Jan/05	33,534sq ft	Reduced 23,800sq ft
4.	Elevations from Lower Ganges Rd.	2	Reduced 1 1/2
5.	Sidewalk on Lower Ganges Rd	280'	Extended 840'
6.	Residential construction on Lots 1 & 2	permitted	parkland/open space
7.	View corridors protected	No	Yes
8.	Conservation boundary on water lease	No	Yes
9.	Boardwalk completion	No	Yes
10.	Boardwalk connections	No	Yes
11.	Barrier free access for disabled to boardwalk	No	Yes
12.	Maintenance of boardwalk and sidewalk	No	Yes
13.	Liability insurance of boardwalk	No	Yes
14.	Easements and statutory right of way for public access to boardwalk	No	Yes
15.	Public washroom on boardwalk	No	Yes
16.	Dedication of Lots 1 & 2 for public park	No	Yes
17.	Covenants to protect green space and tree preservation Lots 1 & 2	No	Yes
18.	Maintenance of Lots 1 & 2 as public park and open green space	No	Yes
19.	Rainbow Rd intersection improvements including crosswalk alignments and right turn lane	No	Yes
20.	Left turn lane from Lower Ganges Rd and direction median	No	Yes
21.	Sewage pump out station for boaters	No	Yes
22.	Declare Ganges Marina a "no discharge" zone For holding tanks	No	Yes
23.	Special residential unit constructed for the disabled	No	Yes
24.	Rezoning required	No	Yes
25.	Public input required	No	Yes

The B & B Ganges Marina project and several alternatives have been reviewed by the Islands Trust Staff, the Advisory Design Panels, the Advisory Planning Commission and many Government agencies. This proposal is the accumulation of thousand of hours of work by many individuals both civic and professional and by many members of the Saltspring community who volunteer their time to sit on the Committees.

1. "Approval recommended" Trevor Hutton, MGR
North Saltspring Water Works July 25/2005

2. "1). We reviewed the opposing correspondence from Saltspring Island Conservancy and the Farmer's Institute and fully support their points about maintaining green space and a view corridor via the Institute's property and hopefully also via Mr. Cudmore's property when they come up for improvement. However, we did not find that these letters raised valid major objections to the proposal."

"2). We have reviewed the appraisal and while the Conservancy letter raised discussions about this, we feel that, in any case, the public benefit remains substantial."

"3). We found that the benefit of this project to the community could not even be measured in terms of dollars-green protected space on Lot 1 & 2, and a great facility on Lot 3, not to mention the sea walk finished and maintained by the applicant in perpetuity."

"4). We consider the necessary infill of the harbour as acceptable and not environment threatening, to the contrary, the now rather disorganized portion of the waterfront would get cleaned up."

"5). We found the design of the building to be well thought out as proposed by the applicant and diminishing the square footage further could distort the building proportions and effect its aesthetics and functionality."

Advisory Policy Commission May 19/2005

3. "Mr. Webb confirmed that while MOT recognized the difficulty in providing a walkway and landscaped area along Lower Ganges Road, they do see the benefit in achieving that goal."
Traffic Planning Study, Bunt and Associates May 11/2005

4. "With respect to the Boardwalk portion of the development, it has already been generally accepted that the upland property owners would infill the harbour, to the degree that permission has already been granted by the appropriate authorities, in order to accommodate the completion of the Boardwalk. This is and was the case at Centennial and Rotary Parks, Mouats, Grace Point and the Fishery, all of which contribute significantly to the charm and ambiance of this community."

"With regard to the upland development itself, we have faith that the Islands Trust, working together with the Ganges Marina management and the APC will settle on a mutually satisfactory and beneficial development that is in good taste and will ultimately contribute to the charm and well being of the village."

Board of Directors
Chamber of Commerce September 8/2005

5. "Some protestors at meetings complain that there has not been an independent ecological assessment of the marina's proposal. As part of the APC deliberations, I did my own independent assessment of that part of the shoreline before voting yes. My intention was to act in the best

public interest, as a specialist in damage to aquatic habitats. It is mildly annoying that protestors have consistently ignored this."

Mr. John Sprague, PhD.
September 11/2005

6. "Staff appreciates the quality and detail of the submission by the applicant and expects that further progress can be made to achieve a compatible proposal for this important development site on Ganges Harbour. Staff are particularly Please with the concept of a mixed use building, the proposed architectural design..."

"It has always been contemplated that completion of the Ganges Boardwalk would be accompanied with some complimentary redevelopment of upland properties along Lower Ganges Road, including the B & B Ganges Marina site."

"It is also noted that the building will have a low profile from Lower Ganges Road thereby maintaining overviews from upslope properties and will not interrupt street end view of the harbour from Rainbow Road located to the south."

Islands Trust Staff Report
June/2004

7. "The land is going to be developed, and we should disabuse ourselves of the notion that nothing will happen on it. It's a prime piece of real estate in one of the nicest locations in one of the hottest markets in the country. It will be developed."

George Ehring
Member of Save our Shoreline
September 13/2005

B & B Ganges Marina has had and still does have several options to develop their properties under the CURRENT EXISTING ZONING. The HEART of this proposal outlined in BYLAW 404 will effectively open the entire public pathway system of both the sea walk and the completed sidewalk on Lower Ganges Rd., connected by 3 staircases and a 24 hours barrier free elevator for the disabled, which fronts all of the marina water front properties. These properties are currently privately owned. Bylaw 404 will open these properties to the public domain. In other words, from almost Lois Lane to the Fishery. And in addition, over 84% of the properties will be convert to public open space and green space. This is not a temporary agreement but a lifelong commitment to the public today, to our children and generations to come.

Without Bylaw 404 there is no certain future to ensure any of the amenities will ever happen.

Do you care? If you do, voice your opinion to your Trustees on September 22, 2005.

SPEAK OUT - BE HEARD

Attend the final Public Hearing

September 22, 2005 at the Baptist Church Lower Ganges Road
12 noon till 4:00pm

OR write or email your Trustees

Email: ebooth@islandstrust.bc.ca
klineger@islandstrust.bc.ca
dessig@islandstrust.bc.ca

Deadline: September 22, 2005 - 4:00PM

Thank you.

Island Wheels

A Driftwood Guide to Island Transportation, Sales, Service, Accessories and More!

Are hybrid-electric vehicles the way of the future?

Japanese automakers started it all, the Americans quickly followed suit and now some Europeans will be getting in on the game.

Of course, we're talking about building hybrid-electric vehicles.

Applauded by environmentalists and highly desired by many consumers, will these vehicles be the cars of tomorrow?

Fuel economy has been a hot topic in recent years, but it is the environmental impact of our vehicles that has many of us really worried. Cars have frequently been accused of being the main cause of global pollution.

The "cleanest" solution is for car owners to switch over to electric vehicles, but this is unlikely to happen in massive numbers as long as the batteries in these vehicles continue to wear out quickly and take forever to recharge.

It would appear, then, that the

"Fuel economy has been a hot topic in recent years, but it is the environmental impact of our vehicles that has many of us really worried."

fastest way of reducing the environmental damage caused by vehicles is to lower the fuel consumption of conventional gas engines.

This is where automakers have been quick to react, with Japanese manufacturers leading the way. After taking steps to dramatically improve the fuel efficiency of conventional engines, they realized that they could further slash gas use by adding a small electric motor between the internal combustion engine and the transmission.

The first cars to be offered with this configuration were the Honda Insight, a small sporty coupe, and the Toyota Prius, a compact sedan. Today, the Prius has become a very useful mid-size sedan, while Honda

has adapted its electric engine aid system to the popular Civic sedan and its larger Accord.

Here in North America, Ford was the first to adapt this technology to an SUV with the Escape Hybrid. Other similar products are to come from Ford, including the new Fusion sedan.

GM has chosen to use a different application of hybrid-electric technology on its bigger Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra pick-up trucks. Their V8 engines shut off whenever the vehicle is stopped at a red light or an intersection, and spring back to life with the help of an electric motor once the driver lifts their foot off the brake pedal. Chrysler will offer the same technology on its Ram trucks.

The next generation of full-size SUVs to come from GM will feature the more traditional hybrid-electric system as an option.

HYBRID VEHICLES A15



CAR CRAZY: Salt Spring's classic car guru Marv Coulthard gives a polish to his 1960 Morgan, which was on display at the fall fair last weekend.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

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HYBRID VEHICLES

From Page A14

Not to be outdone, Toyota has recently added this option to its Highlander SUV and will include it in the list of options for its upcoming Tundra pick-up.

Finally, Mitsubishi, Hyundai and Kia will follow suit with some of their vehicles in the near future.

Meanwhile, over in Europe, Porsche is expected to equip its powerful Cayenne SUV with this technology, and other manufacturers are contemplating making the same move.

It's important to point out that extremely clean and economical diesel engines are all the rage in Europe right now, and we can expect

these engines to make their way across the Atlantic before too long.

So is hybrid-electric technology the final solution?

Not at all. Many countries are trying to free themselves from their reliance on fossil fuels altogether.

For the near future, the ultimate target is electric vehicles equipped with fuel cells.

Hydrogen would be the ideal fuel since it produces absolutely no pollution. Although it can be adapted to existing internal combustion engines, it would be more efficient with fuel cells.

Unfortunately, this technology is nowhere near the

stage of mass production and distribution.

So that leaves us with hybrid-electric vehicles for the time being.

They are expected to grow in popularity in the next few years, particularly where larger, gas-guzzling vehicles are concerned.

Unfortunately, their batteries will need to be changed after seven or eight years — and at a price that's fairly steep.

But it's the most readily available solution for curbing our ever-growing reliance on fossil fuels. Plus it's a step toward reducing gas emissions, and that's worth something, too.

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CLASSIFIEDS Page B19 Driftwood

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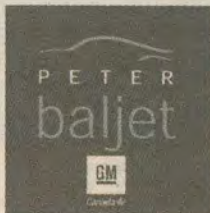
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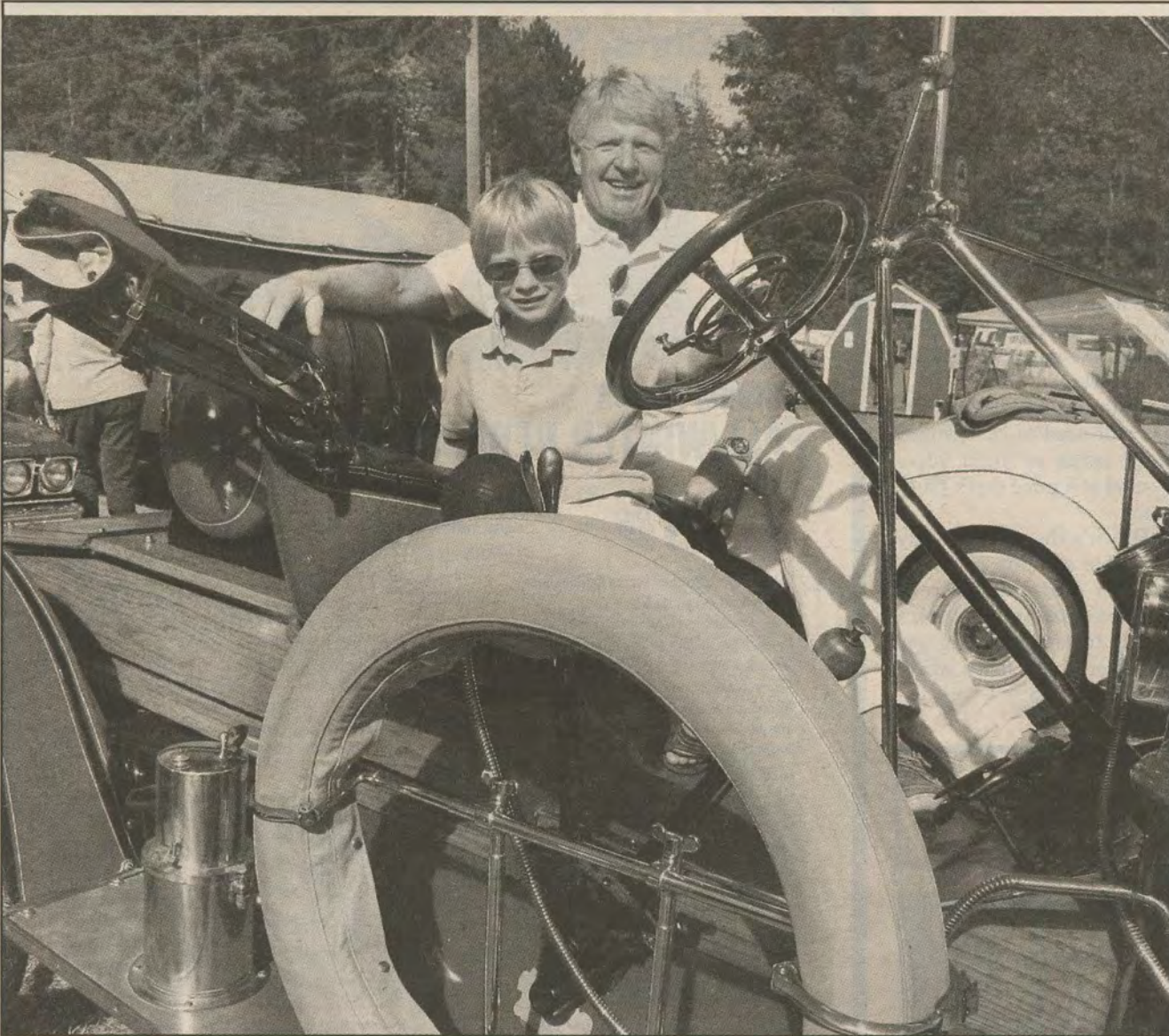
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Island Wheels



MAKING A TRIP THROUGH TIME: Classic cars at the Salt Spring Fall Fair created lots of interest as people — young and old — wandered through the display area. At top, Rob and Brennan Peters enjoy their 1910 White, while at right, images of some of the other old-time cars seen on the fairgrounds are captured by driftwood photographer Derrick Lundy.

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Think. Feel. Drive. SUBARU

Screaming fun Smart Car fits into Salt Spring scene

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

I had my first close-up look at the much talked-about Smart cars when I emerged from an ArtCraft gallery opening this summer to find a small flock of people huddled around the brand new addition for midwife Maggie Ramsey and her partner Jake Watt.

They had bought a richly hued, dark-blue convertible model that very day when Three Point Motors of Victoria visited the island with a display at Island Savings.

Ramsey and Watt gave everyone a quick tour of the new baby, noting it had ample room in the back for her midwifery gear.

As a result of that impromptu preview, I was anticipating my turn behind the wheel of a Smart Car I heard was to be lent to the Driftwood by the Victoria Mercedes dealer a few days later.

For one thing, these cars scream "fun," and, if I have to drive, I want it to be fun.

That's why I'm a tried and true fan of standard-transmission vehicles, and what sold me on the

"People might assume the Smart Car will feel small inside, but it doesn't."

bottom-of-the-line Toyota Matrix last year, along with its great gas mileage and the absence of dreaded electric door locks.

(The Matrix continues to be a blast to drive, by the way, and since the average age of Matrix drivers I see appears to be about 70, it has made me much less fearful of growing old.)

Since my colleague Susan Lundy has a proven track record of adventurous driving, I invited her along on the "test jaunt," which took us in and around Ganges and down the Fulford-Ganges highway and winding Cusheon Lake Road to her place.

Once I figured out how to operate the "clutchless yet standard" transmission — the car allowed both options — I was off to the races.

Despite the slightly unusual hesitation upon first accelerating onto the road, I found the car had lots of pep and sailed along

nicely at the maximum speed on Fulford-Ganges Road.

It hugged the road comfortably and, as you'd expect, it was a dream to park.

People might assume a Smart Car will feel small inside, but it doesn't.

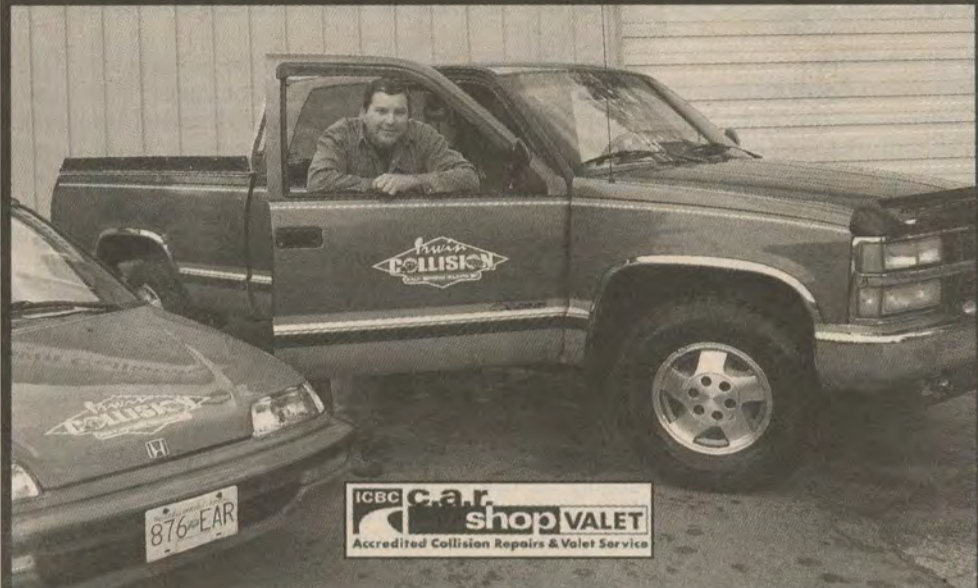
The driver and passenger compartments seem like any other compact vehicle, and who turns around to look into the back seat when they're driving anyway?

I think it could take me a while to feel safe driving a Smart Car in heavy traffic on a four-lane highway, just because it might be hard to shake the sense of being the smallest entity amid a heaving throng of heavy metal, but since I didn't try that, I don't really know.

One thing is certain: judging by all the colourful Smart Cars I see bombing around, they've definitely found a welcoming home here.

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Junior Scorpions triumph in highlight-filled match

By JOHN FOLEY
Driftwood Contributor

Football season started last week with the Gulf Islands Secondary School Junior Varsity Scorpions going to Nanaimo to play Nanaimo District Secondary School.

With only 14 players, including four who had never played in a game before, they had their work cut out.

The first play of the game saw Will Cornwall rocket down the sideline for a 48-yard gain. A few plays later, Sebastian Banks on the quarterback sneak went 12

yards to put the Scorpions up by six.

The Scorpions' defence was solid all game led by Will Cornwall, Hugh Finer and Dan Foley with six tackles each.

Angus Fraser, Myles Raposo and Banks also logged four tackles each. (Tackles are awarded to the first person in on the tackle, but most tackles are a group effort.)

Fraser had a strong game, running the ball up the middle with 12 carries for 66 hard yards. The Scorpions

had three touchdowns called back on questionable calls. Cornwall scored again to finish the game 12 to 0, ending up with 11 carries for 90 yards.

Banks tallied 112 yards on 12 carries.

The highlight play of the game was a 38-yard pass play from Banks to Ian Barrett.

Next game for the junior varsity squad is at home against Highland on Saturday, September 24 at 11 a.m. It is the first game of a double header.



TWO FOR A TACKLE: A GISS Scorpions player is tackled by two Nanaimo team members as the local squad beats the off-islanders in the first ever varsity football game played on Salt Spring. The game took place Friday at the Hydro field.

Photo by Derrick Lundy



CAPITAL
REGIONAL
DISTRICT

NOTICE OF ADVANCE VOTER REGISTRATION AND AVAILABILITY OF LIST OF REGISTERED ELECTORS

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that **Advance Voter Registration closes on Sept. 27, 2005** for Capital Regional District (CRD) Lists of Registered Electors for:

- **Juan de Fuca Electoral Area**
- **Salt Spring Island Electoral Area**
- **Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area** (Galiano, Mayne, North and South Pender, Saturna and Piers Islands)

CRD Lists of Registered Electors are used for voting for Electoral Area Directors and referenda, School District Trustees and Islands Trust Trustees in the Capital Regional District.

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

Resident Elector

If you are 18 years or older on voting day (Nov. 19, 2005), are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for six months and in your community for 30 days (the residency qualifications are set out in the Local Government Act), you are entitled to vote as a Resident Elector.

Non-Resident Property Elector

If you are 18 years or older on voting day (Nov. 19, 2005), are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for six months, have owned and held registered title to property within the boundaries of the local community for 30 days, do not qualify as a Resident Elector, you may vote as a Non-Resident Property Elector provided that you:

- a) have registered on or before Sept. 27, 2005, OR
- b) have applied for and received a certificate, prior to voting day, entitling you to register as a Non-Resident Property Elector (certificate must be presented at the time of voting), OR
- c) apply for a certificate, at the time of voting, entitling you to register as a Non-Resident Property Elector. The following information is required at the time of application:
 - a recent land title registration of the real property (may be obtained at the Land Title Office) or property tax notice, showing the names of all the registered owners,
 - 2 pieces of identification (one must have a signature), and
 - in the case of more than one owner of the property, a completed consent form signed by the majority of the owners designating you as the person entitled to vote for the property.

(Only one Non-Resident Property Elector may vote per property regardless of the number of owners.)

You may register on voting day if you meet the elector qualifications set out above.

For information about registering as a Resident or Non-Resident Property Elector call (250) 360-3129. Port Renfrew and Gulf Island residents may call toll free, 1-800-663-4425 local 3129.

LIST OF REGISTERED ELECTORS

The preliminary Lists of Registered Electors will be available, upon signature, for viewing at the CRD offices listed below. You may also call the offices to enquire whether your name is on a CRD List of Registered Electors:

- Administration – (250) 360-3129, 524 Yates St., **Victoria, BC** (Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-4:30 pm)
- Building Inspection (Malahat, Willis Point and Southern Gulf Islands) – (250) 360-3230, 625 Fisgard St., **Victoria, BC** (Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-4:30 pm)
- Juan de Fuca Planning & Building Inspection – (250) 642-1620, 2205 Otter Point Rd., **Sooke, BC** (Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-4:30 pm)
- Building Inspection – (250) 629-3424, 4605 Bedwell Harbour Rd. (Driftwood Centre), **North Pender Island** (Mon.-Wed.-Fri., 8:30 am-Noon and 1:00-4:30 pm)
- Building Inspection – (250) 537-2711, #206-118 Fulford Ganges Rd., **Salt Spring Island**, (Mon.-Fri., 8:30-10:00 am, 10:30 am-Noon, 1:00-4:30 pm)

Following the close of Advance Voter Registration and beginning Tues., Oct. 4, 2005, until the close of general voting, a copy of the final Lists of Registered Electors will be available, upon signature, for public inspection at the CRD offices listed above.

An elector may request that personal information respecting the elector be omitted from or obscured on the List in accordance with S.63 (protection of privacy) of the *Local Government Act*.

OBJECTION TO REGISTRATION OF AN ELECTOR

An objection to the registration of a person whose name appears on the List of Registered Electors may be made to the CRD Corporate Secretary, PO Box 1000, Victoria, BC, V8W 2S6, in accordance with the Local Government Act, until 4:00 p.m. on Oct. 14, 2005. An objection must be made in writing, may only be made by a person entitled to be registered as an elector of the CRD, and can only be made on the basis that the person whose name appears has died or is not qualified to be registered as an elector of the CRD.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2005

Carmen I. Thiel,
Corporate Secretary

Stibbards' 110 yards sets off GISS varsity football victory

By JOHN FOLEY
Driftwood Contributor

History was made on September 16 when the first ever varsity football game was played on Salt Spring Island.

The Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) Scorpions beat their Nanaimo District Secondary School (NDSS) counterparts, whose junior squad had suffered a loss at the hands of GISS' junior varsity team. (See separate story.)

Scorpions started out shaky by fumbling on the first play of the game. NDSS would capitalize on the turn over a few plays later to take a six-point lead.

Scorpions took a few procedure calls and had to

kick the ball away. NDSS threatened to double its lead as they drove to the GISS 10-yard line. The Scorpions defence held tight and took over the ball on their own 15. Quarterback John Foley handed off to Taylor Stibbards for sweeps to the right and left and the NDSS defence had a tough time handling Stibbards' speed and agility.

The mutable sweeps set up the perfect call by Coach Mitchell — a reverse that would send Travis Bantel 35 yards for the touchdown (TD). In the second half, the Scorpions defence stopped NDSS cold, led by Graham Meek with a total of 10 tackles and close behind was Dave Puhky with nine.

Sebastian Banks chipped in six tackles. Max Nelson played great on the line and also logged four tackles. Meek carried 13 times for a total of 74 yards.

Late in the third quarter, Meeks' incredible 28-yard run would set up a fourth-quarter, 15-yard Stibbards TD to win the game 12 to 6. Stibbards carried 16 times for 110 yards.

Next game is against the reigning provincial champs, Windsor Dukes at 1:30 p.m. on September 24 at the middle school field.

We will train anyone interested in being involved in football as stats people, trainers, officials, players and sports writers. Call John Foley at 537-0083.

Vermeulen tourney honours youths

An annual tournament that benefits Salt Spring's young golfers is set to run on Saturday, October 1.

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

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

Besides supporting the club's junior program, proceeds go to an annual scholarship awarded to a graduat-

ing Gulf Islands Secondary student.

"It's great for the kids and the junior program has really benefitted from putting this tournament on," said Shelley Vermeulen.

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

Advance registration is preferred, with forms available at the clubhouse pro shop. Vermeulen praised the generosity of all those who participate, including Salt Spring business owners.

"A lot of the local businesses contribute with prizes. They have been really generous over the past couple of years."

Last year's scholarship winner was Brett Savin.

Cost for golf and dinner is \$50, which includes a chance at great prizes. People can also enjoy dinner only, with a portion of proceeds going to the junior golf fund.

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

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

"It is always a great day and lots of fun at the banquet. We also have several prize raffles available too," she said. For more information or to sign up for the tournament, call Steven Marleau at 537-2121.

HIGH ROLLERS

The golden agers are back in full force and excited at the prospect of a brand new bowling season.

Top bowlers for the week are:
Rita Dods, 200; Ken Robinson, 201; Reg Winstone, 214; Carol Kaye, 261; Jim Glenn, 231, 223-647.

Charltons win tourney tie-breaker

More teams than ever came out for the annual adult/junior tournament at the Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club, and offered up an exciting tie-breaking finish.

The tourney sees one adult and one junior golfer alternate shots as they make their way around the nine holes, for a single combined score.

Seventy-eight players or 39 teams started the day, consisting of 39 members and 39 non-members.

After a fun-filled nine holes, three teams emerged tied for the lead.

Troy and Jim Charlton, Christian and Robert Huser and the team of Stephen Greenwood and Eric Taylor all shot a 34 and forced an exciting "chip/putt-off" to decide the winner.

Team adults had to chip from 40 yards off the green, with the juniors having to make the putt.

In the end, the Charltons were victorious.

They were presented with a trophy and prizes. In fact, every junior participant in this year's tournament walked away with a prize of some sort.

Before the awards ceremony, participants sat down to a delicious salmon dinner provided by Arnie and Julia Hengstler and prepared by the staff of the 19th Hole Restaurant.



TOP TEAM: Salt Spring Golf Club junior development director Gord Hollingsworth, left, presents father-and-son Jim and Troy Charlton with the 2005 Adult-Junior Trophy after their tie-breaking win. Photo contributed

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Keith Oliver

FC sends Blue off packing in 4-3 game

Bays United Blue was sent home in a despondent state after a 4-3 loss to Salt Spring FC's Division-1 men at Portlock Park on Saturday.

"We're almost notorious for coming out slow in the goal-scoring department," said FC team captain Chris Jason.

But he was pleased with the victory and happy to see solid offense from the islanders.

"We scored our first goal 10 minutes in and we got two more before the half," Jason said.

Tyler Laitinen put away the first Salt Spring goal off a play developed by Jim

Severn.

"The keeper made the first save and Tyler got the rebound and pushed it home nicely."

The second goal was a great effort by Dion Hackett, said Jason.

"There was a pass back by one of their defenders. Dion just hunted it down and slid to beat the keeper."

Marlow Hart scored the third goal and Severn helped set up Mark Nordine for Salt Spring's fourth tally. Jason commended defender Jeremy Morrison for fine play.

"He was definitely the MVP in that game and the week before too. He won

everything in the air, his tackles were timed perfectly and he just played outstanding back there."

Unfortunately, FC keeper Jonathon McDonald was injured in the first half during a collision.

"Two guys took him out and he fell to the ground... He ended up breaking his collar bone. That's going to hurt us for the rest of the season."

McDonald will likely be

on the mend for the next 10 weeks, Jason said.

Back-up keeper Jasenn Wensveen faced a penalty shot for his first test in net and Bays was successful to build momentum going into the second half. Bays collected another two goals in the second half — both off corner kicks, Jason noted.

The two teams have a close rivalry after Bays finished one point behind the islanders last season.



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Cardin Davis back on national soccer team

Cardin Davis will be playing on Canada's U15 national soccer team again.

Davis flies to Kelowna today (Wednesday) for training camp and then plays games against New Zealand in Kelowna on September 29 and October 1.

This summer Davis played with the U15 national team when they won the inaugural Caribbean Football Union's (CFU) Youth Cup in Trinidad and Tobago in August.

Davis, 14, was on defence in four of the six games played by the victorious Canadian squad over 10 days.

REGISTER NOW FOR FALL COURSES

- **A SLICE OF BEACH.** *Betty Caskey, October 14, 15*
Stitch a seascape with hand dyed silks, ribbon embroidery & embellishments. Betty has produced 3 videos, teaches internationally and runs her own mail order business, Victorian Pleasures.
- **BEGINNER SOCKS.** *Nell Bushby, October 22, 29, November 5*
Nell will be teaching this beginner sock class for us again this fall. Learn to make a pair of those cozy patterned socks that are all the rage.
- **SURFACE PLAY.** *Coreen Zeer, October 30*
Developed for our shop, this class will introduce new products including Angelina and Tintz heat bondable fibers, using foil and Shiva paintstiks on fabric and melting cellophane.
- **MACHINE QUILTING.** *Barbara Cochrane, November 6*
This class teaches you how to get out of the ditch and learn new ways and products to help you finish those quilt tops. Her ideas and trunk show is truly inspirational.
- **PAINTED FLOORCLOTHS.** *Susan Paynter, November 26*
Susan is an accomplished sewer, teacher and quilter. This class will cover how to prepare, design and paint a functional floor cloth.



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CAPITAL
REGIONAL
DISTRICT

NOTICE OF NOMINATION 2005 GENERAL LOCAL ELECTION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors of the **Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island and Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Areas** in the Capital Regional District that **nominations** for the office of **ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTOR** will be received between:

**9:00 am, Tuesday, October 4, 2005 and
4:00 pm, Friday, October 14, 2005.**

During that period the nomination documents shall only be received during regular office hours, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-4:30 pm, excluding statutory holidays, by a person designated by the Chief Election Officer at the **Capital Regional District, Administration Dept., 3rd Floor, 524 Yates St., Victoria, B.C.**

Should anyone wish to file nomination documents in other than office hours, arrangements may be made by phoning the Chief Election Officer at (250) 472-0059.

Representation for the Electoral Areas will be as listed below and shall be for a 3-year term commencing December 2005 and terminating December 2008:

- **Juan de Fuca Electoral Area** **One Director**
- **Salt Spring Island Electoral Area** **One Director**
- **Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area** **One Director**
(Galiano, Mayne, North Pender, Saturna, South Pender and Piers Islands)

Candidates shall be nominated in writing by two duly qualified electors of the Electoral Area in which the candidate is running for office. The nomination documents shall be in the form prescribed in the *Local Government Act* and shall state the name and residence of the person nominated in such a manner as to sufficiently identify such candidate. The nomination documents shall be subscribed to by the candidate. At the time of filing the nomination documents, the candidate shall also file with the Chief Election Officer or a person designated by the Chief Election Officer a written disclosure as required under the *Financial Disclosure Act*.

Copies of all forms are available at:

- **Capital Regional District**, Administration Dept., 524 Yates St., Victoria, B.C.
Tel. (250) 360-3128, or toll free 1-800-663-4425, local 3128 for Port Renfrew and Gulf Island residents;
- or by calling the Chief Election Officer at (250) 472-0059.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2005

Thomas F. Moore,
Chief Election Officer

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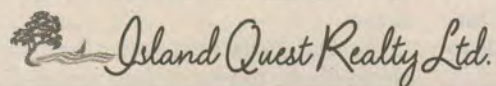


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THE BIG ONE: Leigh Sturgess shows off his catch of the day — a 28-pound spring salmon plucked from Active Pass.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Div. 5 men tie Pacific squad

Salt Spring FC's Colin McDougall blasted Pacific FC's tranquillity eight seconds into a match among Division 5 men at Portlock Park on Sunday.

"We went up 2-1 in the half," said McDougall.

"We were just unfortunate that they tied it up in the second half and that's how it

finished."

Whatever the islanders threw at Pacific, the Royal Oak-based squad answered with equal force and the two teams drew at 3-3.

"They managed to come back with a free kick and tied it up with six or seven minutes remaining," McDougall said.

He praised islanders Jeremy Moulton in the midfield and Colin Walde at the back for solid play. Jude Shugar and Mark Nordine also scored goals, McDougall said.

"Mark Nordine had a really nice finish with a one-time volley in the bottom left-hand corner."



Islands Trust

ISLANDS TRUST - LOCAL TRUSTEES NOTICE OF NOMINATION 2005 GENERAL LOCAL ELECTION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors of **Galiano Island Group, Mayne Island Group, North Pender Island Group, Salt Spring Island Group, Saturna Island Group and South Pender Island Group** that nominations for the office of **LOCAL TRUSTEE** will be received between:

9:00 am, Tuesday, October 4, 2005, and

4:00 pm, Friday, October 14, 2005.

During that period, nomination documents shall only be received during regular office hours, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-4:30 pm, excluding statutory holidays, by a person designated by the Chief Election Officer at the **Capital Regional District, Administration Dept., 3rd Floor, 524 Yates St., Victoria, B.C.**

Should anyone wish to file nomination documents in other than office hours, arrangements may be made by phoning the Chief Election Officer at (250) 472-0059.

Representation for the Islands Trust will be as listed below and shall be for a 3-year term commencing December 2005 and terminating December 2008:

Galiano Island	Two Trustees
Mayne Island	Two Trustees
North Pender Island	Two Trustees
Salt Spring Island	Two Trustees
Saturna Island	Two Trustees
South Pender Island	Two Trustees

Candidates shall be nominated in writing by two duly qualified electors of the said Island in which the candidate is running for office. The nomination documents shall be in the form prescribed in the *Local Government Act* and shall state the name and residence of the person nominated in such a manner as to sufficiently identify such candidate. The nomination documents shall be subscribed to by the candidate. At the time of filing the nomination documents, the candidate shall also file with the Chief Election Officer or a person designated by the Chief Election Officer a written disclosure, as required under the *Financial Disclosure Act*.

Copies of all forms are available at:

- **Capital Regional District**, Administration Dept., 3rd Floor, 524 Yates St., Victoria, tel. (250) 360-3128 or toll free 1-800-663-4425, local 3128 for Gulf Island residents;
- **Islands Trust**, #200-1627 Fort St., Victoria, tel. (250) 405-5164;
- **Islands Trust**, #1-500 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, tel. (250) 537-9144;
- or by calling the Chief Election Officer at (250) 472-0059.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2005

Thomas F. Moore,
Chief Election Officer

The following constitutes the designated island groups for the purpose of electing local trustees to the Islands Trust:

Galiano Island Group - Galiano, Ballingall, Charles, Gossip, Julia, Lion Islets, Parker, Retreat, Sphinx, Wise, Lot 145 Whaler Bay.

Mayne Island Group - Mayne, Curlew, Georgeson

North Pender Group - North Pender, Boat Islet, Fane, Roe Islet, Lot 31 A & B Colston Cove, Lot 50 Grimmer Bay, Lot 176 Otter Bay, Lot 32 Bedwell Harbour, Arbutus, Brethour, Chads, Coal, Comet, D'Arcy, Forrest, Gooch, Goudge, Hood, Imrie, James, Knapp, Portland, Pym, Rubly, Rum, Sidney, Tortoise Islets.

Salt Spring Island Group - Salt Spring, Acland, Bright, Buriel Islet, Channel, Deadman, Goat, Grace, Hall, Hawkins, Idol, Isabella, Jackscrew, Mowgli, Norway, Piers, Prevost, Red Islets, Russell, Secretary, Secret, Sisters - First, Second, Third, Wallace, Lot 73 Long Harbour, Lot 349 Ganges Harbour, Lot 222 Long Harbour, Lot 344 Stuart Channel.

Saturna Island Group - Saturna, Anniversary, Belle Chain Islets, Cabbage, Java Islets, King Islets, Lizard, Pine, Samuel, Trevor Islet, Tumbo, Lot 65 East of Samuel.

South Pender Group - South Pender, Blunden Islet, Skull Islet.

Selects women hit speed dial against Div. 2 Sooke players

Coach Dave McColl is shaking his head after the Salt Spring Selects slipped back to their old patterns for their first game in Division 2.

"I hope it's not going to be like last year," McColl said.

Unfortunately, the Selects show every sign of repeating their performance.

Playing against Sooke at Fred Milne Field on Sunday, the island women scored six goals in the opening half and Kelly Kerr had a hat trick within the first 17 minutes of play, McColl said.

"We were expecting it to be a lot rougher."

Despite efforts to tone it down, Salt Spring went on to sink another three goals in the second half.

"We played keep away and every goal had to be a set up," McColl said.

Last season, the Selects went undefeated through 13 games of league play in Division 3, with 67 goals for and three goals against — a goal ratio of 22:1.

They followed that league showing with four straight wins in the Doug Day Cup

before they finally lost the semi-final by 1-0 against the eventual winners.

"Our team is the strongest I've ever had," he said.

In addition to powerhouse players like Kerr, Jordan Davignon, Jesse Johnston-Hill and Thea Woods, he's added some new young talent (Caitlin Pal, Emily Myers and Emma Rimmer), along with veterans from the Salt Spring Dragons (Mardon Dary and Sue King).

The Selects will next play against Gordon Head at Portlock Park noon on Sunday.

SOCCER KICKS

• Salt Spring's U-17 Gold Boys team was challenged Sunday at Portlock Park when it squared off against a Bays United U18 gold team.

The local squad played well in the first half, maintaining a tight defensive line and working the ball up the wings in a few strong attempts on net.

Strong passing skills and team cohesiveness were displayed and the score remained 0-0 at half time.

By the second half, the effort of keeping up to the faster and bigger U18 players became evident.

With many players injured and only a few subs on the side, the boys slowed down and Bays United took the lead.

DJ Lake was solid as centre-mid, encouraging the team to move the ball forward and digging deep to keep possession. Teaming up with Tavis Morton as striker they had a few good shots on net.

In defence, Liam Johnson worked hard throughout the game, keeping the ball out of the Salt Spring end.

Keeper Brandon Shaw saved many well-placed kicks but the score settled at 6-0.

Island's Hickford wins B.C. event

Islanders topped the podium at the B.C. Disc Golf Championships held on Pender Island last weekend.

Salt Spring's Ted Hickford won the grand-masters division (for players aged 50 and over) with a score of 174 (48 under par 222) after 63 holes.

"After the first day, Ted was down by 11 strokes and on the second day he was up by two," said fellow competitor Gordon Murphy.

The provincial competition marked the 25th anniversary of disc golf on Pender Island. The tourney was played by 100 people on two courses, Magic Lake and a private course on the Bachmier property.

Other local winners included 13-year-old Braeden Simmonds, who took the amateurs division with a 169.

"He lives in Shawnigan now but he's so good, we still claim him as one of our own," said Murphy.

Among other highlights,

DISC SPIN

Murphy placed second in the advanced masters division (182), and islanders took third through fifth place in the advanced men's division (Andrew McLean, 167; Dustin Chamberlin, 168; Mike Boughton, 169).

Tanya Van Ginkel placed sixth among open women (216) and Brook Holdack placed seventh (218), while Fritz Arnold (195) hit fifth in grand masters.

Joah Chlopan placed seventh in the open-pro division (162).

Islanders Eric Vanderwekken (179), Markus from Germany (last name unknown) (185) and Jeff "Turbo Putt" (last name unknown) (200) also played in the amateur division, Murphy said.

Sharing in an ace pot were: Chlopan (basket ace), McLean, Murphy and "Turbo Putt."

Dragons soar despite defeat

A 4-2 loss to the Victoria A's was not enough to stifle an optimistic Dragons soccer squad in Sunday's season opener at the lower high school field in Ganges.

Dragons player and manager Joanne O'Connor said the Division-3 women's soccer team showed some promising signs for the upcoming season.

"We played a fairly good game considering we have lots of new people on the team," O'Connor said. "It takes a while to figure out

the teammates and learn how to work together."

With 21 players already signed to the team and a full-season commitment from coach Dick Davidson, O'Connor said this year is shaping up very well indeed.

"There are lots of differences in ages and players are from all walks of life," she said.

"When so many people stick around and play it's a very good sign."

Rookie goalkeeper Lindsey Kovats was subjected to

a trial by fire as the first shot she faced came on a penalty-kick that barely eluded her grasp.

Victoria players quickly added two more goals.

Striker Sue-Anne Donaldson supplied the two Dragons goals late in the first-half.

The goals brought the Dragons to within one goal.

Despite a solid defensive performance in the second half, the Victoria squad added a late goal to put the match out of reach.

Old Boys ground Vantreights

Salt Spring's Old Boys stormed Lansdowne Field with a 6-1 victory over Vantreights FC Sunday.

"Each half was marked by effective passing out of defence, which allowed three first-half goals from Don Brown, Navid Niazi and a screamer of a 35-yard free kick from Jesse Fisher," said Old Boys coach Fraser Hope.

The scorers "bagged their limit" of two goals by duplicating their first-half efforts to bring the final score to 6-1, he said.

former Victoria aerodrome, the team provided a polished performance with all in the 12-man squad providing skill and support for the win."

Hope was particularly pleased with a top-flight defensive line of Dennis Shaw in goal, Campbell Blair, Jim Witherspoon and Paul Sinclair ably backed up by sweeper Graham Tweddle, who negated any opposition threats.

The Old Boys next make the long road trip to Sooke to ensure their top-of-division