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## BIG BOAT, LITTLE BOAT:

A family of boaters turns to watch the fast approach of a Canadian Coast Guard hovercraft, following an overnight rescue operation. The rescue, a false alarm, drew emergency crews from numerous neighbouring areas. See story, Page A6.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

# Court-ordered purchase sinks land deal

**No sense in waiting for Islands Trust rezoning, says judge**

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Driftwood Editor

A 20-lot development proposed for Cusheon Creek could be halted in its tracks due to the outcome of a Supreme Court of B.C. application.

Justice E.R.A. Edwards ruled Monday that an offer from Jean Barakett to purchase the Stewart Road home of Jonathan and Evelyn Oldroyd for \$2.7 million must be accepted, rather than tak-

ing a chance on \$3 million being realized from a conditional offer facilitated by realtor Eric Booth through a complicated rezoning and development process involving the Oldroyd property and three others.

Pursuant to terms of a court order made in April, when it was deemed former lawyer Jonathan Oldroyd owed some \$4.67 million to former clients, the property at 323 Stewart Road must be sold. Booth and the Oldroyds hoped it would be bought by his client — Abbotsford-based Cusheon Beach Ventures Ltd. — which made a \$3-million offer conditional

on a successful rezoning from the Islands Trust.

"If someone [else] ends up buying the [Oldroyd] property, then this whole thing would just fall off the table," said Booth.

The Oldroyds sought an adjournment of the sale application to allow more time for the Cusheon Beach Ventures Ltd. deal to materialize.

But Edwards said in his Reasons for Judgement released Tuesday that the unconditional Barakett offer should be accepted since there was no guarantee the rezoning would even be passed by the Salt Spring

Local Trust Committee (LTC), and likely not before November 30, when a subject-to clause would expire.

Edwards also ruled on two other sales: a \$115,500 offer from Michael Levy to buy Salt Spring Cinema and a \$30,000 offer to purchase shares in an Oldroyd company called Skomahl River Lands, which owns property near Bella Coola.

Members of the Oldroyd family had wanted to purchase the Skomahl River Lands shares, explains Edwards in his reasons, but a \$30,000 offer from Wenda Gale Silver, who owns the other 50 per cent of the

shares, was approved by the judge instead.

The Oldroyds also want to purchase Salt Spring Cinema, noted Edwards, who outlined a process by which Evelyn Oldroyd could do so in competition with Levy if certain conditions are met.

In April 2004, Jonathan Oldroyd was accused of misappropriating trust funds. Two years later, he was ordered to repay \$4.67 million, which included interest, to 14 individuals, companies and estates, by first liquidating his considerable assets.

Nick Lott, counsel for the

LAND A2

# Salt Spring tourism picks up after slow start

By STACY CARDIGAN SMITH  
Driftwood Staff

If you talk to local retailers, Salt Spring's 2006 tourist season has been a hot and cold affair, but the official numbers show the island is still a popular summer commodity for visitors.

Total visitors to the centre in May grew 17 per cent from 3,232 in 2005 to 3,784 in 2006.

However, June saw an 8.9 per cent drop from 4,506 in 2005 to 4,135 in 2006.

July saw the numbers swing back up by 15.5 per cent, growing from 8,665 in 2005 to 10,010 in 2006.

So far, August has come on strong, said Perry Ruehlen, Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce manager.

"Our August long weekend was quite busy; it was busier than last

year. We had 1,200 [people into the centre] last year over the long weekend and 1,500 this year," said Ruehlen.

But the earlier part of the year was "flat," for the most part, she said.

"This year started off kind of slow, then all of a sudden, we had a jump in April," added Ruehlen.

Operators of some tourist-based ventures made similar observations.

April Curtis, manager of ArtCraft, said 2006 has been slow in general.

"In May and June our sales were down," she said, adding that July was a bit stronger.

Curtis said most retailers are finding themselves in similar situations. "We're all in the same boat and we're all talking about it."

TOURISM A2

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	11:25	0.8	2.6	27 SU	02:03	1.8	5.9
	19:15	3.1	10.2		07:44	2.6	8.5
24 TH	00:31	2.4	7.9		13:27	1.6	5.2
	04:54	2.8	9.2		20:07	3.1	10.2
	11:57	0.9	3.0	28 MO	02:38	1.6	5.2
	19:30	3.1	10.2		08:51	2.5	8.2
25 FR	01:00	2.2	7.2		13:56	1.9	6.2
	05:48	2.7	8.9		20:19	3.1	10.2
	12:27	1.1	3.6	29 TU	03:15	1.4	4.6
	19:42	3.1	10.2		10:10	2.5	8.2
26 SA	01:31	2.0	6.6		14:27	2.2	7.2
	06:44	2.7	8.9		20:32	3.0	9.8



**BUSY SPOT:** The swarm of people in Gasoline Alley on Saturday suggests that tourism is thriving on the island. Photo by Derrick Lundy

**TOURISM**

From Page A1

Opinions vary on reasons behind the lull. Lesley Cheeseman, manager of Saltspring Marina, said she thinks the high cost of fuel is contributing to the calm.

"We are usually open at 7 in the morning to 9 at night. During the week we're 9 to 5 because we're just not as busy."

Cheeseman said many of the boats in the marina are larger in size, indicating the cost of fuel is a deciding factor.

"We're seeing the larger boats, so it's the people who can afford it," she said.

Cheeseman said perceived troubles getting across the Canadian border might also dissuade American tourists.

"Everyone has rumours about how hard it is to cross the border."

Data collected by the tourism centre shows fewer Americans are travelling to the island. Of those surveyed on the August long weekend, only 18 per cent indicated they were from the United States, down from 23 per cent in 2005, said Ruelen.

However, she also noted more Canadians from outside of B.C. are travelling to Salt Spring, increasing from seven to 19 per cent over the same weekend.

"Overall, we are seeing more Canadians travelling, especially from Alberta. The U.S. kind of wobbles. The international [beyond the U.S.] visitors are increasing."

Stats released by B.C. Ferries indicate traffic is down on certain routes.

Route 6, from Vesuvius to Crofton, saw a slight drop in total passengers for May, June and July of this year, dropping between 100 and 600 passengers each month.

The biggest loss of passengers was found

on Route 9, from Tsawwassen to the Gulf Islands, with the largest percentage drop in May: 4.5 per cent, or 43,220 travellers in 2005 to 41,253 in 2006.

June and July also saw reductions, from 45,496 in 2005 to 44,217 in 2006 for June (2.8 per cent), and from 75,449 in 2005 to 73,904 in 2006 for July (two per cent).

Swartz Bay-Fulford Harbour stats were not available.

Ann Ringheim, general manager of the Harbour House Hotel, said business has been fairly steady this season, but weekdays remain slower compared to weekends.

"A lot of people just want to come for the market [on Saturday] . . . it would be really great to have a market on Wednesdays," said Ringheim.

There is no one issue that determines whether or not tourism will be up or down. Whether caused by the bad weather in June, the strength of the loonie or "all that talk about needing passports" as Curtis said, "Each of these little losses eats into it."

Curtis said more community events like Sea Capers might help to attract more tourists to the island. "But then again, it takes a lot of volunteers to make it happen."

"In July and August, our best feature is our peace, tranquility and great weather," she added. "I think all you can do is work to make [tourists'] experience as best as it can be."

Ruelen said the Chamber is currently trying to flush out the shoulder season by encouraging new community events, which would draw tourists to the island during traditionally slower months.

**LAND**

From Page A1

plaintiffs who are owed funds by Oldroyd, said the asset liquidation process "is not complete yet, but I'm hopeful that it will be completed in the early fall. There has been some monies already, and with this current court application concluded, we are obviously hopeful that very soon there will be more."

Once all assets have been sold, an application to receive the rest of the owed funds will be made to the Special Compensation Fund of the Law Society of B.C., since a shortfall is expected.

From the \$2.7-million sale price of the Stewart Road property, a \$700,000 mortgage must first be paid out, as well as \$550,000 to Evelyn Oldroyd, pursuant to the April court order.

Earlier this year Lott estimated that 75-80 per cent of the amount owed could be recovered, with the rest being sought from the Law Society fund.

Oldroyd also faces an appearance before the Law Society's discipline committee in the fall.

The Booth land and rezoning deal involving the Oldroyd property would have seen Cusheon Beach Ventures Ltd. purchase four connected properties totalling 46.63 hectares (115 acres) with its development potential increased from 12 to 20 residences (and with seasonal cottage rights remaining with 12 of those) in exchange for protection of 30 hectares (72 acres) of parkland.

The other three properties involved in Booth's plan are owned by Salt Spring Ventures Inc., of which Booth is the sole director, Fung-Ying Lam, and D. and G. Matthews.

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) was willing to consider giving the required bylaw first reading through a resolution without meeting to expedite the process, as requested by Booth, before the next LTC meeting on Wednesday, August 30.

Booth said he believed an appeal of the decision was possible, depending on the contents of Edwards' Reasons for Judgement.

"It's a long way from being resolved," he said.

**Fire Dept. acquires HAM operator services**

The Salt Spring Fire Department hopes a new partnership with the island's amateur radio club will help them keep in tune when emergency strikes.

"This frees us up," said fire chief Dave Enfield.

Not having to worry about communications as much will allow the fire depart-

ment to focus on handling emergency situations as they arise, he added.

As of Monday, four of the radio club's 20 members had already signed up with the island's volunteer fire department, with more expected to join in coming weeks.

According to municipal amateur coordinator Pat

Donnelly, HAM radio operators are very involved in the emergency program and are "already part of the whole show."

"The fire chief wasn't going to turn down the opportunity to free up a firefighter or two," she said.

Communication via radio is a reliable substitute when

land lines are down or cellular telephones are out of range.

Radio operators will be responsible for handling requests for assistance, contacting outside agencies and ensuring everybody on the scene of an emergency is in contact with the Ganges fire hall.



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# Greenwoods 'high-rise' helps answer towering housing issue

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Reporter

A sneak peek inside the island's tallest structure reveals it is much more than just another pretty building.

More than 120 people who toured the three-storey Greenwoods Eldercare Society Assisted Living Residence at 137 Blain Road last week lauded the complex as a desperately needed housing solution for the island's growing seniors population.

"We need more projects like this one," said Colinette Wilson, a Croftonbrook resident who joined a tour last Thursday afternoon to satisfy her curiosity. "We need more affordable housing for everybody on the island."

Though Wilson liked the look and feel of the \$7-million complex, she isn't quite ready to leave her little home down the road.

"These feel a lot more like apartments," she said, adding that communal areas offer residents the chance to meet people at their leisure. "It's very nice, but I think I'll stay in my cottage for now."

Even members of the Raging Grannies were impressed with the building's spacious rooms and elegant decor even if most of them were only on the tour to examine their options.

"We need to know what's out there because it's our future," said Bea Brewer.

"It's good that the island is looking at these kinds of units because they allow people to keep their freedom and have help nearby."

Located beside Lady Minto Hospital and with 24-hour assistance available at the press of a button, residents can rest assured they're in good hands.

Following the tour, Bert McCann, 85, took a few moments to admire the view from the building's backyard patio before heading back to his suite at the Meadowbrook seniors residence. McCann said he was largely impressed with the place, making a special note of the large barbecues nearby.

"It's lovely out here and there's even a beautiful view of the harbour from many of the rooms," he said. "It's just great for sitting and enjoying life — and what else do you need?"

"It's clear everyone's done



**NEW HOME:** Above, Salt Spring's newest and tallest building will open its doors to residents on September 5. At left, Greenwoods Eldercare Society president Jean Taylor provided a sneak peek to over 120 participants during open-house events last week.

Photos by Sean McIntyre

their homework on this one," he added.

Curiosity may have been the main draw, but tour leader and Greenwoods Eldercare Society board chair Jean Taylor said units were going fast. As of last week only 13 units were vacant. Opening day is scheduled for September 5.

**"It's good that the island is looking at these kinds of units because they allow people to keep their freedom and have help nearby."**

— Bea Brewer

"We are all very impressed with the turnout," said Taylor. "It's clear there is an interest."

With 30 additional residences geared to low and moderate income seniors and disabled tenants, project sponsors hope the building will not only serve its residents but also free up other accommodation on the island.

The facility also includes

a communal dining room, sun rooms and a craft area. Each unit has telephone, cable and internet connections and weekly linen service. Laundry facilities are available on each floor.

Wheelchair-friendly units are located on the ground floor and a side-entrance scooter storage room makes zooming down to the grocery store a snap, Taylor said.

Rents are based on a proportion of the renter's annual net income and prospective residents must apply through the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) central booking department at 1-888-533-2273 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday to see if they qualify for a spot.

Construction on the project began just over a year ago with funding coming primarily from VIHA, the Capital Regional District, the Greenwoods Foundation, the Greenwoods Board and B.C. Housing.

Taylor said the project could not have been such a success without help from community volunteer organizations that helped with extras like furniture and blinds for the building's communal areas.

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# New harbour planning group likely to stir up local debate

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Reporter

Anybody concerned about the fate of Ganges Harbour is asked to help chart a course for its future when the long-awaited harbour management plan kicks off in September.

"Whether they be polar bear swimmers or float plane pilots, all stakeholders are invited to take part in the process," said Salt Spring Harbour Authority (SSHA) manager Bart Terwiel.

"I'd like to see a wide net cast. It's important people come up with a vision."

With more Salt Spring visitors and full-time residents expected in coming years, he said, broad representation is necessary so the plan may adequately address economic and environmental concerns.

More commercial and recreational traffic on the island ultimately makes the harbour plan a public safety issue, he said. A preliminary plan would include everything from looking at potential shoreline development and preservation to harbour traffic studies covering an area from the Ganges village to a boundary extending between Walter Bay and Madrona Point.

The initial cost estimate for the plan is \$20,000. Terwiel said both public and private groups will need to come forward with contributions.



The sinking of the Ganges Marina floatcamp in July has helped spawn efforts to create a new plan for Ganges Harbour.  
Photo by Peter McCully

With over 50 per cent of the harbour's moorage area under its mandate, the SSHA has already made a "significant contribution" to the plan.

**"There's got to be some meat and potatoes to this. Otherwise, it's like hockey with no nets."**  
— Robyn Kellin

Terwiel said he expects the local, provincial and federal governments will come forward with more funding as the plan emerges.

The harbour manage-

ment plan remains on course in spite of last week's announcement by former plan facilitator Dick Stubbs that he will be leaving the island this fall.

He will spend the next few weeks raising awareness for the plan until his replacement is named.

"If you don't have some form of guidelines in place you have this kind of debate that just goes on and on," he said.

"I'd like to see reasonable goal posts for this debate. This review would point out some hard truths as to where we need to go."

Obvious stakeholders will be approached in the coming weeks, said Stubbs.

Ganges Marina manager Robyn Kellin said he will require a pre-established timeline, agenda and participant list.

"There's got to be some meat and potatoes to this," he said. "Otherwise, it's like hockey with no nets."

Funding for the project is a significant obstacle for a comprehensive and credible scientific assessment of the area, he added.

As it is, he said, work on the plan is akin to visiting the PNE without a ticket, but still expecting to get a ride.

"I'd like to be eternally optimistic about this but realistically, I don't see how it's going to happen," he said.

"Everything else has hit a brick wall, so why would this be any different?"

As major players involved in the harbour review process, the island's elected trustees recently declared the plan as a specific focus group for the OCP review process set for September.

"I think it's quite evident from all the activity that we need a long-term vision protecting the environmental aspect and ensuring activity is safe and coordinated," said trustee George Ehring.

Individuals wanting more information or to sign on as stakeholders may contact Dick Stubbs at 537-4784 or via e-mail at:

[stubbsco@saltspring.com](mailto:stubbsco@saltspring.com)

## Power line opponents see hope with input deadline extension

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Reporter

Salt Spring, Tsawwassen and Delta residents opposed to new high-voltage overhead power lines linking Vancouver Island with the mainland are charging up for what may be their final chance to stop the project.

"There has been a huge resurgence of concern on this side," said Maureen Broadfoot, spokesperson for Tsawwassen Residents Against High Voltage Overhead Power Lines (TRAHVOL). "We are prepared to use all legal actions available, including civil disobedience if it comes to it. We don't think residents in Tsawwassen or the Gulf Islands should be bearing the load for the province's plans to power the province."

Broadfoot's comments came several days after news the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) decided to extend its deadline for comments on the submissions on the project.

Though intended to allow more time for submissions from residents living along a 3.7-kilometre Tsawwassen segment, EAO project assessment officer Derek Griffin said any letters received before the September 15 deadline will be considered regardless of where

**"We are prepared to use all legal actions available, including civil disobedience if it comes to it."** — Maureen Broadfoot

Griffin added the public comment to date has been an "anticipated response."

As of the second week in August, the EAO had received more than 50 letters and e-mails from residents, government bodies and community groups predominantly from Tsawwassen and Salt Spring Island.

Island Residents Against Overhead Power Lines (IRAHVOL) spokesperson Daria Zovi said the extension means groups and individuals who have not yet had an opportunity to submit their views on the project can still do so.

"Let's give people another chance," she said, adding the costly 18-month long fight against the proposal has left many in the group tired and emotionally drained. "Anybody who feels their property values, their health or their view is at risk may sub-

Project opponents want the British Columbia Transmission Corporation (BCTC) to bury or reroute the new 230-kV line across Salt Spring Island between Maracaibo and Sansum Narrows due to health concerns and property devaluation.

Representatives from BCTC claim the 245-million dollar project is the most cost effective route to supply a growing demand for energy on Vancouver Island.

In early July, project opponents received a serious blow after the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) gave its assent to the project. IRAHVOL, TRAHVOL and Sea Breeze Power Corporation are appealing the decision.

If the appeal is denied, the Vancouver Island transmission reinforcement project still requires assent from the EAO before it is sent on to the provincial government in early 2007.

Sharon Wasyluk, BCTC's community relations coordinator, could not comment as to whether the appeals process would delay the project's anticipated spring 2007 start date.

"Appeals are part of the process," she said. "The timing is up to the courts."

Individuals can submit comments on the BCTC proposal by e-mail to [eaoinfo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:eaoinfo@gov.bc.ca) no later than Sep-



**HORSING AROUND:** Andrew McPhee holds out some apples for "Sparky" as he and Samantha Cocker walk down North End Road.  
Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Island plan seeds farming's future

Island farmers have initiated work on restoring Salt Spring's agricultural heritage, though it may be some time before their efforts bear fruit.

"We've just put the training wheels on," said Tony Threlfall, vice president of the Islands Farmers Institute, in a discussion about the island's Area Farm Plan (AFP) on Tuesday.

"We're trying to encourage agriculture and identify areas where production can be increased," he said. "It's an energetic undertaking."

Because of the island's significant farming heritage, it seemed natural the island should take the lead from other regions, such as the Comox and Okanagan valleys, to develop its own AFP to address food production, processing and marketing initiatives, he added.

As technology and consumer demands continue to transform the agriculture industry, Threlfall said, it becomes more important to monitor changes not only to support farmers' livelihoods but to encourage the availability of locally grown meat and produce.

Farm plans in other com-

munities have provided agricultural incentives to local food production by marrying the economics of the family farm with ever-changing consumer demands.

The AFP is made possible thanks to more than \$50,000 in funding from Island Natural Growers, the Islands Farmers Institute, the Islands Trust and Island Agricultural Initiatives.

Threlfall said part of the plan's highly anticipated success is based on the sheer number of associations involved in the project. Eventually, the plan is intended to serve the Islands Trust as a land-use planning tool every time it runs into an agricultural issue.

Plan work is scheduled to begin in September when a government agrologist will create a farmland inventory for Salt Spring Island. Additional work covering irrigation, food security, safety, urban development and agritourism opportunities is anticipated before findings are released in December 2007.

More information on the AFP is available by contacting the Islands Farmers Institute at 537-4755 or by calling John Wilcox at 537-5942.

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We are having an informal gathering Thursday, August 31 at 5:00 pm.

For more details contact Susan at 537-5476.

## 'Training roadblocks threaten safety'

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Reporter

A "bureaucratic nightmare" is preventing island residents from getting the full fire protection they deserve, according to Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) chair Ted Hinds.

"Our needs should transcend paperwork," said Hinds, speaking at the trustees' monthly meeting on Monday evening. "The volunteers need that training and here we are faced with a Mickey Mouse rezoning application."

Redrafted Islands Trust land use bylaws passed in 1998 prevent the SSIFPD from expanding its Fulford fire hall, which is also located within the Agricultural Land Reserve. Existing structures and uses are deemed legal non-conforming because they pre-date the bylaw.

Volunteer and professional firefighters use the front portion of the fire hall property for training purposes,

**"I don't think there is a single member of this community who doesn't think this is important for the island."**

— Ted Hinds

but, Hinds said, increasing demands on the department mean a larger facility is required.

According to Hinds, the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) has provided assurances the project may proceed pending approval from the Islands Trust.

"I don't think there is a single member of this community who doesn't think this is important for the island," Hinds said. "Every month we're putting this off and every month we're putting ourselves more at risk."

A proposed \$400,000 facility located directly

behind the fire hall would include state-of-the-art and environmentally friendly training equipment. Hedges, fencing and lighting would conceal the site and reduce the impact on neighbours.

According to Salt Spring fire chief Dave Enfield, sending the island's 35 firefighters off-island for training in how to fight live fires would cost island taxpayers an estimated \$120,000.

The only adequate training facility, he said, is in Maple Ridge. Smaller training operations also exist in Comox and Otter Bay on Vancouver Island.

Most firefighters in southern B.C. use the Maple Ridge facility.

The Fulford training facility would mean instructors could travel to Salt Spring and cut costs in the long run.

According to John Gauld, regional planning manager for the Islands Trust, a rezoning could take several months to complete.

Gauld doused suggestions the SSIFPD could proceed with work on the facility by obtaining a temporary use permit (TUP), as suggested by former islands trustee Eric Booth at the Monday meeting, since the intended land use is neither commercial nor industrial.

SSIFPD trustees agreed to do what they can in order to work with the Islands Trust determine if the matter can receive special attention as, in the words of trustee Ken Lee, the matter "is an emergency on hold."

Until the Islands Trust to and the SSIFPD reach an agreement on how to proceed, firefighters have little recourse but to continue training under current circumstances regardless of how inadequate they may be, said trustee Mark Wyatt.

"We can't stop training because people say we can't use the land behind the hall," Wyatt said. "The rules are the rules and we have to abide by them."

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I prefer to remain anonymous

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## Dealing with land densities — a closer look at amenity zoning

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Reporter

Long-time Gabriola Islanders aren't likely to forget the last amenity zoning application that passed their way as the wounds left in its wake still remain nearly 15 years later.

For Gabriola trustee Gisele Rudischer, who is also one of Trust Council's vice chairs, the experience back in 1992 was more than enough to convince her amenity zoning was something she never wanted to debate again.

"There are still people who have hard feelings about that process," she said in a recent interview. "Our community is only now healing."

Needless to say, amenity zoning applications are no longer accepted on Gabriola.

On Salt Spring Island, the story is entirely different. Property owners can use the amenity zoning provisions in the island's official community plan (OCP) to obtain increased development potential, or densities, in exchange for a public amenity.

To receive final approval, an amenity zoning application must undergo a public hearing and receive final assent from trustees.

Salt Spring trustees have yet to approve any such decisions, though an application for a Cusheon Creek development filed by Eric Booth

**"Like everything else on this island it was very controversial."**  
— Grace Byrne, Salt Spring trustee 1993-96

in February and Three Point Properties' imminent Fulford Farms proposal mean debate over amenity zoning is likely set for the fall.

Amenity zoning proponents suggest it is an ideal way to obtain valuable community assets that would otherwise need taxpayers to foot the bill.

Linda Adams, chief administrative officer with the Islands Trust in Victoria, said municipal governments in Victoria and Vancouver have recently granted amenity zoning requests to pursue affordable housing and heritage preservation projects.

Developers also often provide daycare facilities or green space in exchange for the right to build more units or even an additional storey on their buildings.

In rural areas like Salt Spring, protection of natural features or farmland are more likely to be considered desirable amenities.

On South Pender Island, the multi-million dollar

Poets Cove Resort and Spa received the go-ahead after developers agreed to create a park (the amenity) on a piece of waterfront property located near the resort.

In Salt Spring's OCP, amenity zoning guidelines stipulate the "dollar value of the community amenity provided should usually approximate 75 per cent of the net appraised value that accrues to the property owner due to the increased density."

While this is a guideline, Adams added, it is important to remember each amenity zoning decision is independent of other applications and does not set a precedent for future decisions.

"A decision does create expectations, but nothing is binding," Adams said.

The Salt Spring OCP lists 13 wide-ranging categories for acceptable community amenities, including restoration or designation of a heritage property, contributing land on the designated alternate route around Ganges and providing land to a public body for community cultural purposes.

When former trustees Grace Byrne and Bob Andrew decided to include the amenity zoning provisions in the new Salt Spring OCP during the mid-1990s, the openness was intentional.

"Like everything else on

this island it was very controversial," said Byrne, recalling the time when audience members literally threw copies of the first OCP draft at trustees while it was being discussed at a public meeting.

"The idea was that it would be a win-win situation for both parties," Byrne said. "We never felt as if there was any kind of 'bargaining' since everybody was getting something they wanted."

According to Rudischer, it is precisely this flexibility that incites so many quarrels between developers, trustees and community lobbyists.

"What happens is that people who stand to get the amenity become lobbyists for the developer and the community sets itself against itself," she said.

On Gabriola, each additional density a developer requests is "worth" 20 acres of forest land and that's all there is to it.

The stringent measures limit what types of amenities the island's residents can receive and that's just fine in Rudischer's view.

"Otherwise you always get people trying to create proposals asking for all manner of things," she said.

"Why do you think Salt Spring is the way it is?" she said. "Things are so flexible you can do anything you want."

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

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

Many other courses are available through Home Study or On-Line if specific courses are required for college entrance.

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 course. Work experience can count as course credit. 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](mailto:lsokol@sd64.bc.ca)

## Call for help triggers late-night search

A false alarm reported after a B.C. Ferries passenger heard calls for help resulted in an eight-hour search and rescue operation north of Active Pass on Saturday night.

Members of the Ganges Coast Guard were called to the scene just after 8 p.m., but failed to discover the origins of the distress signal.

"You have to take these kinds of things very seriously," said the Ganges

Coast Guard's officer-in-charge Sid Jones.

An initial head count by crew members aboard the Queen of Saanich precipitated fears someone had fallen overboard, though a subsequent count revealed all passengers were accounted for.

The search involved multiple aircraft, a hovercraft dispatched from Sea Island, the Ganges Coast Guard and

Coast Guard Auxiliary Unit 20 from Pender Island.

In other news, Ganges Coast Guard assisted RCMP in a recovery operation in Haro Strait near Victoria after the body of a Port Coquitlam man was spotted by a group of whale watchers on Saturday morning. RCMP investigators believe the victim fell off his boat while sailing near the mainland late last week.



### NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF BYLAW NO. 3366 - AMENDMENT TO HARTLAND LANDFILL TIPPING FEE AND REGULATION BYLAW

The Board of the Capital Regional District gives notice that it intends to adopt Bylaw No. 3366, *Hartland Landfill Tipping Fee and Regulation Bylaw No. 5, 2003, Amendment Bylaw No. 4, 2006*, at its meeting of Wednesday, September 13, 2006, in the Board Room at 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 1R7.

The purpose of Bylaw No. 3366 is to:

- revise the current controlled waste permitting procedures at Hartland landfill to regulate:
  - type, quality and quantity of controlled wastes; and
  - controlled wastes from out-of-region
- increase tipping fees for the disposal of controlled wastes at Hartland landfill (except for sewage sludge and contaminated soil)

Revisions to the current controlled waste permitting procedures will take effect at the time of adoption of the bylaw. The increase to tipping fees for the disposal of controlled wastes will take effect January 2, 2007.

A copy of Bylaw No. 3366 may be inspected between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, from the date of this Notice until September 13, 2006 at the locations listed below:

- Administration Department, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, B.C.
- Hartland Landfill Administration Offices, Hartland Avenue, Victoria, B.C.

You may also view Bylaw No. 3366 on the Internet at: [http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/solidwastelandf/\\_index.htm](http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/solidwastelandf/_index.htm) Select Bylaw No. 3366 from the list of bylaws.

Questions regarding Bylaw No. 3366 may be directed to Mr. John Craveiro, CRD Environmental Services, 360-3164. Residents of the Gulf Islands and Port Renfrew may call toll free 1-800-663-4425, local 3164.

DATED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2006  
Carmen Thiel, Corporate Secretary

## Grass fire doused as ban continues

The Salt Spring Island fire department asks island residents and visitors to exercise continued vigilance as conditions across the island remain ideal for wildfires.

The warning follows a minor grass fire believed to have started after a cigarette was left burning on McPhillips Avenue near ArtSpring on Tuesday, August 15.

Firefighters extinguished the blaze without incident.

In other news: traffic near

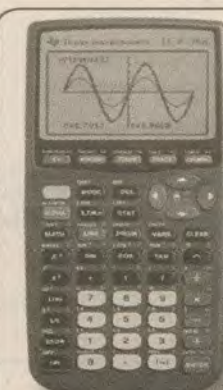
### 911 FILE

the 2500 block of Fulford-Ganges Road was backed up following a single-vehicle accident on the afternoon of Wednesday, August 16.

According to fire chief Dave Enfield, the driver suffered minor injuries after losing control of the vehicle and ending up in the ditch.

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**CAR CONFERENCE:** Owners of Smart Cars gather in the Ganges Village Market parking lot as part of a rally on Salt Spring on Sunday. Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Fundraising continues as SOLID highlights women

This week, part three in a series of profiles about African women activists and HIV/AIDS features the story of Lerato Legoabe.

Salt Spring Organization for Life Improvement and Development (SOLID) is fundraising to cover Lerato's travel costs, as well as travel costs of their other African partners so that they can come as speakers and participants to the October AIDS conference on the island. Air miles or cash donations are invited from the public.

By KATE LESLIE  
Special to the Driftwood

Throughout sub-Saharan Africa, girls and young women (15-24 years) are now three times more likely than young men to be HIV infected.

Community to Community II, the HIV/AIDS in Africa conference to be held on Salt Spring in October, will have a special focus on gender inequality as the major cultural, social and political barrier to HIV/AIDS awareness and action.

Activist Lerato Legoabe from Johannesburg, South Africa, is one of the invited speakers.

Her work provides a model for empowering girls around their rights, including their rights over their own bodies and sexuality.

Thanks to Lerato's coordination, today many South African girls are finding their voices and speaking their minds to the world

**Her work provides a model for empowering girls around their rights, including their rights over their own bodies and sexuality.**

through Girl's Net, a multimedia program that gets girls actively involved with technology for self-expression and activism.

Launched in 2004, the Girl's Net project brings small groups of girls (aged 10 to 18) together to learn computer literacy, audio production and photography skills.

Many of the girls come from rural schools that do not have access to computers, and when they first join the project, most of them have never been in touch with a PC.

They learn to work with software, handle simple web design, and edit online and printed newsletters.

Organizers facilitate girls' access to telecentres and community centres where they can use computers on an ongoing basis, and hold monthly meetings to discuss different issues that impact their lives.

The Girl's Net (GN) website includes theme areas where member girls have posted their thoughts and information about HIV/AIDS; violence and safe-

## Paws for a Cause event afoot

Organizers of the 2006 Paws for a Cause are urging animal lovers to start collecting those pledges for their September 10 fundraising event for the Salt Spring SPCA.

There will be free snacks, a fabulous door prize and participants who raise more than \$150 will even get a free T-shirt.

Pledge forms can be picked up at the Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic, the SPCA shelter and are available on most poster boards on the island.

The walk is taking place in 37 communities across the province. Top pledge collectors have a chance at some fabulous prizes, including a five-night Hawaiian vacation for two plus \$1,000 spending money.

For more information, call at 537-2123 or visit [www.sPCA.bc.ca/walk](http://www.sPCA.bc.ca/walk).

The event takes place at Mouat Park on September 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ty; our bodies, our rights; children's rights; career and study; as well as "fun stuff."

The process of developing this website content starts with heated discussions among the girls on chosen themes.

They later input this information into the different sections of the website and the online newsletter.

The Girl's Net curriculum is strongly issue-based, and training specifically focuses on sexual rights and reproductive rights, with all forms of child abuse and sexual abuse being given special attention.

Lerato has extensive experience as a youth and gender activist and has held numerous leadership positions in student politics and in national-level young women's networks.

She has participated in national and international conferences that focus on the intersecting dynamics of youth, women and information communication technologies.

Her passion is in advocating for the rights of young women and girls to access information so that they can make informed choices and participate freely at all levels of society.

To sponsor some or all of Lerato's flight so that she can attend the conference, contact SOLID at 537-0863 or [info@solidaltspring.com](mailto:info@solidaltspring.com).

The Girl's Net website is at [www.womensnet.org.za/GirlsNet/](http://www.womensnet.org.za/GirlsNet/)



## JOIN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE SHOWCASED

**Do you produce or process Island grown or raised products?**

If you can answer "YES" to the above, then the Salt Spring Island Fall Fair & Island Farmers Institute needs to hear from you!!!

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Tony Threlfall - 537-4535  
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What's On? see page B2



## Critical RCMP role

This week the Driftwood's puts a pre-fall focus on emergency response and salutes Salt Spring RCMP personnel for the second year in a row.

Giving recognition to people who have willingly taken on one of the more difficult jobs out there is something that has even more significance this summer, since one of those individuals — Const. Nick Widdershoven — was hospitalized a few weeks ago as a result of being an RCMP member on our island.

Police officers are more at risk of physical injury or even death in their line of work, and that's a risk they knowingly take. Still, we wish Widdershoven a speedy recovery and hope to see him back in uniform as soon as possible.

Corporal Dave Voller has just been replaced by Corporal Kerry Howse at the Salt Spring detachment, but Voller was included in this year's tribute page by special request of a community member. We echo that person's appreciation for Voller's exceptional work and community mindedness in his eight years on Salt Spring, and it's great to see his son Chris continuing a family tradition of service by becoming an auxiliary officer (as has Const. Widdershoven's wife Andrea).

Const. Lindsay Ellis is another RCMP member who is leaving the detachment to pursue a different tack in her career, and she too will be missed. Her approachability was especially valuable in dealing with island youth, even if her favourite sport is not skateboarding.

It's true that RCMP-citizen relations are not as cozy as they were on Salt Spring in the good old days — tales of the legendary "Ace" Mainwaring still surface in nostalgia sessions among long-time islanders — but times and policing demands have unfortunately changed in the past 20 years.

While there will always be controversy at various times over officers' handling of specific incidents — which also goes with the territory of the position — what appears to remain the same is the desire of RCMP officers, auxiliaries and support staff to help their community members in whatever way they can.

We thank everyone involved in policing on Salt Spring for their commitment and playing a crucial role in our lives.

## Driftwood

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## Harbour diversity shouldn't give way to commercial gain

By ANDREW SMALL

As a recent visitor to Salt Spring Island, I followed with interest and much concern the debate regarding the proposed reclamation of public tidal land in Ganges Harbour for commercial development.

The acquisition of public land by vested commercial private interests is not a new phenomenon. Whether by fair means or foul, what is invariably lost is a valuable community asset that is given over to private gain. It may be argued by the proponent that the benefits accrued from this action will benefit a wider Salt Spring community through provision of further facilities to attract tourism to the island.

I would argue this on two broad fronts: Firstly, it is questionable

### VIEW POINT

whether such a small increase in the total available marina area would be of benefit in attracting tourists sufficient to make a difference in revenue flowing through to the community. Will an additional small number of commercial premises and marina berths really attract extra tourism to the island?

My impressions over the weeks that I was there were that tourism is based on a thriving arts community and the natural beauty of Salt Spring Island, not the availability of marina berths and commercial retail facilities. The vast majority of these tourists (like me) arrive

via B.C. Ferries, not self-sailing or motoring.

My second point is a simple environmental/economic cost-benefit equation. Despite the small size of the proposed infilling, it is a recognized important local marine habitat, providing a variety of resources to much of the coastal sea life of Salt Spring Island that enchanted me during my visit. I had the opportunity to inspect the proposed area, and in my capacity as a professional ecologist (and environmental planner) I was astonished at the amount of diversity present in the proposed infill area. This diversity is evident to every tourist that walks along the esplanade and peers into the clear water of the harbour.

Is the loss of this diversity and

its important contribution to local ecological processes as important as the addition of several buildings and marina berths? I wouldn't agree and the many tourists that appreciate the beauty of the area (even if they may not understand the ecological importance) also wouldn't agree.

In my capacity as a professional scientist, specializing in ecological restoration, I remain extremely skeptical that the environmental offsets put forward by the proponent are meaningful or indeed achievable.

The paltry sum nominated to rehabilitate a similar habitat elsewhere is not sufficient. Where is the scientific credibility supporting rehabilitation and restoration of eelgrass beds? Who will do the work and, as importantly,

who will monitor and maintain the proposed offsets, and what if it fails? Will the proponent give back his marina berths and retail areas? I don't think so.

I am hopeful that the Integrated Land Management Bureau and Department of Fisheries and Oceans will review their decision in light of community opposition to the project.

It is the sign of a progressive society that it can recognize environmental values are intrinsic to social and economic welfare, and statutory agencies can make (or reverse) decisions based on this recognition.

*The writer is principal ecologist with GHD, an international engineering and architecture firm established in 1928.*

## Trustees approach to Ganges Marina questioned

By ERIC BOOTH

I would like to correct a statement made by islands trustee George Ehrling in last week's Driftwood.

George stated, "Eric Booth, an advocate of the marina's development, charges both Peter Lamb and me with 'malfeasance of office.' That means official misconduct. It is a serious charge, entirely without foundation, and one that we both resent."

I always find it interesting how people read and interpret what others write or say about them. What I actually wrote was, "Peter and George, rather than accepting the reality that the 'fill,' which their SOS group were so vehemently opposed to last year, is going to happen... have instead opted to send letters to provincial and federal agencies protesting... those government agencies approval of the fill. This attempted blocking move on

### IN RESPONSE

their part, I believe, given their pre-election history with the marina, could be logically construed by some as malfeasance of office."

My statement begged the question as to why any impartial trustee would want to block any particular property owner from doing what they have already been properly, and rightfully, permitted to do. Both trustees have been well aware of the development permit issued to the marina by the Trust back in 1989.

Why then would they try and interfere with permissions from both the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB)? It is my understanding the marina has met all of the conditions/requirements

of those agencies.

And yet, George states, "The matter of dumping the fill in the harbour" is a "big issue." Really? Whose "big issue"? The community's or his Save Our Shoreline group's? The only people I keep hearing voicing concerns are the same small group of people who were led by Peter and George last year, evidenced by the latest two published marina-bashing articles — one from Christine Torgrimson (George's campaign manager) in the Driftwood and the other from Jean Gelwicks (Peter's partner) in the Islands Tides.

George states that he and Peter have concerns "that the plans recently submitted by the marina to the DFO and ILMB may not match the plans submitted in 1989." Is there any evidence to suggest or indicate that is the case? If not, why are Peter and George asking the question? Are we to believe it is

out of idle curiosity?

George also states that because both DFO and ILMB were aware of the "controversial aspect of this issue" they should have not issued the permits without public notification. I stand to be corrected, but it is my understanding there are no statutory requirements of those agencies to do so. If that is in fact the case, on what grounds do Peter and George believe it is their right, in this singular case, to request those agencies to treat the marina's applications/permissions differently than any other property owner's?

Sounds to me like those agencies did their homework, placed conditions, limitations and restrictions on their permissions and have required the marina to "... adhere to the terms and conditions prescribed by other levels of government," including the Islands Trust. Those "terms and conditions" are specified in

the development permit the Trust has already issued.

I am sorry if Peter and George "resent" my observations and have taken them to heart, but, then again, maybe that's exactly where they need to take them.

And, as far as George's description of me as "an advocate of the marina's development," I must say that's an interesting selection of words. He could as easily have said, "Eric Booth is on record as being an advocate and longtime supporter of the completion of the Ganges Boardwalk, the protection of the harbour view corridor, and someone who believes there is a workable compromise to be found."

A compromise, I might add, which I will continue to pursue in the best interests of the whole community.

*The writer is a Salt Spring realtor and former islands trustee.*

### Your letters are welcome

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 400 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name.

Anonymous letters will not be published.

# SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:** *What's your solution to Ganges' Saturday parking nightmare?*



**Bruce Wallace**

*I think they should enforce the parking bylaws.*



**Megan Miller**

*There has to be some kind of transit service.*



**John Catley**

*I try not to come into town, but think a shuttle bus could work.*



**Arvid Chalmers**

*Get rid of bus parking in front of the Chamber because I've only seen two buses there all year. As for the rest, let's just pile up on top of one another.*



**Angie MacRae**

*I think there should be timed parking. Far too many people leave their cars in town all day.*

## Letters to the Editor

### Angel

On July 5 the Driftwood ran a front-page story about a miracle foal who survived in spite of the odds against such a possibility.

Chinook was born more than a month prematurely and required medical intervention on a daily and twice-daily basis for various complications, for several weeks.

There was nothing straightforward about his survival. He needed round-the-clock monitoring, and if it hadn't been for the absolute dedication of his owners, Rebecca Smith and Andrew Currie, who slept outside by his stall for over a month, and his caring vets, Dave MacDonald and Sacha Edgell, who made innumerable visits far above and beyond normal expectations, this little fellow, who has touched so many hearts, wouldn't have stood a chance.

Although he is not totally out of the woods, Chinook, the miracle foal, is alive today because of all that care and because of his own indomitable spirit. And just today, I learned of yet another miracle.

There lives among us an angel, who saw all this time and love and, yes, accumulating vet bills. Even the most soft-hearted of vets needs some recompense. Chinook's owners didn't know where the money for his care was going to come from, and this unknown angel quietly went to the vets' office and paid the bill—not only the balance owing, but enough to enable extra treatments.

To this angel I would like to say thank you on behalf of Chinook, thank you on behalf of his owners and thank you from those of us who like to believe that miracles can still happen.

**JO LUNDSTROM,**  
Salt Spring

### Moviemakers

If anyone was wondering what was up with the unusually bright lights just south of Blackburn Lake on the night of Saturday Aug. 12, it was a movie shoot for a short film set at our house on the Fulford-Ganges Road.

A crew of about 30 spent the weekend filming a short black comedy called "Instant"—about an accident with crazy glue that helps to

mend a broken heart—and we want to send out thanks to some very wonderful Salt Spring businesses and individuals whose generous donations of time, services and/or products helped make it possible.

First, a huge thank-you to Mickey McLeod and the Salt Spring Coffee Co. A film cannot possibly be made without coffee, and yours was greatly appreciated by all the crew. Beer is also important to lubricate the works, so thanks to the Gulf Islands Brewery for the discount.

Our gratitude, as well, to Slegg Lumber, Calypso Interiors, Tom Navratil at Salt Spring Realty, and the Recycling Depot for the loan of some props, and to Beaver Point Hall for the loan of tables and chairs. Thanks to Carolyn Slam, Julie Doo-benen, Sean Hill and Yasmine Amal for the barbecues and propane, and to Patrick Keddy and Gavin Ellis for putting up some of our crew.

Heartfelt thanks, as well, to Lou Ellis, Theresa Rothenbush, Wendy Loudon, Aaron Ableman, and Danielle Topaz for their assistance with

catering, script supervision, stills photography and production assistance. And finally, we could not have done it without our fabulous local production coordinator, Shai Topaz—thank you Shai!

It was a wonderful shoot, our crew loved their (all-too-brief) stay on Salt Spring, and we look forward to finishing the film and being able to screen it here at some point in the future!

**DIANA WILSON**  
and **MARK SCHROEDER,**  
Artemis Dreams  
Productions,  
Burnaby

### Level playing field

I respond to the letter by P.N.Spier, as I think a few facts are in order.

Firstly, I and most people believe in Israel's right to exist, and live in peace. Also they have every right to protect their borders. The problem is that they are not satisfied with that, so they occupy and invade their neighbours, under the guise of the "terrorist" threat, and unquestioned support of the Bush administration.

Incidentally, it is only the support of the U.S. and huge shipments of massive weapons and deadly missiles, daily, that has the Israeli army able to carry out the occupation and invasion of Lebanon and Palestine.

So far the casualties are, Lebanese dead, 889 (mostly civilians); Israeli dead, 37 (mostly Arab Israelis), and that is not even counting wounded and maimed. Those odds should be enough, even for P.N.Spier.

Of course it must be stopped. Too many innocent lives are lost on both sides. America could stop it right now, instead they prevent any movement at the U.N. by veto's etc.

The UN should have acted a long time ago. The UN did not force Israel out of its illegal occupation of Lebanon or Gaza, this was done through force by Hezbollah and Hamas. The rest of Arab land will not be freed by the West, which refuses to pressure Israel to abide by UN resolutions or international law. The Arabs have little choice but to continue to struggle for their lands and rights until a power emerges capable of bringing about a

just solution.

Until Israel accepts UN resolutions and pulls back to internationally agreed borders there will never be peace. Although I don't agree with terrorist organizations, I think both Hezbollah and other Palestinian organizations are actually freedom fighters battling against a long term occupier who has significantly more backing and capability. If Iran and Syria help them to level the playing field a little, then maybe that's a good thing in the long term.

**KENNETH RICHARDS,**  
Sausalito, California

### The same?

In your August 16 article on CRD consideration of a wider smoking ban, you quote CRD director Gary Holman as saying, "Ultimately, health concerns trump economic concerns."

Is this the same Holman who gave the OK to a garbage operation that sits at the top of not one but three watersheds?

**HARRY J. WARNER,**  
Lee Road

**MORE LETTERS A12**

## Baby thrown out with bathwater in attempts to quash violators

It's pretty much a lock that on August 30, Salt Spring will have its latest made-to-measure bylaw, the Bader Bylaw. This one is theoretically going in place to prevent Larry Bader, owner of Salt Spring Rock Products, from removing any more gravel from his property on Jennifer Way.

Gravel pits are not pretty sights, and the poor folks who have spent lots of money on their view properties at the top of the hill are understandably upset. They have to drive by this eyesore and listen to the cacophony. It has been a three-year saga.

Of course, when you drop a pebble in the pond, the ripples hit every shoreline, and in this case, it means the other excavators on the island—some 30 of them—will be held under the same gun as Bader. It will cost them all money, and they in turn will have to increase their prices to the consumer.

Whether Bader was operating within the current bylaws is anybody's guess. After all, how do

### HEAD TO HEAD

BY PETER VINCENT



you measure the amount of material being extracted from a property? Do you park a guy at the driveway with a set of bathroom scales? We have certain expectations that most people will respect the law and, as Ken Byron said, "If someone wants to break the law, this (the new bylaw) won't stop them."

This "adjustment" to the current bylaws is just the latest salvo by the current Trust to "fix" things gone astray by past Islands Trust trustees and administrations.

The vacation rental plan was unceremoniously kicked to the curb. Again, reactionary. A mystery man from California was rumoured to own seven properties which he rented out willy nilly over the summer, one of them rumoured to hold up to 18 people.

Out went the baby with the bath water. The vast majority of people wanting to rent out their place in the summer were just trying to make ends meet, or off-island people who had bought a home in the hopes of retiring here in the future.

The greatest example of reactionary bylaw massaging concerns the Ganges Marina. After the plan to rezone the marina company's property was rejected by the previous Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC), marina manager Robyn Kelln immediately applied to build 16 small buildings on the property. He could smell the coffee. Islands Trust staff then picked up on a "loop-hole" in the land use bylaw that did not put a limit on the total area that could be covered with buildings on the marina shoreline property.

Bylaw 413, initiated by the previous LTC and then supported by the new ones—Peter Lamb

and George Ehring—essentially quashed any future buildings, much to the detriment of the marina at Moby's and other land zoned Shoreline 1 and 2 on the island.

I won't bore you with the whole sordid Ganges Marina mess—the infill battle, the heritage tree battles, the marine hotel, now the submarine hotel. Let's just say that if there is a god, Larry Bader will use his gravel to fill in the Ganges Marina shoreline to build 16 small vacation rental homes.

I am really beginning to hate democracy. After all, it brought us Richard Nixon and George W. Bush, twice. One of democracy's favoured clichés used worldwide and by this present council is "the people have spoken."

Well, not really. The "people" on Salt Spring were the vocal minority that showed up at Trust meetings in a highly organized battle plan to kill the Ganges Marina. Not that these well-intentioned Salt Springers should be ignored, but they represent one small

colour in the Salt Spring rainbow. If Salt Spring was to have true representation, we would have elected two foot reflexologists and an astronomer.

No, I think we should try the Socratic form of government—we should put an ad in the "too late to classify" section looking for a benign dictator—one that will decide issues dispassionately and logically. One that will decide if the roosters are too loud, where gravel pits should go and convert crack cocaine houses to affordable housing for single moms.

Given the all-too-human fondness for power, we would have to entice a saint. I hear the Dalai Lama is looking to relocate; if we could only find him a rental. Barring his holiness, any local foolish enough to take the job would be totally corrupt within a couple of years, and would have to be dispatched by Wolfgang Brunnwieser with a Socratic cup of low-fat hemlock. There. The people have spoken.



# EVERYTHING YOU back

## 2006/2007 Gulf Islands School District calendar

- Schools open Tuesday, September 5, 2006 and close Wednesday, June 27, 2006.
- Schools will be closed on the following Fridays: September 15, 22, 29; October 6, 20, 27; November 3, 10, 24; December 1, 8, 15 and 22; January 12, 19 and 26; February 2, 9, 16 and 23; March 2, 9, 16 and 30; April 6, 20 and 27; May 4, 11 and 18; June 1, 8, 15 and 22.



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- 3) Mike Krayenhoff, (250) 537-5159; mkrayenhoff@sd64.bc.ca



## 2006/2007 Gulf Islands School District calendar

- Christmas vacation runs December 22 to January 7.
- Spring break runs March 19-23.
- Other holidays are Thanksgiving Day, October 9; Remembrance Day, November 13 (Monday); Good Friday and Easter Monday, April 6 and 9; Victoria Day, May 21.



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## Back-to-school questions for parents to ask

Parents need to prepare for back-to-school as well, and it's not just about buying school supplies, meeting the new teachers, or the latest cool fashions. Simon Fraser University education professor Celeste Snowber says parents may want to try approaching the new school year by asking themselves a few key questions:

How can you best make space for ignition and deep passion in your child's learning?

How can you best attend to your child's soul in their education?

What is your attitude towards academic success?

Are you exhausting yourself by pushing your kids to do what you want them to do?

Ask yourself what gives you life, motivation and ignition?

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Keith Oliver

**More letters**

**Bloodied hands**

In recent weeks two letters to the editor have condemned Israel in the current conflict in Lebanon.

It is difficult to comprehend the mental contortions which would vilify the victim while utterly ignoring Hezbollah's acts of war (of which the kidnapping and killing of Israeli soldiers is merely the most recent), which precipitated the violence.

As Canadians, far removed from the conflict, we have the luxury to engage in civilized discourse about the merits of "proportionate response."

But what if the situation were on our doorstep? What would we do if a neighbour nation allowed a group, avowed to our destruction, to operate with impunity?

How would we respond to this "militia" when they launch their rocket attacks from within their own civilian centres, callously using them as human shields? How long would we be patient while our homes and families are targeted?

How many days, months and years would we suffer having to tuck our children away in underground shelters or, heaven forbid, in graves? Would we continue to encourage a "proportionate response," or would we demand that punishment be

sufficient to prevent, or at least deter, future attack?

There is no question that there are hands covered with innocent blood, but let us make no mistake that these are the hands of Hezbollah.

**JULIA LUCICH,**  
Salt Spring

**Not well thought out**

I couldn't agree more with Walter Davis re: his fire hall location letter of last week.

As a resident of Rainbow Road for 10 years, I am well aware of ever-increasing traffic on this road, drag racing that goes on in the evenings, and the many people who walk on the road as the shoulders are too narrow.

Adjacent to the proposed site are grazing horses and sheep, which would undoubtedly be affected by the sirens.

I cannot imagine a fire truck trying to turn at the Rainbow Road/Fulford-Ganges intersection, or travelling down Rainbow Road in an emergency between 3 and 5 p.m., with parents picking up children from school, school buses lining the road, water taxi students walking along the narrow shoulder, and people travelling home from work.

It wouldn't be so bad if you had a place to pull over, but with next to no shoulder, your only option would be

the ditch.

I must clarify. My opinion is biased, I live on the proposed site. My family and I moved here not yet a month ago, after leaving our home of nearly eight years on the pool site.

The pool posed no problem. The tennis courts slated to be built 30 feet from our front door and 50-feet high were a problem. We decided to move and, miraculously (for Salt Spring) we found a new home within an hour of deciding to move. After moving, I read that the tennis courts were indeed not being built after all, another plan not well thought out.

The owner of the property was kind enough to inform us of the fire department's interest in his property, so the argument could be made that we knew what could happen. True enough, but not the point.

I agree the fire hall needs a new home, however, putting more non-farm uses on Agricultural Land Reserve Land, which seems to be happening with increasing frequency, building in a farming area, paving over fertile land and natural springs, destroying a beautiful farm house built in 1927 and operating an emergency service in a school zone is, in my opinion, a plan not well thought out.

**THERESA FOUBERT,**  
Rainbow Road

**Search for painting**

I have recently embarked on a search for an oil painting that has been missing since 1997 and that I believe to be still on Salt Spring Island.

The painting was most likely accidentally given away or sold when my father and stepmother, Stephen and Dorothy Thorson of Mansell Road, were cleaning out their Salt Spring home in preparation for their move to Sidney.

The painting was an oil painting of my mother, posing nude and from behind, done by my father when I was very small, in the late 1950s.

It wasn't until my father passed away in February of 2005 that we grown children started to ask about the painting's whereabouts, but no one could answer.

The painting is not one of his best, but I would very much like to see it back in the family as a much-loved sentimental keepsake. Suspecting that the painting was given or sold to an island resident, I'm hoping to locate it with the help of your newspaper.

If anyone has any information about this painting, they may contact me evenings at 604-327-9017 or by e-mail at [lthorson@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:lthorson@interchange.ubc.ca)

**LISA THORSON,**  
Vancouver

**Back-to-School  
Safety Pointers for Parents**

The back-to-school season presents the perfect opportunity to reinforce lessons and advice that you've gone over with your kids. Safety should be at the top of this list.

- Be sure your child knows his or her home phone number (including area code) and address, your work number, the number of another trusted adult, and how to use 911 for emergencies. Make sure he or she has enough change for a phone call.
- Plan a walking route to school or the bus stop. Choose the most direct way with the fewest street crossings. Test the route with your child.
- Teach children — whether walking, biking or riding the bus to school — to obey all traffic signals, signs, traffic officers and safety patrols.

- Make sure they walk to and from school with others — a friend, neighbour, brother or sister.
- When car pooling, drop off and pick up children as close to school as possible. Don't leave until they have entered the school yard or building.

- Teach your child never to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers. Remember, a stranger is anyone you or your children don't know well or don't trust.

**IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE HOME ALONE FOR A FEW HOURS AFTER SCHOOL:**

- Set up rules for locking doors and windows, as well as answering the door or telephone.
- Make sure he or she checks in with you or a neighbour immediately after school.
- Agree on rules for inviting friends over and for going to a friend's house when no adult is home.

- Create guidelines for Internet usage or place parental blocks on those sites you don't want your child to view.

Is your child ready...to go back to school?

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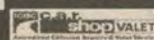
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# RANTS & ROSES

## RANTS

Rants to the depraved persons who repeatedly remove posters from the GVM bulletin board relating to senior citizens in any manner, even humorous cartoons and are now removing anti-vivisection posters. What do they have in common, the elderly and the animals (some stray pets are used for research)? They are trusting, faithful, reliable, dependent by virtue of necessity. They experience anxiety, fear, trauma, apprehension, both are docile and easily led. What is the psychiatric assessment of the perpetrators of this abusive behaviour against the frail elderly and helpless animals? Ron Milton

To the mean-spirited thieves who stole my Frog Hollow sign: the design is my own and I have documented that, so if it shows up anywhere, I'll know. So please return it. A red sign with a frog in a hot tub, Frog Hollow on it. If you have information or see it, call 537-2499. Scott Merrick

Rants to the people who think we have spent five years nurturing the middle school field for them to drive on. Graham Tweddle

Stinky rants to the person or persons who removed the memorial plaque from the bench at the lookout to St. Mary Lake in the Channel Ridge area. I heard on CBC radio that people were stealing plaques to sell as scrap metal. And bigger rants still to the companies who buy these plaques, thus making a market possible. Even on Salt Spring Island. Toby Fouks

## ROSES

A field full of costume-clad roses to all the local businesses who donated food/goods to make our Ultimate Frisbee tournament a huge success: Salt Spring Vineyards, Embe Bakery, Thrifty Foods, GVM, Sportstraders, B-Side Clothing, Salt Spring Island Bagels and anyone else we forgot! Salt Spring Ultimate Club (SUC)

A boatload of long stemmed roses to John Lefebvre for his efforts to bring back the Vesuvius Inn. As one of the establishment's original cooks, it's so refreshing to hear the happiest place on the island will be spared the wrecking ball and come to life once again. EO

Many roses to friends and patrons of Ruckle Farm Stand for your words of encouragement following the recent theft. Our thanks for your continuing honesty — we have not lost our trust in people! M&M

Buckets of roses to the cast, crew, sponsors and wonderful audiences for our two nights of "Live Radio Theater" at ArtSpring. Thank you all for making it such a fun production. And "thank you" Salt Spring for making it possible. JR

Blood-red roses to the fire department with thanks and apologies for leaving you to do all the clean-up on Sunday the 20th. From paramedics Therin and Luis

A Mississippi Delta shout-out (and roses, of course!) to GVM produce staffers Beau and Gordy for the righteous delivery of a shipment of okra.

A dozen fragrant white

roses to the painting angels from Willow Park Church in Kelowna and the Community Gospel Chapel. Thanks to Bruce Stewart for his superlative community spirit, hard work and organizational finesse. May others treat you as well as you have treated us. F&G N

To the young couple who came to the Shell station five minutes after closing on Saturday, August 5 and to Doris who came 10 minutes after closing a week earlier: a truckload of ever-flowering, fragrant white and red rose bushes with my sincere apology and deep regret for my petty and mean-spirited attitude. Trinlay MacPhee

A bouquet of roses to Wendy at Pharmasave for showing compassion and understanding to a senior making her purchase.

Roses to Salt Spring Bottled Water for pure clean water. It's so good to be well again. Have a great retirement. WA

Roses for island public health nurses, Leah (M.C.F.D.), SSI Community Services, Copper Kettle, Roberta! and other kind people for helping our family so much. A+JJ (Editor's note: this rose came with a real rose pressed to the paper.)

Bushels of bright blue camas, posies of nodding onions and sprays of chocolate lilies to all the pie bakers who came through with pies for Fulford Day. Special-scented Nootka roses for all who contributed for the first time. Double sprays of tiger lilies to those who contributed two or more pies and great drifts of sea blush and blue-eyed Mary to those who remembered without being asked. If we missed you this year we hope to shower you

with beautiful blooms next year. We sold about 90 delicious pies and raised over \$1,500. Pie Lady J

A huge bouquet of roses for the teenagers who ran the sports camp at Fulford school. You guys were terrific and the kids had a ball.

A bouquet of elegant long-stemmed roses to Heather and Brian Gooding and the staff at Mark's Work Warehouse for their support and encouragement of the Salt Spring Potters Guild, by displaying our Plates Plus show for six weeks in their great side windows. MB

Colourful buckets of wild roses for Jean Voaden and Margaret Oldroyd for asking their friends to make donations to the SPCA in lieu of presents for their birthdays. All the cats say PURRRRRFECT.



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## What's for Dinner?

### THE GANGES VILLAGE MARKET VEGETARIAN NUT BURGER

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

**Vegetarianism:** While it's true that vegetarianism became trendy in the "psychedelic sixties," its origins date back much farther. Vegetarianism has been common in the Indian subcontinent, since possibly the 2nd millennium BC. Hinduism preaches that it is the ideal diet for spiritual progress and Jainism enjoins all its followers to be vegetarian. Buddhist monks of the Mahayana school have also historically practiced vegetarianism. Vegetarians may eat eggs and dairy products; vegans do not (eschewing meat, fish, poultry, honey, eggs and dairy products). Regardless of whether chosen for religious reasons, health reasons, or profound environmental concerns, vegetarianism and veganism in today's world are deeply-held personal convictions. I grew up in a family of vegetarians. Thus, I feel confident to respond to a request from a GVM customer for a vegetarian or vegan burger. So here you go. No falafel, no bulgur wheat, no rice. Just pure nuts and seeds offering a wheat-free delight that offers protein and other nutritional requirements. And, as is always my goal, full flavour in every bite. Vegetarians can use the egg to bind, vegans, the arrowroot powder, and carnivores can enjoy a tasty, heart-healthy change of pace without sacrificing substance and taste.

In a medium bowl, mash **1 cup drained canned chickpeas** with a fork. Stir in **1 chopped green onion**, **1/4 cup grated carrot**, **1 egg**, (can be replaced by 1/2 teaspoon arrowroot powder & 1 tablespoon water), **1 tablespoon parsley**, and **1/2 cup finely chopped unsalted nuts of your choice**, & **1/2 cup hulled, unsalted sunflower seeds**. Season with **1/4 teaspoon cracked black pepper** & **1 tablespoon Mrs. Dash seasoning** and mix well. Divide the mixture into 2 patties (if desired, dip patties in bread crumbs & parmesan cheese) and set aside. Heat **2 tablespoons olive oil** in a skillet over medium heat and fry in the hot oil for about 3 minutes on each side, or until well browned and heated through. Remove from heat & serve on a **multi grain or ciabatta bun** with **Dijon mustard**, **Ranch dressing**, **baby greens**, **sliced tomato**, & **avocado**.

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- Carrot
- Egg
- Arrowroot powder (optional)
- Fresh parsley
- Unsalted nuts
- Unsalted hulled sunflower seeds
- Cracked black pepper
- Mrs. Dash seasoning
- Olive oil
- Multi grain or ciabatta buns
- Dijon mustard
- Ranch dressing
- Baby greens
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## Global warming explained

Have you ever been to a focus group? They're very odd. Often used in marketing research, these small selections of randomly chosen people are brought together as a sampling of public opinion to gauge how folks feel about a particular product or issue.

Recently, my foundation conducted a focus group about global warming to see where people are at in their understanding of this complex and challenging problem. The results? Let's just say they were disconcerting, to say the least.

Simply put, most people don't have a clue. The majority felt that global warming was a pretty important problem and they were concerned about it. But when pressed as to why it was a problem or what caused the problem, all heck broke loose.

Apparently, according to the average Joe, global warming is happening because we've created a hole in the ozone layer, allowing the sun's rays to enter the atmosphere and heat up the earth - or something like that. The cause of the problem is cars, or airplanes, or aerosol cans. No one really knows for sure.

This is really quite remarkable. I would have thought that such confused understandings of the issue would have been commonplace five or six years ago, but with global warming being in newspapers on practically a

### SCIENCE MATTERS

BY DAVID SUZUKI



daily basis this spring, on the front cover of magazines, in theatres (An Inconvenient Truth), and a hot political issue as well, surely people would get it by now.

Apparently I was wrong. People don't get it. This is a big problem, because if people don't get it, then they don't really care, so politicians and CEOs don't really care, and status quo rules the day. And blindly we march into the sunset.

But while science magazines are all talking about carbon sequestration and climate-forcing mechanisms, the average person is still trying to decipher the nature of the problem itself.

True, few citizens need to understand the complicated nuances of atmospheric science or the various mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol, but people cannot care about things they do not understand. If our leaders are to take the issue seriously, the public must have at least a basic understanding of it.

So, to clarify - the ozone layer is a part of the atmosphere way up high that helps shield the earth from the sun's most harmful rays. A couple of decades ago, scientists realized that some of the chemicals we were using in our industries and homes were finding their way into the upper atmosphere,

reacting with the ozone and destroying it. Scientists were concerned that if this continued, it would thin the vital protective layer, leading to increased skin cancers and crop damage. They sounded the alarm bell, the international community responded with the Montreal Protocol to phase out ozone-depleting substances, and today the ozone layer is gradually healing itself.

Global warming is a quite different phenomenon. Again, it's a human-made problem, but this time it's due to the heat-trapping gases we are putting into the atmosphere from our industries, cars and homes. These gases act like a blanket, keeping more heat near the earth's surface. More heat also means more energy in the atmosphere, which means more frequent or severe extreme weather events like droughts, storms and floods.

With each new piece of research, the expected effects of global warming become clearer, more urgent and more disturbing. Scientists say this will be one of the biggest challenges humanity will face this century. Right now we are not tackling the issue fast enough or direct enough to escape the most severe consequence.

So if you understand what global warming is, and what it isn't, please tell your friends. Please speak up and help ensure that we don't continue to grope blindly into the future, searching in the darkness for a light switch. Because at this rate, by the time we finally reach it, it may no longer work.



**SHEEP-SHAPE:** Cali Belanger of the Salt Spring Island 4H Sheep Club gets Adiva, a Suffolk ewe lamb, ready for showmanship at the 96th-annual Pacific National Exhibition, which runs daily through Labour Day in Vancouver.

Photo contributed

## House fire: a year with pink forms

By DIANA THOMPSON

Spread across the kitchen table are 20 large pink forms.

One has been torn into shreds. (Did I do that?) They are called Schedule Of Loss forms, and they have become a torment in my life. Each and every item that was damaged or destroyed in our house fire must be listed on these pages. They are stern, tedious and exacting.

If you can't bear to look at them, you don't get your claim. They have nine sections, each of which needs to be answered correctly. Leave out an answer and you'll be penalized.

Write down a wrong answer, or one you are unable to prove, and your entire insurance claim could be forfeited. For those of you who can stand to be bored out of your minds, here's how it's done:

Sit at a table, and place the form directly in front of you. Recall for a moment that you are devoid of all your personal belongings. Now read the instructions, which say to "attach any documents you may have such as receipts, invoices, cancelled cheques, credit card slips, appraisals, warranty booklets, operating instructions or photographs, to support ownership possession or value of the items." Got all those things? Then start.

Column 1: Number (hey, I can do this).

Column 2: A detailed description of the article, including make, model and serial number, size, colour and identifying marks. (The problem is, it's been burned up, so how do I find the serial number? And those towels were yellow, but I don't have a clue who made them).

Column 3: Where Obtained. (Mouat's or Fields? In Victoria or at Sears? Or was that the one my sister gave me?)

Column 4: Who Obtained. (This one's easy. I'm usually

the one who does the shopping in our family. I'm getting the hang of this now.)

Column 5: Terms of Purchase "cheque, credit or debit card, cash etc." (I really could use all my papers for this...)

Column 6: Invoice. Indicate Yes or No if the receipt is available. (No, unless it flutters down from the sky. Who keeps receipts for teddy bears, socks or pillow-cases?)

Column 7: Date of Purchase/Age (my mum gave it to me last year, but I think she bought it when Peter gave up smoking, which was...)

Column 8: Original Purchase Price (Could I be a winner on The Price is Right?)

Column 9: Replacement/Repair estimate (This is possible. I just have to go downtown, hunt around, find the item in a store or ask the salesperson for a quote, write it down in a notebook, and then add 13 per cent tax. I'll have the estimate — but I won't have a life.)

Repeat this process a thousand times or more. Fill nine boxes for every book, every CD, every toy, every single article of clothing you once owned. Keep calm. You can do this.

Don't forget the nailbrush, the pyjamas and the silk scarf that was your grandmother's. Print clearly. Write down the plastic bowl and the Limoges teacup. Why did you ever buy all that stuff anyway? Don't forget the toothbrushes, the dishtowels, the lampshades or the telephone.

Staring mindlessly into space is just part of the job. Try not to sit there shredding the forms. You weren't doing anything else with this year, were you?

The above is part of a continuing series on the house fire experience of the writer and her family on Salt Spring.

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# Israel must pull out of Lebanon before hitting a catastrophic abyss

By JACK HALLAM

Michael Friedman ("Re-think," June 28 Driftwood letters) seems to suggest approval for the stupid statement "that anti-Zionism is the equivalent of an attack on Jews." If one is anti-Nazi, is that equivalent to an attack on Germans? Both are ridiculous statements.

It is the terrible tragedy in the Middle East that should concern all of us. Israel seems to have lost its moral compass. Rick Salutin, the secular Jewish columnist of the Globe and Mail, wrote, "It is obscene to demolish infrastructure such as power plants, bridges and airports." Gideon Levy, the Israeli columnist in Haaretz, said the occupation started it: "There is no violence worse than the violence of the occupier."

Amin Saikal, a professor at the Australian National University, in response to those who claim Israeli aggression was due to the kidnapping by Hezbollah of two Israeli soldiers, wrote, "Israel has been kidnapping, jailing and killing Palestinians and Lebanese by the score over the years. Israel in its jails holds hundreds of Lebanese, many of them Hezbollah supporters." He further writes, "Israel is now seeking to destroy not only Hezbollah but also Lebanon. Its aim is to set back Lebanese reconstruction by years so that it could never rival Israel politically or economically."

The Globe and Mail has a definite pro-Israel bias, though not as severe or blatant as the Isidore Asper-owned National Post. Edward Greenspon, the edi-

## IN DEPTH

tor-in-chief of the G & M., in a recent editorial headed "Who's to Blame," of course named Hezbollah.

I'm mystified. I thought the blame should be laid at the feet of those who expelled hundreds of thousands from their homes, confiscated land, razed olive groves to build internationally condemned illegal settlements on Palestinian land now housing over 250,000 Israeli settlers, restricted water supply to Palestinian villages, bulldozed dozens of Palestinian homes, used helicopter gunships in targeted assassinations of Palestinian leaders, and finally refused to negotiate with the democratically elected government of the Palestinians.

The Israeli-caused carnage in Qana, where over 55 civilians, including 37 children, were killed, is a cruel echo of the massacre of over 100 in Qana in 1982.

In the Israeli invasion and occupation of Lebanon in 1982, 14,000 Lebanese were killed, and this gave rise to Hezbollah. Estimates of Lebanese support for Hezbollah now run as high as 70 percent.

In addition to power plants, etc., Israel blew up bunker and fuel oil storage tanks near the coast, resulting in kilometres of oil-covered beaches in Lebanon with a horrible toll on birds and sea life.

George W.'s buddy "Steve" Harper spoke of Israel's "measured response"

— some measure with over 150 Palestinians and more than 1,000 Lebanese killed, and thousands more injured and maimed. If this should cause "Steve" to lose the next election, then one small good will have come from a sea of evil.

Michael Ignatieff has called for an immediate ceasefire to stop the slide to "the abyss," a horror involving most of the Middle East. Right-wing Christian fundamentalists who strongly support Israel believe in the biblical prophecy of Armageddon, the last battle between good and evil before the Day of Judgement. For this reason they care little or nothing about the environment.

If we reach the "abyss," then the prophecy of Armageddon might even come to pass.

*The writer is a retired biologist on Salt Spring.*

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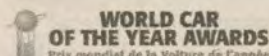
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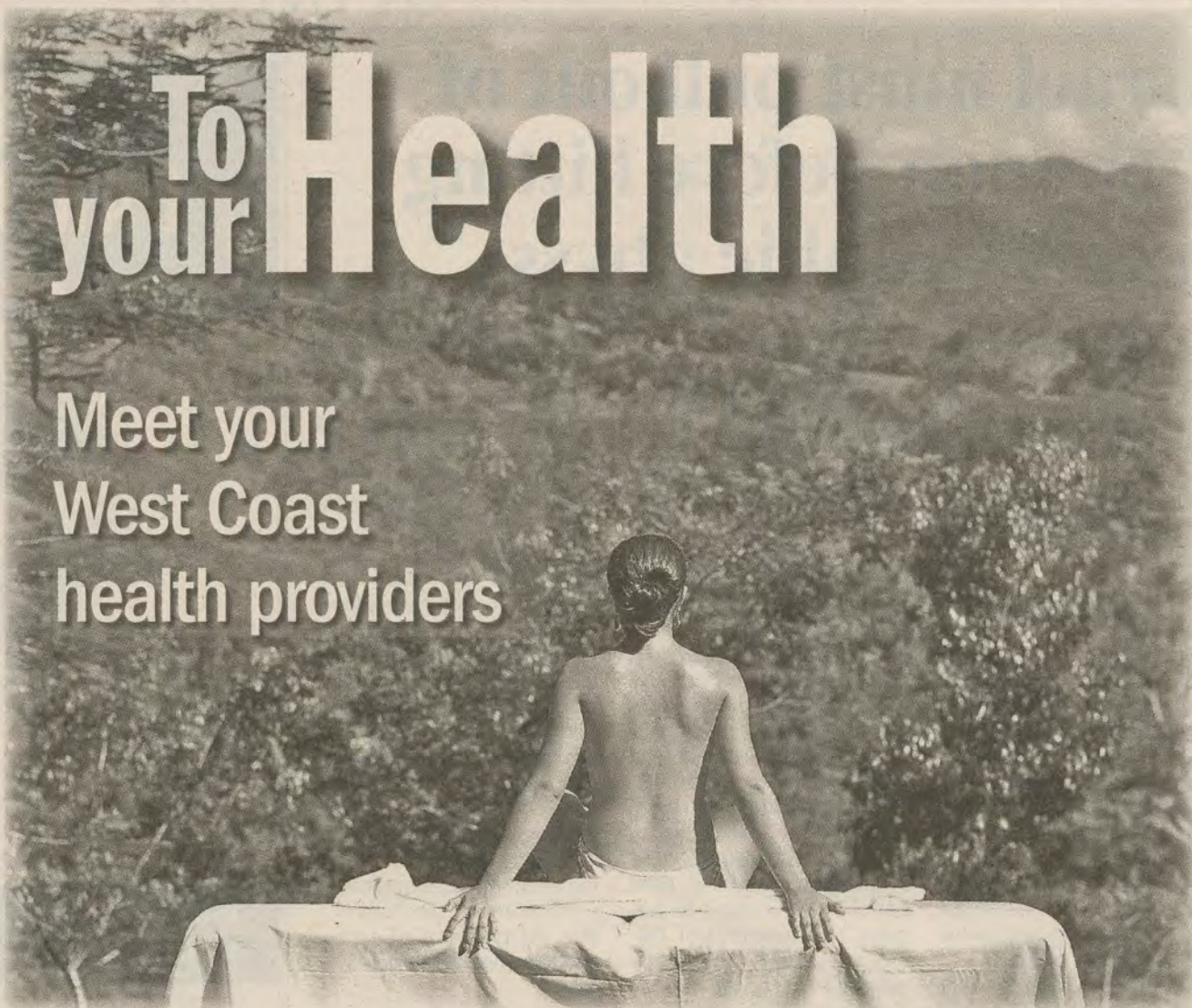
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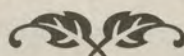
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Located at 1005 Broad Street in downtown Victoria, The Good Planet Company (formerly Granola Groovy Eco Store) celebrates the planet and everything that Mother Earth has to offer.

Former residents of Salt Spring Island, The Good Planet Company owners Ian Cromack and Alain St.Onge have often been accused of being Treehuggers and Granola Crunchers, both of which they happily embrace! Their dream was to open a happy, colourful retail experience full of exciting, eco-minded, organic and fairly traded products right here in Ganges, but a lack of suitable locations at the time forced a re-location to Victoria.

The store's design differs from many other environmental stores. By showcasing products in a relaxed and inviting atmosphere, The Good Planet Company shows customers that shopping "green" doesn't need to be bland or boring. By minimizing contact with toxins, focusing on organic and fair trade products, the Good Planet Guys are looking to make life greener and healthier!

You can visit The Good Planet Company online at [www.goodplanet.com](http://www.goodplanet.com), or just drop by the store to say hello, sip some herbal tea and have a browse the next time you're in Victoria! (1005 Broad Street, between Fort and Broughton, south of the Bay Centre)

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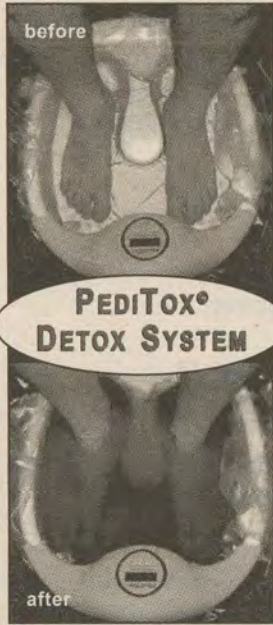
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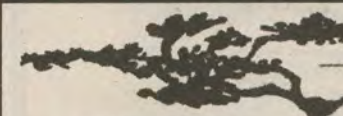
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**ROUSING ROWERS:** The Salt Spring Rowing Club's team "Boy Base" — from left, Gordon Havelaar, Kate Hosie, Olivia Morgan and Elaine Theunisz — takes second place in the quad category of the club's first annual regatta. The event was held Sunday at St. Mary Lake. Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Rowing club hits water for first St. Mary regatta

Local rowers stretched their muscles and flew over the water at the Salt Spring Island Rowing Club's first annual regatta.

The event took place Sunday at St. Mary Lake with races in the 500-metre doubles and 1000-m quad categories.

Taking first place in the doubles were Charlotte Mellstrom and Gordon Havelaar, followed by Karen Hosie and Noah Havelaar. In third spot was the pair of Rebecca Hylands and Jacob Burton, while Ann Marie Pearson and Kate Hosie took

fourth place.

In the quad event, "Girl Power" — with rowers Karen Hosie, Alison Fox, Hylands and Mellstrom — nailed the top spot, with "Boy Base" (Elaine Theunisz, Olivia Morgan, Kate Hosie and Gordon Havelaar) grabbing second.

In third was the "WINGnuts" team of Dylan Hillis, Burton, Pearson and Cameron Sutherland, while "StarStruck" (Jane Witherpoon, Annette Magled, Noah Havelaar and Susan Grace) took fourth.

## Pringle riders, horses continue their successful riding season

Pringle Farm riders fared well against 360 entries at the Region 17 championships of the Arabian Horse Association held in Thunderbird Show Park in Langley earlier this month.

Alexa Hardy and her horse FF Candarr placed in the top five in Hunter Pleasure Under Saddle in the 17 years and under division, while Sacha Kazakoff and Oh So Fine also did the same in Sport Horse Under Saddle.

Oh So Fine placed sixth

overall in Junior Horse Hunter Pleasure out of a class of 27 horses.

Erin Pringle and Soh Bay placed in the top five in Hunter Seat Equitation Walk Trot for 10 years and under, and then had a big win in Hunter Pleasure Walk Trot where they were named Reserve Champion.

Jody Pringle and TR Cinar placed top five in First Level Dressage and earned a top five in Showmanship and Reserve Champion in

Show Hack.

Riders and horses came from the United States, B.C., Alberta and Manitoba.

Hardy and her horse prepared for this show by competing at the Vancouver Island Arabian show in June where they achieved High Point Junior Rider and High Point Purebred.

Jody Pringle, Kazakoff and their horses are competing this week in Regina at the Royal Red Canadian National Championships.

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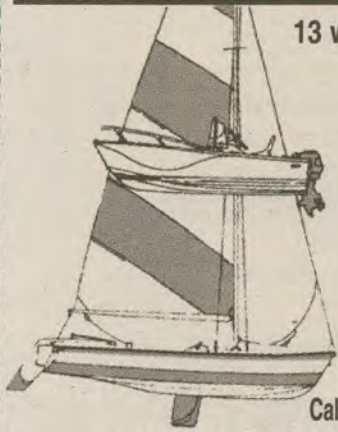
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Note: Early registration recommended due to class size limits

# Jura wins honours at show

A horse from Glenminguay Farm of Salt Spring brought the trophies home from the Vancouver Island exhibition in Nanaimo last week.

Among a total of 12 first, four second and one fourth-place finish, trophies earned by the Canadian horse Jura were B.C. Canadian Grand Champion Mare, Most Versatile Canadian Horse, High Point Canadian Horse Under Saddle and High Point Western Horse.

Jura was driven by Jazzie Griffiths and shown in halter in the Canadian show.

In the open show, Jura was ridden by Mira Warrington to receive High Point English and High Point Overall. Warrington was also the High Point Rider for the whole show.

Jura will be going to the Salt Spring Fall Fair with other Glenminguay Canadians to compete in the "battle of the breeds" with Griffiths and Warrington.



**WINNER:** Christian Huser is seen with his prizes at the Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club after he won top spot in the annual Salt Spring junior championship event. Photo contributed

# Bridge stars named

By JILL EVANS  
Driftwood Contributor

Continuing the summer influx of bridge mixtures, on August 7 there were 22 people competing — 11 partnerships — and the four winning ones were all within a one-point spread!

At the top of the heap were Gerry Nicholson of Tucson with Blanche Poborsa, and half a point behind were George and Flo Laundry. Another half point saw a tie for third place, featuring Joan Conlan and Boodie Arnott as one pair, and Jeff Bell and Paul Retallack as the other.

Summertime parking in downtown Ganges is packed, and the Brinkworthy lot was no exception on August 14. There was such a good turnout that a Mitchell movement was possible, rather than the usual Howell.

This means that the North-South pair stays at the table and the East-West pair moves, instead of every pair changing places for each round. Separate results are then given for N-S and E-W.

First in the N-S division were Norbert Schlenker and Calgary visitor Dave Blizzard. Second were Bob Morrisette and John Jefferson, and third were Conhor Vane-Hunt and Isabelle Richardson. Winners in the E-W division were again Gerry Nicholson and Blanche Poborsa, with Jeff Bell and Paul Retallack coming second, and George and Flo Laundry in third place.

# Best junior honoured

Christian Huser was named the top junior golfer when he won last Saturday's 2006 Junior Club Championships at Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club.

Key winners were: low gross, Huser, 75; low net, Josh Benloulou, 70; low gross (nine holes), Nicholas Honour; low net (nine holes), Christian Savage.

In other junior golf news Josh Bedford won KP in last Wednesday's Junior Golf Day and Eric Pulke won longest drive.

Stephen Greenwood and Huser also represented Salt Spring at the B.C. Amateur Open at Glacier Greens Golf Course at Comox on August 15-17.

ISLAND STAR VIDEO presents...

# Flick Pick

Violent revolution compelling in V for Vendetta

Jason Tudor

It's 2020, and England lies under the complete control of a fascist dictatorship that uses every possible means to keep its people in a state of constant fear and obedience.

V For Vendetta has nothing to do with flashy fight sequences, cinematography, or special effects. Those looking for an action-packed effort like the filmmakers' highly successful Matrix trilogy will be crying foul.

Evey Holland (Natalie Portman) is out one night despite the curfew and is caught by government-sponsored religious zealots. It would mean her life, but she is saved by a mask-and-cloak-wearing, knife-wielding vigilante who calls himself only "V" (Hugo Weaving).

However, V For Vendetta shares with The Matrix a distinctly anti-establishment attitude, and goes beyond that. The bad guys in this film are without question representative of our current governments.

What's fascinating is just how strongly V For Vendetta advocates violent revolution as a solution to our current situation. There's not a whole lot of the usual superhero-as-Buddhist bit where he only kills bad guys. V is pretty angry, and thinks little about killing cops who get in the way of his extremely sharp knife collection.

The most frightening, and powerful, scene in the movie has V forcing Evey to acknowledge the power within herself to take action against her oppressors. It's as blatant a call for the audience to walk out of the theatre and start kicking authority butt as I've ever witnessed in a mainstream film.

Which studio greenlit this thing, anyhow? Are the Cubans moving from cigars to cinema? Seriously, though, will this anarchist punch really get through to those who need it most? One hopes so. After all, in the film there is a young, dorky girl who cries "bollocks" every time the TV tells her one of the government's lies.

Look out, kid, you might get on a list and this one isn't Santa's.

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# Boys bring home B.C. swim medals

Salt Spring boy power ruled the pool at the provincial swimming championships in Kamloops last weekend, with **Brendan Nickerson**, **Liam Sinclair** and **Connor Budd** bringing home the island's only medals.

Nickerson lived up to his name as the Stingrays swim club's "senior swimmer of the year" by taking Salt Spring's one individual event medal when he nailed bronze in the 100-m fly.

Budd and Sinclair swam to a silver-place finish as they represented Vancouver Island on the Div. 1 regional boys relay team.

And Edmonton-based Stingrays coach **Kellie Rolston** also nabbed some hardware for Salt Spring when she won two bronze and a silver medal.

About a dozen Salt Spring swimmers and one waterpolo player qualified for the provincial championships, competing in various events last week.

The red-clad Salt Spring swimmers — now part of the Vancouver Island region provincial team — took the blocks against highly competitive swimmers from around the province, many of whom sported newly shaved heads and \$500-plus, full-body, shark-skin suits.

Despite Vancouver Island's less fancy swim-wear, the region took third place overall out of the province's eight districts.

Waterpolo ran Monday to Wednesday, while swimming took place Friday to Sunday.

Morning swim heats spring-boarded the top eight swimmers into finals, with those placing ninth to 16th swimming consolation finals.

Nickerson, Div. 6, emerged Salt Spring's top swimmer of the meet, picking up 100-m fly bronze (1:03.96), 4th in the 200-m individual medley (IM) (2:21.47) and 11th in both 50-m fly (28.95) and 100-m breast (1:14.36). Swimming with the Div. 7 boys, his regional relay team won 4th.

In addition to grabbing relay hardware, Sinclair nailed 5th-place finishes in both Div. 1 50-m breast (52.61) and 50-m free (38.40). Unfortunately, he was disqualified for an illegal turn in 50-m back.



**READY TO RACE:** Salt Spring Stingray swimmer Brendan Nickerson practises at Shelby Pool. The island teen was the only local swim club member to medal in an individual event at this year's provincial swimming championships in Kamloops. *Photo by Derrick Lundy*

Also suffering a disappointing "DQ" (in the 50-m breast heat), Div. 1 swimmer Budd still managed to pick up an 8th-place finish in the 100-m IM (1:52.08) and 10th in 50-m fly (52.21).

Rolston nailed bronze-place finishes in Div. 8 100-m fly (1:11.25) and 200-m IM (2:43.12) and swam to silver in 100-m back (1:15.23). She also placed 6th in 50-m fly (31.81).

In Div. 7, **Danielle Viozzi** picked up 11th in 100-m fly (no time available) and 100-m free (1:11.29), 12th in 100-m back (1:23.79) and 14th in 50-m free (31.35).

Div. 5 swimmer **Nina Fletcher** grabbed 7th in 100-m backstroke. She also picked up 16th in 50-m free (30.79) and 14th in 50-m fly (33.33).

Fellow Div. 5 swimmer **Danica Lundy** took 18th in the 200-m IM, 19th in 100-m free and 20th in 50-m fly. Her Peninsula-based waterpolo team did not qualify for the medal round, settling instead for a 5th-place finish.

Fletcher and Lundy swam on the Div. 5 girls regional relay team, picking up

5th place, and both girls were joined by **Eryn Gix** and **Grace Morgan** on the Salt Spring medley relay team, which took 7th spot. The island team of Fletcher, Lundy, Morgan and **Emily Rothwell** nailed 5th in the free relay.

Gix also swam to an 11th-place finish in 50-m breast (42.34) and took 16th in 50-m free (34.69). Her regional relay team was disqualified.

**Olivia Budd** grabbed 15th in Div. 6 100-m back (1:19.19), and 18th in both 50-m free and 200-m IM. She swam with Viozzi on a Div. 7 regional relay, nabbing a 6th place finish.

The Div. 7 girls free relay team of Budd, Viozzi, **Amy Zacharias** and **Victoria Budd** placed 9th and did not make finals.

The Salt Spring Stingrays swim team's season is now over, with the club's annual general meeting set for October. The club will have a new set of coaches next summer and hopes the Rainbow Road pool facility will be ready when the 2007 season begins on May 1.

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