



Spooktacular night part of Hallowe'en fun Page B1

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Index

- Arts B1
- Classifieds B19
- Sudoku B23
- Editorials A8
- Ferry Schedules A19
- Health A23
- Horoscope B23
- Letters A9
- Sports A19
- TV Listings B9
- What's On B16

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Daily doses of rain will continue for the foreseeable future. Highs to 15 C on Friday, overnight lows to 10 C most days.

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TOUCHED BY GENEROSITY: Meisie Maaroganye, a delegate at the Community to Community 2 conference held on the weekend, accepts funds raised by Willem Burnaby at his birthday party, which he donated to the Evaton West Community Development Forum in South Africa. Conference organizers and delegates were "stunned" by the event's success.

Photo by Anna Callegari

Islands Savings robber at large

Disguised thief disappears with undisclosed amount of cash

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Driftwood Staff

Salt Spring RCMP have uncovered few leads after a machete-wielding masked bandit held up the Island Savings branch in Ganges Friday morning.

"He ran out through the back door and seems to have disappeared," said RCMP Sgt. Danny Willis in an interview Monday. "We are asking the public to come forward with any information on this."

Willis said a Friday afternoon patrol through the Ganges area by a Victoria Police Department K-9 dog unit turned up no evidence of the suspect's whereabouts.

"At this point we have nothing new," said Willis, who has issued bulletins to police detachments on Vancouver Island and the southern Gulf Islands. "We are still following all avenues available."

An extensive weekend search by the detachment's nine members did not turn up any of the suspect's clothing or weapons. Willis said

officers are still searching for a male of medium build measuring approximately five foot nine inches.

Eye-witness reports confirm a man wearing a black balaclava and a Vancouver Canucks hockey jersey entered the bank just before 10:30 a.m. The suspect held a two-foot-long machete in his right hand, said witness Bruce Beattie. An image caught by one of the bank's video surveillance cameras revealed he was also carrying a metal-spiked hockey stick.

Beattie said he and many other people in the bank initially thought the robbery was a Hallowe'en prank until the man raised his voice, lifted his machete into the air and demanded everyone assemble in the middle of the building.

He said the robber proceeded to ask the roughly 15 people in the bank to throw their purses, wallets and cellphones into a pile, although he did not take anything from the collection.

"Then I figured this is a bit far-fetched for a prank," he said, moments after leaving the credit union where RCMP officers spent the rest of the day gathering information from witnesses.

BANK ROBBERY A4

United message key to controlling fares

By STACY CARDIGAN SMITH
Driftwood Staff

Gulf Islanders who don't want to see major ferry fare increases are being urged to contact their MLA and the B.C. Ferry Commissioner to make their concerns heard.

Over the next six to nine months, the B.C. Ferry Commissioner will set price caps to determine maximum fare increases during the next "performance term," a four-year period beginning April 1, 2008.

Because B.C. Ferry Services Inc. intends to reduce subsidization of "minor routes," including those on the Gulf Islands, proposed fare increases are expected to be substantial.

Last Wednesday's Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee (SSIFAC) meeting at the Harbour House Hotel heard that the public must step forward now to express their concerns about the planned fare increases.

However, a complicated subject peppered with jargon makes it difficult to understand the issues, a task that, according to SSIFAC chair Bob Jones, is key to successful communication between the public and elected officials.

"I think the main thing is that we all need to have the same message. To all have the same message, we all have to understand the issues, and I can assure you the issues are very complicated," said

Jones after last Wednesday's SSIFAC meeting.

Below is a synopsis of those issues:

• Prior to implementation of the Coastal Ferry Act (CFA) in 2003, the three major routes (between Tsawwassen and Swartz Bay or Duke Point, and Horseshoe-Departure Bay) were able to subsidize the other, smaller routes that did not make money.

• Smaller routes are now subsidized by the government. According to a report released by the B.C. Ferry Commissioner on June 19, 2006, "the average minor route is roughly one-third user-pay." This means the government pays, on average, 66 per cent of small-

route operating costs. However, the exact amount varies from as much as 85 per cent (for the Texada Island to Powell River route) to 42 per cent (for Vesuvius Bay to Crofton). Swartz Bay to Fulford rings in at 61 per cent.

• The CFA defined the maximum permitted level of a fare, or the price cap. At the time, the act allowed for the price cap to increase annually by 2.8 per cent for the major routes and 4.4 per cent for the smaller routes for the first performance term, which ends on March 31, 2008. However, under extraordinary circumstances, B.C. Ferries can apply to the Ferry Commissioner to increase the price cap.

FERRY FARES A4

Time changes Sunday

This weekend brings an added bonus to time-challenged islanders.

With the end of Daylight Savings Time and a return to Pacific Standard Time, islanders can snag an extra hour of sleep.

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Expression of Interest due before 3:00 p.m. November 9th, 2006, by delivery to Fire Chief Dave Enfield at the address below. Faxed responses will NOT be accepted. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to waive informalities in, or reject any or all, tenders, or accept the tender deemed most favourable in the interest of the Fire District.

Detailed information can be obtained by contacting:
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Salt Spring Island Fire/Rescue
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| | 09:28 | 3.3 | 10.8 | | SU | 12:07 | 3.4 | 11.2 |
| | 14:04 | 2.9 | 9.5 | | 30 | 04:08 | 0.9 | 3.0 |
| | 17:37 | 3.0 | 9.8 | | | MO | 12:48 | 3.4 |
| OCT 26 | 01:36 | 0.5 | 1.6 | | 20:04 | 2.5 | 8.2 | |
| | 10:24 | 3.3 | 10.8 | | 21:06 | 2.5 | 8.2 | |
| | 15:17 | 3.0 | 9.8 | 31 | 05:15 | 1.0 | 3.3 | |
| | 17:41 | 3.0 | 9.8 | | TU | 13:21 | 3.3 | 10.8 |
| OCT 27 | 02:19 | 0.5 | 1.6 | | 19:58 | 2.2 | 7.2 | |
| | FR | 11:23 | 3.3 | 10.8 | | 23:46 | 2.4 | 7.9 |
| OCT 28 | 03:08 | 0.6 | 2.0 | ***** | | | | |
| | SA | 12:18 | 3.4 | 11.2 | | | | |



AIDS VISUAL: Gulf Islands Secondary School student Emma Webber helps erect the AIDS crosses on a school hillside just prior to last weekend's Community to Community 2 AIDS conference. Photo by John Cameron

Hope, inspiration at C2C2 kick-off

By ELIZABETH NOLAN
Driftwood Staff

A capacity crowd filled Gulf Islands Secondary School's multi-purpose room during Community to Community 2's opening night on Friday.

Over 275 people danced, laughed and listened to inspiring stories at the conference event, which was open to the public.

Despite the serious subject matter — HIV/AIDS and gender inequity in Africa — an upbeat, celebratory atmosphere prevailed in the minutes before the event began.

The buzzing crowd and energetic African music coming over the speakers, combined with a few bright market stalls selling beads made from recycled magazines, all contributed to the anticipation.

Host Kathryn Gretsinger launched the evening by introducing Salt Spring's Iroko Drummers and asking everyone to get up and dance. At least half of the people did, while the rest bobbed in appreciation from their seats.

The sense of fun continued when Gretsinger introduced Gary McNutt, founder of SOLID (Salt Spring Organization for Life Improvement and Development), likening him to fellow hip, pony-tailed activists Bono and Bob Geldof.

McNutt's moving short film Make Way for the Living, set to the Harry Manx song by the same name, led to a change in tone that continued with a short talk by Peggy Frank, who with partner Peter Bardon recently brought aid and friendship to Rwanda and other African countries.

Frank, who has been living with HIV for almost 20 years, won over the audience with her open account of living in Canada with the disease.

After a short break, the real highlight of the evening came with the introduction of the five African delegates. Visitors from four different African nations



Faith Lindley helps out with the peace flags at the weekend AIDS conference. Photo by Derrick Lundy

"I made a promise that I would never sit down and do nothing while culture forces girls to be slaves."

— Lerato Legoabe

of the community), giving them options and providing alternative rites of passage.

Another delegate, Lerato Legoabe of South Africa, spoke of "a culture of silence" surrounding violence against women, and described her work giving young girls a voice by learning technology such as the Internet.

"I made a promise that I would never sit down and do nothing while culture forces girls to be slaves," Legoabe stated.

All five delegates demonstrated an inspiring lesson for North Americans that could not have been successfully delivered by a second-hand source.

By telling their personal stories, the African guests brought home to the audience both the reality of the terrible events they have experienced, and the real potential for hope.

The panel demonstrated that people living in poverty in Africa's villages and townships are effecting positive change despite having almost no resources.

As the audience joined hands and listened to singer Toni Childs close the evening with her award-winning song Because You're Beautiful, it appeared that hope and inspiration will continue to motivate islanders.

McNutt said the conference exceeded expectations in terms of numbers of people attending and the connections made between participants.

"It was amazing," he said. "Everyone was so stunned." "There was so much common ground," he added.

spoke about the work they are doing at home to fight against poverty, HIV, gender inequity and cultural oppression.

Like Frank, several of the delegates shared very personal stories; Agnes Pareyio, the United Nations in Kenya Person of the Year for 2005, spoke candidly about female genital mutilation in her own experience.

Pareyio modestly described how she is "changing the culture little by little" by educating village girls (and the rest



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Tears shed at weekend AIDS event

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Driftwood Staff

Vivid personal experiences, passionate scientific research and an unyielding search for hope had speakers at a Saturday evening lecture demanding immediate action to curb the spread of HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa.

"Our gaze cannot end at the television screen's images of sick and starving children," said Dr. Philip Berger, a Toronto physician attending the weekend-long Community 2 Community 2 HIV/AIDS conference on Salt Spring Island. "Peril in Lesotho is a matter of public knowledge and now is the time to act."

Berger kept roughly 250 people gathered in the GISS multi-purpose room riveted with intimate accounts of what he saw during a seven-and-a-half month term working at an AIDS clinic in Lesotho, a small landlocked country located in the north-eastern corner of South Africa.

Tales of young adults being carried to the facility, unable to walk on their own strength and often weighing less than 40 kilograms, he said, are part of the daily routine.

As in so many of the region's other countries, children, women and men suffering from tuberculosis, pneumonia and other AIDS-related illnesses, he added, have an unfathomable toll on every aspect of Lesothoan society.

"If we accept the cold hard facts and statistics, then the country's very existence is in peril," he said, speaking of Lesotho's estimated 30 per cent infection rate.

Underlying the response, Berger added, is a need to have more trained professionals administering what little treatment is available—a daunting task for a country of two million with only 90 trained doctors, many of whom are themselves infected with HIV.

Calling the epidemic an all-out genocide on behalf of governments around the world, Dr. Julio Montaner, a UBC professor of medicine and president-elect of the International AIDS Society, took little time to point the finger at those responsible.

"It is happening to people that don't count. If this was to happen to people like us, this would not be happen-



HOPE: Onlookers watch with emotion as doves are released at the conclusion of Saturday's AIDS conference events. Photo by Derrick Lundy

**"If this was to happen to people like us, this would not be happening."
— Dr. Julio Montaner**

ing," he said. "It's a matter of values and it is a lot easier than trying to bomb Iraq as we are trying to do at the present time."

Montaner's frustration stems from his research into the benefits of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), an effective solution to help treat HIV patients that is readily available but not distributed.

Among other things, his research shows the drug has reduced rates of mother-to-child infection from 25 per cent in 1994 to less than one per cent today.

That fewer than 10 per cent of patients are receiving medication, he said, speaks to an unwillingness, not an inability, to help contain the disease.

Over the past several years, Montaner has focussed on convincing governments at home and abroad that higher spending on treatment today translates into reduced healthcare costs down the road.

"By treating so few people, we are actually facilitating the spread of HIV," he told the audience.

"According to the [federal

government], AIDS is not a priority. Your job is to cast a vote to send a message about what kind of country we want this to be."

While some have called his research overly optimistic due to the sheer challenge of administering so many drugs, he said, that doesn't mean he must stop dreaming for a brighter future.

"If we don't start thinking about it, it will never happen and if we don't talk about it, how can we think about it?" he said.

In a short yet powerful address, Lesotho's high commissioner to Canada Motseoa Senyane said she will return to Ottawa enlightened and encouraged from the speakers and workshops hosted over the weekend.

The Salt Spring Community 2 Community 2 conference, she said, is evidence that people on the other side of the world can and are making a difference to the lives of people in her country.

While change may be slow and sometimes unnoticeable, significant steps such as empowering Lesotho's women and making treatment more widely available are likely to have a positive impact on future generations.

"Although not as sexy as other development issues, HIV and AIDS can be a target for people with a passion," she said. "I'm going to leave this place with so much

hope. I'd like to encourage everyone to keep the fire within burning because it is that fire that will teach us the right path to follow."

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BANK ROBBERY

From Page A1

The branch reopened on Saturday morning.

"You get excited when you see a full-sized machete clanging on the ground it," he said, after he and his wife came within five metres of the man. "This is a bit surreal. You're not used to being threatened."

The man then handed a bank teller three medium-sized sports bags and asked they be filled with money. Within no more than four minutes, Beattie said, the entire episode was over and the man left on foot through the building's parking lot entrance.

Beattie said his immediate reaction was to look around the room for anything to use as a weapon.

"I wasn't going to be a hero but I stood by in defensive mode," he said. "I was pumped."

Island Savings was responding through its head office in Duncan.

"The most important thing is that all the staff and



Island Savings Credit Union video cameras captured this image of the disguised thief who walked away with an undisclosed amount of money in a robbery at the bank on Friday.

customers are okay," said spokesperson Lorne DeLarge.

Counselling services are

available to employees at their request. Island Savings has hired a temporary security guard and, DeLarge said,

the security is considered very good.

He could not recall if the Salt Spring branch had ever been targeted in the past. He said robberies at any of Island Savings' 12 branches remain an uncommon occurrence.

DeLarge said it is against company policy to reveal how much money the robber made off with.

"In general, we do not release that information for safety reasons," he said. "Releasing it tends to increase other potential incidents."

Ferry sailings to and from the island were not disrupted by the robbery, according to B.C. Ferries staff contacted on the afternoon of the incident.

This is the second bank robbery on Salt Spring Island since 2004 when an armed robber held up the Bank of Montreal.

People with any information regarding the suspect's identity can contact the Salt Spring RCMP at 537-5555.

Vandals leave oily trail at Ganges church, library

Salt Spring RCMP are investigating a peculiar Saturday evening vandalism spree after a number of sites in the village core were discovered doused in motor oil.

Just before 8 p.m. on Saturday, October 21, police received complaints of motor oil poured over a vehicle parked in the downtown area. RCMP foot patrols conducted later in the evening revealed oil had also been spread over the exterior walls and doors of the Salt Spring Island United Church on Hereford Avenue.

The individuals then targeted mail boxes and a stop

RCMP FILE

sign at the corner of McPhillips Avenue and Lower Ganges Road.

Librarian Marilyn Ming called the detachment on Monday morning shortly after discovering oil and a plastic bottle in the library's book drop.

Those responsible caused \$100 in damage to books, tapes and videos.

The library has no plans to close the book-drop following the incident.

"It was an unanticipated task and quite a mess

to clean up as you might imagine because there was quite a pool of oil," Ming said.

"We would like to keep the book drop open and hope people are sensible enough in the future."

In other RCMP news: Police remain on the lookout for those responsible for damaging a Langs Road lawn and septic field on Friday night.

Police discovered deep tire tracks where a vehicle had spun its wheels. Police request anybody with information regarding this or any other incident to contact Salt Spring RCMP at 537-5555.

FERRY FARES

From Page A1

The Commissioner has approved three such extraordinary price cap increases to date due to the higher cost of fuel. The first came into effect July 25, 2005, bringing an increase of four per cent to major routes and six per cent on minor routes. The second, on February 1, saw a 1.5 per cent increase for major routes and three per cent for minor ones. The third, on June 22, saw a 3.2 per cent increase for major and 9.6 per cent increase for minor routes.

• New price caps will be

determined for the second performance term shortly. The cost of fuel, as well as the amortization of necessary refurbishments to the fleet and to terminals, has dramatically increased B.C. Ferries' costs.

• The government will attempt to decrease minor route funding for this second term. If this occurs, the cost of fares will greatly increase.

At the October 18 SSIFAC meeting, both committee members and B.C. Ferries employees made it clear the

best way for the public to be heard is to contact government officials.

"Articulate your views to your MLA and the provincial government in a civil manner," said Amar Johal, B.C. Ferries' director of sales and community relations.

For more information, log onto the B.C. Ferry Commission website at www.bcferrycommission.com or BC Ferries' website at www.bcferry.com. Saanich North and the Islands MLA Murray Coell can be reached toll free at 1-866-655-5711.

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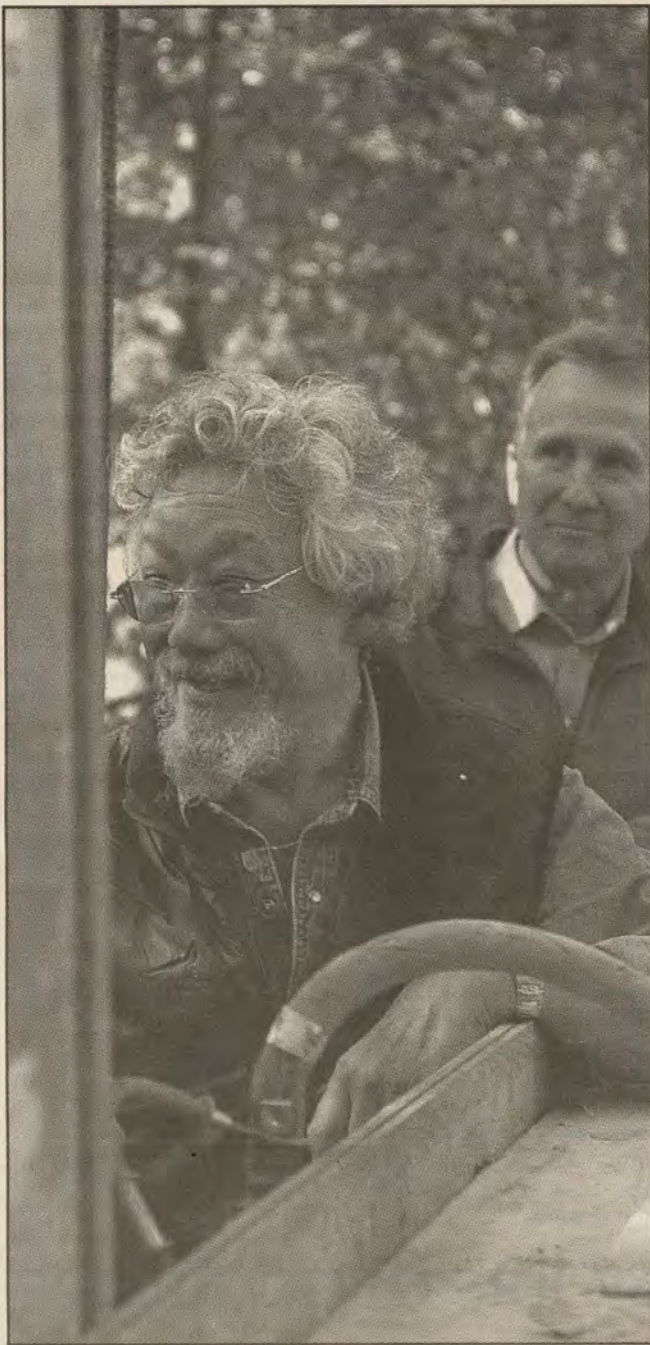
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RAMMED EARTH NOVICE: Well-known Canadian environmentalist David Suzuki tries his hand at ramming earth as Meror Krayenhoff of Terra Firma Builders looks on. Suzuki and a film crew were on Salt Spring last week filming some of Terra Firma's rammed earth homes for an episode of *The Nature of Things*.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

NDP MLA keeps public affairs alive

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Driftwood Staff

Since the provincial government cancelled the legislature's planned fall sitting in Victoria, the New Democratic Party's Rob Fleming has had plenty of time to get out and speak with the people.

In an interview before meeting with party faithful in Ganges last week, the Hillside riding MLA proved there is still plenty to talk about when it comes to the state of B.C. politics.

Be it projected Olympic cost overruns, access to post-secondary education or health care, the prospect of rising ferry fares, the future of salmon aquaculture or the Liberal government's environment policy, Fleming said, the province is headed in the wrong direction.

"Despite all the opportunities, they haven't repaired a lot of the damage," he said. "They're running the province on cruise control. Either the government wants to stifle discussion or it has no new legislation to bring forward."

Without a formal question period to maintain debate, the official opposition is creating public discussion through the media and speaking engagements across the province.

As a result, the NDP's 33 MLAs are trying to revive seemingly dormant issues with anybody willing to listen, a task that has its challenges in a province with

record employment levels, strong job satisfaction ratings and a thriving resource-based economy.

At 34 years of age, Fleming is part of the new generation of provincial politician.

Fleming's experience includes a two-term stint as a Victoria city councillor and vice-chair of the Capital Regional District Housing Corporation.

At the University of Victoria, he was an active member of the student union and he now chairs the legislature's public accounts committee.

In other words, he gets to take the government to task on misspending, overspending and lack of spending.

With youth comes optimism, clearly visible when he speaks of the need for a new political era.

"We've gone beyond the old politics of infighting," he said. "All the ingredients are there to mobilize the interests at a community level. All we need is vision and a political will."

Since taking up his role as MLA 15 months ago, he said, he's not impressed with the Liberal government.

"Public concern is getting stronger. The dining room discussion across the province is 'why at a time when the economy is doing so well is there a growing underclass in our major cities and outlying areas?'"

It's only a matter of time, he added, before those issues can no longer be ignored.

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Replacement of paper tickets questioned at ferry meeting

By STACY
CARDIGAN SMITH
Driftwood Staff

One of the main issues of contention among the handful of people at last Wednesday's Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee (SSIFAC) meeting was the potential phasing out of paper commuter tickets in favour of "the Coast Card."

People were vocal in opposing the proposed expiry date that could accompany the card-based prepaid tickets.

"I'm really thick-headed, I don't understand why you would need an expiry date," said one man in the audience.

B.C. Ferries' director of sales and community relations Amar Johal made it clear the program is still in the development stage and will require further research and marketing before it is rolled out in test communities in April 2007 or later.

"We will work with the community to ensure this card has all the products and features so it will be a success," said Johal during the meeting.

He added the card would only be used in willing communities.

At present, the only product available on the card is assured loading tickets, or

ALTs. However, other potential products that might be available through the card include the prepaid discount tickets, ferry money and a monthly pass.

Although an expiry date is not certain for the Coast Card, it is something B.C. Ferries is considering in order to cut down on "abuse" of the system by non-natives, said Johal after the meeting.

The mass purchasing of tickets prior to a fare increase and the use of the tickets by non-B.C. residents are examples Johal cited as abuse.

He said since discount tickets are intended for local residents, an expiry date of between six months and two years should not cause any problems.

SSIFAC chair Bob Jones said he supports the Coast Card program and feels it will be good in the long run.

"I think people are making too much of the expiry date," said Jones in a telephone interview Friday.

He said the expiry date will keep people from essentially getting "second discounts" by using older tickets purchased at a reduced rate years ago for fares set for current market costs, as well as stop island businesses from selling individual tickets at cost or giving them away as incentives.

If the system is abused, it is locals who end up paying, said Jones. Although Jones said he appreciates the importance tourism plays in the local economy, he is "not overly impressed with the idea of subsidizing tourists."

"I wouldn't get all hung up about expiry dates at this time. Let's find out what [B.C. Ferries] is going to do," he said.

A number of features may also be available on the card, including card registration, which allows for free loss protection, as well as online account management that includes online purchasing of ALTs or automatic reloading of ALTs via credit cards.

The monthly pass product is another program currently in the early stages of development. As of July 1, the federal government offers a tax credit of approximately 15 per cent for public transit pass users.

B.C. Ferries is discussing with the government the option of including ferry commuters and their vehicles in the program, said Johal. To qualify, commuters would likely have to make a minimum of 20 round-trips per month, said Johal. But, he added, discussions are still underway.

However, frequent travelers might want to ensure they keep and file all receipts.



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School business companies fail public interest, claims report

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Driftwood Staff

The chair of the Gulf Islands School District is "not surprised" with a provincially commissioned report that declares school business companies are not operating in the public interest.

"It's no big deal," said May McKenzie in an interview from her home on Mayne Island.

"It's only been a year or two since we've started [the new projects] and it takes time to make money."

Since it was incorporated in 2003, the School District No. 64 Business Company has grown to include the international student program, a pre-school in Poland and an online cultural immersion class geared to foreign students.

Among the report's eight recommendations accepted by the Ministry of Education late last week, company directors will have to provide audited financial statements on all business

company activities at the company's annual general meeting in November and ensure the majority of board members are independent of the school board.

Two of the board's three positions are currently filled by trustees, including McKenzie and Pender Island trustee Pete Williams. McKenzie said two additional board "management-minded" members will be selected from the community in early 2007.

"This is the direction we were moving in anyway," she said.

Despite condemning the province's 14 school business companies, the report states stronger governance and increased accountability may allow business companies to "achieve success in a broad range of entrepreneurial activities and can serve the public interest in the future."

The 16-page report is based on interviews with school boards, corporate entities and the public con-

ducted in July by Doug Hibbins of Trillium Business Strategies.

Changes to the province's School Act in 2002 enabled individual districts across the province to form for-profit business companies as a way to generate additional funds for public-sector programs.

Groups such as the British Columbia Teachers' Federation (BCTF) maintain increasing privatization ultimately compromises the public school system.

While the latest findings confirm its position on school company activities, BCTF president Jinny Sims said the report doesn't go far enough.

"While the review is critical of the processes government put in place for school board companies to operate and questions whether they serve the public well, it also recommends these companies continue to operate. It's like throwing good money after bad," she said in a statement issued in response to the findings.

"We were promised that tough questions would be asked about the New Westminster school district losing \$1 million on overseas ventures, and the Gulf Islands company that [runs] an elite pre-school in Poland while closing its own schools one day a week to save money."

Education Minister Shirley Bond said she is convinced new regulations will make sure school companies can operate to serve everybody's interests.

"The changes we are introducing address the concerns we heard from parents and school boards about these business companies," said Bond in a statement released late last week.

"The new rules will ensure the public interests are better served."

Bond added that the government rejected a report recommendation permitting school boards to use surplus funds as start-up capital for business company initiatives.

Business awards draw lots of nominees

By DAWN HAGE
Driftwood Staff

Nominations are in and excitement is building for the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce First Annual Business Awards.

Participation was high with 14 nominations for Business of the Year, five nominations for New Business of the Year, 11 nominations for

Home Based Business of the Year, and four nominations respectively for Green Business and Business Ambassador of the Year.

All winners will be announced at a November 2 luncheon at the Harbour House Hotel, before the chamber's AGM at 3 p.m.

Chamber of Commerce manager Perry Ruehlen was excited about the response to the awards in the community.

"I think it is great," she said. "It shows that people in the community want to recognize these businesses and honour their achievements."

All nominated businesses were interviewed by Ruehlen and an assistant in the weeks preceding the closing date.

"The interview process turned out to be really positive," said Ruehlen. "It provided the chamber with an opportunity to sit down with all kinds of business owners to discuss their businesses in detail."

A standardized questionnaire was filled out during the interview, and ratings were established from pre-assigned criteria. That information, combined with the comments from business nominators, narrowed down the list to two or three finalists in each category.

A panel of six judges was formed from a broad spectrum of community members, who are either retired from or still involved in business on the island. Finalists

will be invited to the November 2 luncheon. All winners will receive a beautiful black stone award designed by Warren Langley.

"The awards are gorgeous," said Ruehlen.

Business of the Year award, sponsored by Islands Savings Credit Union, is presented to a "business that has demonstrated sound business practices, leadership, involvement in the community and exceptional employee relations."

Nominated businesses are: Apple Photo, Calvin's Restaurant, Driftwood Publishing, Ganges Village Market, Ganges Yoga Studio, Island Savings Credit Union, Island Star Video, Mouat's Clothing, Mouat's Trading, Natureworks, Salt Spring Auto Parts, Salt Spring Vineyards, Thrifty Foods and Tree House Cafe.

New Business of the Year, sponsored by Salt Spring Kayaking, is presented to a business that, in its first three years of operation on Salt Spring Island, is demonstrating business excellence in a wide variety of areas.

Nominated businesses are: Jana's Bake Shop, Mid Isle Marine, Sports Traders, Tea Cozy and TJ Beans.

Home Based Business of the Year is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and awarded to a business that consistently shows excellence and quality in service and or product.

Nominated businesses

are: Artcentric, Bon Acres Farm, Duck Creek Farm, Clam Beach Cottage, French Country Fabrics, Monivea Bed and Breakfast, Righteous Rags, Ruckle Farm Stand, Salt Spring Island Bread Company, Seven Raven Farms and Warren Langley Signs.

The Green Business of the Year Award is sponsored by I-SEA and requires a business to make a conscious effort to create an environmentally friendly business and set an example for the business community on Salt Spring Island.

Nominated businesses are: Harbour House Hotel, Moonstruck Cheese, Natureworks and Salt Spring Roasting Company.

The Business Ambassador of the Year Award is sponsored by Mouat's Trading and will be presented to a person who, through their business, regularly attracts positive attention and interest to the entire community as a result of their business practices.

Nominated businesses for this award are: Harbour House Hotel, Island Star Video, Mouat's Trading and Salt Spring Island Cheese Company.

Awards for Citizen of the Year and Chamber Member of the Year will also be announced on November 2.

For more information, visit the Chamber of Commerce website at www.salt-springtoday.com.



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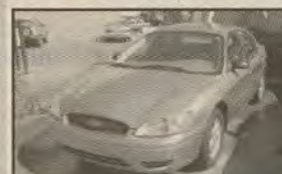


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PUMPKIN FACE: Deputy fire chief Dan Akerman shows off his finished result of a Mouat's Trading-sponsored pumpkin carving contest. Several well-known islanders competed in the event, in which a winner has not yet been named. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Past pub mural pics wanted

Salt Spring historian Usha Rautenbach has issued a reward for a valuable item.

Rautenbach is offering \$25 for the best picture of the mural in the old pub at the Harbour House Hotel.

The photo is needed for an island history project she is currently working on.

She can be reached at 537-2883 for more information.

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Area farm plan starts to take root

After more than a year of planning and anticipation, organizers launched the Salt Spring Island Area Farm Plan Study last week in hopes of getting a better picture of the island's agricultural past, present and future.

Over the past six months, organizers collected data on where and how farmland is being used on the island.

When data is finally compiled later this year, the plan's steering committee members will hold several consultation sessions with members of the community.

"We want agriculture to be recognized as a viable activity on the island that gives benefits to the community," said project manager Anne Macey.

"Whether it's growing more local food to reduce energy use or preserving farmland to maintain the landscape, there are many different ways it can take place."

The \$48,000 project will not only provide a window on island farming but, Macey said, also be of use to help reboot the state of agriculture on the island.

Over the past decade, rising real estate values have made it increasingly difficult for farmers to earn a living off the land.

"The encroachment of urban-type development is palpable," she said.

Persistent population pressures and ongoing development, Macey added, pose the greatest threat to the preservation of agricultural areas.

The Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) lands on the island have decreased by roughly seven per cent in the last decade.

Nearly 36 per cent of the island's active farmland is not subject to any protection under the ALR.

Results from consultation sessions will be used in conjunction with the Islands Trust official community plan review process.

The final report will be made available by late 2007.

The plan is a joint project between the Investment Agricultural Foundation, the provincial government, the Islands Farmers Institute, Island Natural Growers, the Capital Regional District and the Islands Trust.

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Ferry fare fracas

Don't say you weren't warned.

An October 18 public meeting of the Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee and B.C. Ferry Services Inc. (BCFSI) may have been held with no real public notice, but it contained news that should be of concern to all present and future island residents.

Driven by the BCFSI's plan to make "unprofitable" minor ferry routes like those serving the Gulf Islands more self-sufficient, it's seeking the ability to bump up fare-hike caps significantly in 2008 and beyond. Think of current ferry fares doubled.

What BCFSI doesn't seem to recognize is that ridership will continue to decline as the prices go up, which we saw occur on the Gulf Islands this year, whether due to residents taking fewer optional trips or tourists trimming their travel expenses.

Less tourists will have a clearly negative impact on the Gulf Islands economy, as will local business owners being forced to pay higher transportation costs for their goods and services.

The only positive thing that might result is that island economies will strive for more self-sufficiency, or islanders may shop locally more often if ferry rates become prohibitive. But that won't help BCFSI achieve its bottom-line objective.

B.C. Ferries was certainly in need of an injection of good business sense when the Liberals took power in 2001, and some aspects of its operation have improved. But an issue like the flow of people and goods between smaller chunks of the province to the larger part cannot be treated as an isolated business problem.

Public response to the recent waves of ferry rate hikes has been fatalistic, but it doesn't have to continue that way.

The Coastal Ferry Act is still a creature of government, and can thus be changed. Citizens can put pressure on the government to change the act to take its sights off the minor route subsidy.

The government's argument that ferry routes and infrastructure are not part of the provincial highways system and should not be maintained with taxpayer funding has never held water, and nothing has changed to make it valid now.

Island drivers and governments must do their part

By J. FERRIMAN

When I first came to Salt Spring Island I was delighted by its unusual, eclectic, off-the-beaten-path location where a person is not over-governed — unfettered, so to speak, from the regimented regulations of larger towns and cities.

I also voted against Salt Spring Island becoming a municipality. However, after having lived here for five years I would have to strongly reconsider my vote if the issue came up again.

What prompts me to write now?

The compelling reason is the write-ups in your paper the last two weeks covering the group of seniors who finally had had enough with out-of-control drivers, and were holding a demonstration at the crosswalk near GVM.

It's also a sad commentary when someone has to come from off island to explain to our seniors how to cross a road safely.

Excuse me? These people are

VIEW POINT

intelligent enough. It's the people they have to watch out for who aren't.

Although the majority of people on the island are "aware," there is a core of thoughtless individuals who think that stop signs, crosswalks, speed limit signs and turn-signal regulations were put in place for everyone but them.

I'd also like to cite those who think peeling rubber is "manly" — let me reassure you — it's not!

It's about time for someone with the authority to do so to stand up and be counted for some fundamental changes to make the roads safe for everybody!

It's no secret that sidewalks are an absolute necessity for people who travel the notorious route both in and out of Ganges.

It's time to take some serious

steps towards rectifying the problem and stop the carnage!

I am also living testimony of someone who was hit by a car going up Lower Ganges Road on my scooter in this same infamous section. It has been a protracted and painful recovery, and will continue into the future.

And for someone who considers freedom the core of their existence, and who used to be up and out every morning — being limited and constrained is very difficult.

It's like being in jail. I can only imagine the constraints on the lives of those seniors who have no other choice but to walk the routes in question.

I have also watched in intense admiration as elderly women walk with their walkers up and down Corbett Road or along the main road in front of the white building which houses Dagwood's restaurant.

The tilt on this stretch of road is so treacherous and the shoulder so narrow, a person's walker has to

be partly on the road — with cars speeding towards you.

But there is no choice for some coming out of one of the outlets there, who use walkers (or canes) and have no other means of transportation other than their own two feet.

And if one proceeds to cross Park Drive, the steepness is even more treacherous.

I used this route one day with my walker and I know just how challenging it is. I have also been told that some of the women walking in these areas are in their 90s! It is downright shameful.

And what did we see as a result of the demonstration?

It took local vigilantes to take the initiative and re-paint the washed-out crosswalks so they can be "seen."

It now begs the question, however, how this will help in getting cars to slow down? Or obey any other of the standard regulations?

Also, are visitors to our island

familiar with our signage and regulations?

God forbid that a light be installed that flashes when someone needs to cross the road. Or that we put in sidewalks so people can navigate on foot.

What a sad commentary on this island that their own seniors — who are so brave — have to put up with such impotency when it comes to their safety and protection.

We can only do better by implementing remedial actions which make life a pleasure for them — not a roadblock to getting some exercise and fresh air. In some cultures age is revered — in the West we callously ride roughshod over them.

We are long past the days of the wild west where people ran amuck — but sometimes you wouldn't know it.

The writer is a Ganges resident.

Do we have the will to create a pedestrian-friendly island?

By MARION PAPE

A Pedestrian Safety Committee meeting was held last Tuesday to examine a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Neighbourhood Transportation Plan in the Lower Ganges and Rainbow Road areas.

Isabelle Richardson came as a delegation from seniors and related how more and more seniors who no longer drive are unable to walk on the uneven ground along the side of the road. She showed pictures of the holes they trip on and emphasized the importance of safe walking trails and a pedestrian-

IN DEPTH

The discussion on the RFP to select a consultant to undertake the conceptual design for walking, cycling and traffic calming facilities resulted in some useful suggestions for data collection, process and publicity.

This RFP process already has received a funding commitment from Island Pathways, Capital Regional District (CRD)

Community Services for a local government planning grant and CRD Regional Planning. Several other partners in the area will be contacted for additional financial contributions.

It is important to understand that the Ministry of Transportation (MOT) is the authority for facilities along the road right of way, including crosswalks, speed limits, etc.

A proposed CRD transportation commission will focus on sidewalks and bike lanes along the side of the road on MOT rights of way. CRD staff

establishment bylaw for this new commission which will require MOT approval.

But here is another thought. As our seniors have more and more difficulty getting around, it is ironic but not surprising that the number of cars being registered on the island continues to increase as is evidenced by a baseline data update of the Salt Spring Energy Strategy. Traffic volume and speed is growing and together we islanders need to find ways to slow it down as well as reduce the number of vehicles on the island. Trustee Peter Lamb and regional director Gary

letter to MOT about lowering the speed limit in Ganges. Several suggestions were also made about lowering the speed limits throughout the island.

This would make sense from a safety and energy conservation perspective.

The conceptual study draft and final study will be completed in time for official community plan review input. The pedestrian safety committee will be presented, and provide input into, the conceptual plan. The next meeting will be publicly advertised.

The seniors took on the

Lower Ganges Road in the Lady Minto Hospital/GVM areas and have made an important step towards energizing the community to create pedestrian-friendly villages on the island. Others are lobbying for lines to be painted on the roads and roundabouts to be constructed.

If everyone who is concerned would keep up the lobbying efforts, perhaps we will get some much-needed improvements in addition to the planned pedestrian upgrades in Ganges.

The writer serves on the

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: *What are you going to be for Hallowe'en?*



Emily Christie

I'm going to be a figure skater because I like skating.



Kachina Smallwolf

I'm gonna be a fairy. A purple, good fairy.



Travis Murray

I'm going to be a pirate because I have the sword for a pirate.



Nicholas James

Harry Potter because I've read all the books and I really like the character and my dad says I'm starting to look like him.



Jordan Weinert

I'm going to be a princess. I'll be Ariel [from Disney's The Little Mermaid] because I have the dress from when she was a human.

Letters to the Editor

Weariness, not consent

Last week the Driftwood reported that trustee Wolfgang Temmel had expressed disappointment at the low attendance at a recent meeting on Pender Island, where the four-day school week could have been discussed.

The explanation is, I think, simple enough. Each year, consultation is required by law before calendar change can take place. Consultation means something along the lines of "asking the opinion of" a conference between two or more people to consider a particular question (wordreference.com); to ask the advice or opinion of (Miriam Webster).

It is not of itself a democratic process and does not require the person or organization seeking consultation to act upon the opinion of those consulted. People are consulted before dams are built that will flood their homes: when the water inevitably rises, it does not mean that they agree with what is being done.

In the case of the four-day week, people have simply grown weary of having their concerns dismissed and likewise this should not be interpreted as consent.

KATHY PAGE,
Salt Spring

Blindness is bliss?

Few queries on four-day week.

Instead of wasting more time, energy, and money for "public" consultations that don't really qualify as consultation (achieving quorum?), if the school board really wants to know what parents and the community think, let's have a referendum. Not just parents, because it is general tax dollars that fund public education — everyone of voting age should get a vote.

So far, the board has ignored a petition of over 1,000 names, numerous comments from various individuals either with or outside of the Keep Five Alive Coalition, my own personal suggestion made several times that they explore putting pressure along with all

other boards in B.C. to have the provincial government demand funding through the Bank of Canada so we would have no shortfall (monetary reform), and the fact that Wolfgang Temmel was voted onto the board with as simple a platform as one could have — restore the five-day school week. Perhaps the many folks who voted for Wolfgang figured that no one could be so blind as to not put two and two together.

This speaks of a much larger issue that the school board should take heed of. Apparently, our school system is so bad at this point that the people with the most time invested in it, as well as the largest vested interest in its success, the students themselves, did not protest loudly and clearly against having something of value taken from them. This speaks volumes to me. How about you?

DONN TARRIS,
Salt Spring

Outstanding

I am the pilot who crashed his plane on St. Mary Lake on September 29, and this is an overdue thank you to the

fire department, paramedics and hospital staff who helped me so much.

I am also grateful to Ed Davis who was first on the scene and took things in hand.

I can only say that the day following my crash my mother suffered a stroke and I have been frantically busy arranging and caring for her, hence the lateness of this letter.

The people who rescued me were extremely kind and professional. I knew I was safe and in good hands immediately when they arrived on the scene.

Later in the day I was taken by ambulance to Vancouver Island and turned over to another ambulance which took me to the Victoria General where I was later discharged. To be frank, the treatment, the kindness, and the professionalism of the Salt Spring paramedics and hospital staff was superior to that in Victoria. I simply felt safer in their hands, so this letter is also a tribute to them.

Fortunately for me, my injuries were minor and I have recovered from most of

them. Thank you to the fire department, the paramedics and hospital staff. You are truly outstanding.

BERNIE BOWKER,
Victoria

No laughing matter

The Harper "Clean Air Act" would be laughable if it weren't for the fact that if implemented, it could have such a tragic effect on our country and our planet.

How dare this government propose a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to 45 to 65 per cent by the year 2050, when it is becoming evident that for Canada, a 94 per cent cut will be necessary by 2030 if we are to keep the heating of our earth from passing a point of no return? NASA scientist Dr. James E. Hansen, warns of a tipping point within 10 years, "where we're going to have climate changes that are out of our control."

Coincidentally with the release of Harper's plan, George Monbiot's latest book has just arrived in our bookstores. The title is Heat: How To Stop the Planet

From Burning, and it's a great read, packed with practical and innovative solutions and some wonderful dark humour. More important, it shows Monbiot's profound understanding and concern for humanity. Although he demonstrates the necessity of cutting our CO2 emissions in Canada from the present 5 tonnes per capita per year to .8 tonnes, he explains how this cut could be achieved without bringing industrial civilization to an end.

Be sure not to miss the powerful and timely foreword to the Canadian Edition. We're all in a crowded theatre, and some of us, including our elected officials, can smell smoke. But we sit politely, knowing we're not supposed to use the "F" word, foolishly thinking we have plenty of time to get out. Should we continue to wait until we are engulfed in flames before acting?

My e-mail is dcutting@yahoo.com, if anyone cares to comment.

DOROTHY CUTTING,
Salt Spring

MORE LETTERS A10

When it comes to Internet gambling, nothing is free

By **JAN ZACHARIAS**
Part II of a series

Most of the sites that you see advertised in Canada promote play on Internet sites where you can gamble for fun and learn how to play a variety of games.

These sites offer free tutorials on a variety of games and talk about teaching poker strategy. They help potential players understand a variety of poker terms such as the blind, the flop or a button. They often feature celebrities with testimonials about how they have made their fortune gambling. For instance, one such celebrity calls himself "The Grinder" and brags about his recent \$1.85-million win. There is no age requirement to play on these sites.

So where's the harm? How can someone, even a kid, get into trouble on these sites if they aren't wagering any money? Even though these sites don't require the player to wager to play there are a variety of risks associated with play on these sites that most people aren't aware of.

GUEST COLUMN

The first risk and perhaps the most dangerous, involves the manipulation of the odds of winning. Since Internet gambling is banned in Canada, sites aren't monitored and regulated.

What this means is that sites don't have to advertise the odds of winning at their games, unlike gambling at a regulated site promoted by the British Columbia Lottery Corporation. Even if they do advertise the odds of winning, there is no way to guarantee the accuracy of the information. Most Internet sites that promote playing for free (.net sites) actually increase the odds of winning on these sites as compared to their play for money (.com) sites. What this does is that it lends the player the illusion that winning at gambling is easy. This is a very dangerous illusion, particularly for kids.

These .net sites exist to groom future players. Remember, like other forms of gambling, the purpose of Internet sites is to make a profit for their owners. Therefore, these .net sites have easy links to their sister .com sites where money is required in order to play. Often these .com sites lure future players away from the free sites by offering them free bets or credits to start their play.

People who have learned the games on the .net sites where winning is easy now take that illusion to the pay to play sites.

As well, many promotions are offered on the .net sites that aren't actually available to players unless they are enrolled on their sister .com site.

Another danger to consider when playing on the .net sites taps into the psychology of gambling. Winning, which is easy to do, on the .net sites often becomes common place and doesn't give the player the same "thrill" that it did in the beginning. What many players do then, is gravitate to

the .com sites where the need to place a wager increases the value of winning. And often to get the same thrill over time, placing larger and larger bets is required. Some have even referred to these .net sites as gateway sites whose purpose is to promote gambling on the .com sites.

Increasingly realistic graphics and interactivity makes Internet gambling an appealing transfer for kids from the world of video games. What they don't understand is that the skill involved in winning a video game has absolutely no relevance for winning at poker.

Poker is generally considered to be a game of 80 per cent chance and 20 per cent skill or a game of mixed chance and skill, whereas video games involve mostly skill and very little chance. As well, people who already spend a significant amount of time playing video games for amusement may be at higher risk of developing problem gambling behaviours.

Next week I will focus on Inter-

net sites where you pay to play and review the many risks associated with these sites.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about this article, please email me at pgnortheast@yahoo.com and I will do my best to answer your questions.

If you would like to speak with a trained problem gambling counsellor, sponsored and funded by the Problem Gambling Program, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, call the Problem Gambling Help line at 1-888-795-6111.

You can also check out the provincial website at www.bcresponsiblegambling.ca for information on problem gambling, responsible gambling or other gaming topics.

The writer is a clinical counsellor/prevention specialist with the Problem Gambling Program, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. Further articles in the series will be published in the Driftwood.

More letters

Heads up school board

Please don't be so naive as to expect (m)any people to attend school board meetings in the next few months to voice their opinions on the four-day school week.

This will not happen. Trust me. We've been there.

The school board never listened to parents or community voices in the past and very few expect them to listen now.

Trust in the school board on this issue is at an all-time low.

Take notice. For three years many people have beaten their heads against the school board clubhouse

wall, meeting after meeting, afternoons and evenings.

Seven hundred people marched through town in protest against education cuts, 1,000 signatures were collected and presented to the B.C. Legislature.

The Keep Five Alive Coalition [KFAC] that gained B.C. recognition was formed.

Parents and community members wrote letters and filled in bungled survey after survey.

Every week for almost a year and a half the Driftwood featured articles and letters, and 80 per cent of them did not support the four-day school week.

Did the school board listen? No. Instead they stated

that no viable solutions to the problem had been presented.

Pardon me?

That lack of funding and finances pointed to a four-day week or the end of arts and special programs. Scary? Do we expect any changes this year? No.

When people cared and took the time to attend, speak and question, what ounce of difference did it make? What difference will their voices make now?

Who are you fooling? If a few people turn up or choose to speak in favour of the four-day week, the board will be pleased and say that everyone seems to accept or like this solution. Wrong.

If people speak against the four-day school week, the board will say, "What new solutions do you bring?" Then they will say, thanks for your comments, but sorry, our hands are tied, we have no choice but to continue with the four-day week. (Forever).

But by the way, why are we, the public, the parents, expected to find new solutions?

You are our paid and elected public education representatives. Do your work. Work harder.

Make the four-day school week a non-option. Simple as that. Work with one goal in mind. Put dinner on the table before dessert.

Make the foundation of public education a priority instead of an experiment.

Students are leaving for a five-day school week elsewhere.

Four days are educationally unproven. And this will probably be remembered as the biggest mistake in public education in the history of the Gulf Islands.

As you can tell, our passion for education has never left us, we were there right from the beginning. Low attendance at these meetings only reflects the loss of faith that many have in the process.

These false consultation exercises only verify the old saying, "having ears they hear not, having eyes they see not."

Long ago these "consultations" were rendered meaningless, a crying sham.

**MONA FERTIG,
PETER HAASE,
Salt Spring**

Solution

Maybe we could have safe sidewalks and crosswalks if we had a municipality?

**KEN MARR,
Salt Spring**

One day

A response to Matt Johnson's October 18 article on 9/11.

I appreciate the effort, but I heartily disagree with most of what you said. The Pentagon crash site is not consistent with a 757 collision.

You can't fit a massive plane in a 16-foot hole. Come on, Matt.

There were no skid marks on the lawn, no debris inside, or any sign of a 757. You dismiss offhand the many witnesses who worked in the Pentagon like April Gallop, Terry Mitchell and Lt-Col.

no plane wreckage and the explosion felt more like a smack than a crash.

As many witnesses said they saw or heard a 757 as said they saw or heard a small plane or winged missile, a "whooshing sound," or no sound at all.

If a 757 flew just above your head you would not say it whooshed or was silent, you'd be lucky to have hearing afterwards. Why the confusion about what it sounded and looked like?

The small pieces of debris that is claimed to be "proof" of Flight 77 was not claimed by American Airlines or Rolls Royce (who make 757 engines).

So there is debris, but not identified, or near enough. Helios-Air Flight 522 (a 737) crashed full speed into a hillside in 2005 leaving identifiable wreckage of engines, tail and wings.

A hundred-ton airliner won't just vaporize (through a 16-foot hole) then magically leave human flesh to be identified.

I don't know what happened to Flight 77.

Indeed, the media never reported it was AA77 until hours later — initial reports were of a helicopter crash or truck bomb.

All of this info is publicly available, not just on "conspiracy" sites, but archives of ABC, NBC, CNN, etc., because these were their reports that day, before the story changed.

As for Building 7, Larry Silverstein said he was told the fire department couldn't contain the fire, "and I said, 'We've had such terrible loss of life, maybe the smartest thing is to pull it.' And they made that decision to pull and we watched the building collapse." (PBS, 2002).

He later claimed that he meant to "pull" firefighters from the building.

But, one of Popular Mechanics 9/11 "experts" Shyam Sunder said, "There was no firefighting in Building 7," and hadn't been for hours.

(By the way, the only thing Popular Mechanics tore apart was their own credibility.) Silverstein claimed to pull firefighters who weren't even in there.

On a human note, wouldn't he have said "pull them"? Pull these heroes, not "its"? Silverstein made \$4 billion insurance money off the attacks on the WTC complex.

To anyone interested, next week there will be a video on the recent 9/11 Artspring evening in the library and at Island Star.

All I'm saying is check all the facts, look at all the photos and videos, not just the comfortable ones that uphold a shady theory that has led us to war, and let's hope one day all this healthy debate will lead to an independent investigation.

**KEN ROULEAU,
Salt Spring**

MORE LETTERS A11



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CAPITAL
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DISTRICT

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF BYLAW NO. 3350 AMENDMENT TO SEWER USE BYLAW

The Board of the Capital Regional District (CRD) gives notice that it intends to adopt Bylaw No. 3350, cited as *Capital Regional District Sewer Use Bylaw No. 5, 2001, Amendment Bylaw No.5, 2006* at its meeting of November 8, 2006, in the Board Room at 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 1R7.

SUMMARY OF BYLAW 3350, CRD SEWER USE BYLAW NO. 5, 2001, AMENDMENT BYLAW NO.5, 2006

BACKGROUND

The Sewer Use Bylaw forms the regulatory basis for the Capital Regional District's (CRD) Regional Source Control program (RSCP), which is in place to reduce the amounts of contaminants that industries, commercial businesses, institutions and households discharge to sanitary sewers throughout the district in order to protect sewage collection and treatment systems and our marine receiving environment. The bylaw prescribes mandatory requirements for all non-residential dischargers to the district's sewage facilities, including operation under waste discharge permits, authorizations or codes of practice.

REASONS FOR THE SEWER USE BYLAW AMENDMENT

An amendment to the CRD's existing Sewer Use Bylaw is necessary to include:

- a new regulation for kitchen equipment cleaning operations
- removal of the code of practice fee
- removal of the code of practice registration requirement
- other minor amendments

SUMMARY OF MAIN BYLAW AMENDMENTS

The main changes to the Sewer Use Bylaw are outlined below:

Regulation of Kitchen Equipment Cleaning Operations

A kitchen equipment cleaning operation is defined as "any commercial, industrial, institutional operation or a public authority engaged in the cleaning of kitchen equipment using grease-removing chemicals and water under high pressure". This does not include routine kitchen cleaning undertaken by food services workers.

The kitchen equipment cleaning sector generates high pH waste containing high levels of oil and grease which can overload grease interceptors, block sewers, damage roofs and contaminate storm drains. On adoption of Bylaw 3350, kitchen equipment cleaning operators will be required to:

- collect kitchen equipment cleaning waste (such as that generated when cleaning range hoods)
- adjust the pH of the waste to between pH 5.5 and 12.5
- dispose of the waste at an authorized facility which provides further treatment before sewer disposal
- keep records regarding cleaning, pH adjustment and final disposal of waste

Removal of the Code of Practice Fee

A code of practice fee was adopted into the Sewer Use Bylaw in 2000. Currently, an annual \$500 polluter-pay fee is charged to the operator of a code of practice operation if, on inspection by RSCP staff, the operation does not have the required treatment works in place. Since adoption, there have been concerns expressed by several businesses regarding the lack of an appeal process and delays in billing for the fee.

On adoption of Bylaw 3350, the code of practice fee will be removed from the Sewer Use Bylaw. It is proposed that the fee subsequently be replaced by a \$500 ticket under the CRD Ticket Information Authorization (TIA) Bylaw. This future change would introduce an established ticketing and dispute process and solve the delayed billing problem.

Removal of Code of Practice Registration

A code of practice registration process has been in place since 1999. Now that all of the CRD codes of practice have been fully implemented and inspections are ongoing, there is no longer a need for this mandatory registration process. On adoption of Bylaw 3350, the registration process will be removed from the bylaw. A voluntary reporting system is currently in place to identify new and renovated businesses within each municipality.

Minor Amendments

Several minor amendments are included in Bylaw 3350:

- restrictions on the discharge to sewer of toxic compounds, known as Organo-tin compounds, commonly used in anti-fouling paints
- updates to codes of practice for food services, automotive repair and photographic imaging operations to clarify requirements
- harmonization of bylaw language with recent provincial government enactments

A copy of Bylaw No. 3350, cited as *Capital Regional District Sewer Use Bylaw No. 5, 2001, Amendment Bylaw No.5, 2006* may be viewed in full during normal working hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, from October 25 to November 8, 2006, at the CRD Public Notice Posting Place, Main Floor, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC.

The bylaw may also be viewed on the Internet @
http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/liquidwastesseptagese_/index.htm
Select Bylaw No. 3350 from the list of bylaws.

Technical enquiries regarding the bylaw may be directed to the CRD Hotline, telephone 360-3030, or e-mail Hotline@crd.bc.ca

Dated this 25th day of October, 2006

Carmen Thiel
Corporate Secretary



CUTE AS A BUG: Judy Sims' dog Sadie is all dressed up and ready for Hallowe'en trick-or-treating on Tuesday night. However, fireworks frighten many dogs, who should be kept indoors for the occasion.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

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More letters

Trust stolen

We exist in an ideal fantasy in which we believe as long as we work hard, we will obtain financial and social success. Unfortunately, the true reality is far from the fantasy that our liberal society is entrenched in.

The fact is people are encompassed in a world where capitalist greed and competition drive them to do whatever it takes to make a buck. Although it is true that for most this means simply sacrificing countless hours away from family and friends working at the office trying to close a deal, for some this means violent, deviant behaviour. Our ideal meritocracy does not allow for people with mental disabilities, cruel and unusual childhoods or the inability to conform.

Our dominant ideology persists that if someone is not performing, they are simply not trying hard enough; however, I believe that when someone is not able to achieve the goals in which most enjoy, it is either a political choice or an insufficient capable ability. Although I am quick to blame the capitalist system and insufficient public education as the primary culprits of society's shortcomings,

there are more avenues in which one can explore to discover the immediate causes of recent hikes in homelessness and crime rates.

Since the Campbell government decided to cut welfare, in order to punish those who misuse the system, homelessness has skyrocketed. Now business owners in Victoria are screaming about the smell of urine in their entrance ways, pan-handlers scaring away customers and youth sleeping in their parkades. All the trouble that has been caused by slashing social housing programs, welfare and other initiatives to keep people off the street, seems to be more costly than keeping the original programs in place.

Where are all the homeless, undereducated, social nomads going to go now that Victoria police is getting "tough on shopping carts?" Salt Spring Island. That's right folks, we Salt Springers live in a utopian society. Nobody locks their car when they run in to grab a few groceries, fewer people lock their houses when they leave home and most people aren't afraid to pick up hitchhikers. Yes, we are not afraid to accept strange people into our cars because we have faith in a world of trust and respect.

Slowly though, our ideals are being encroached upon and we are succumbing to the big city's fear of theft and perversion. And why is our sense of security being veiled? Because people without homes and options are not being cared for and island life is an easy target.

If you are sick of spare change going missing from your car, blame the government, the spare change you already gave them was misappropriated and now you are paying twice!

As long as we believe in a system where equality and freedom are the main concern, we must make our government accountable to allow people to be equal and free. Freedom does not mean diving in a dumpster without being arrested; freedom means enough care, education and opportunity for everyone to flourish.

I am not ready to allow a bank robbery and theft of personal possessions to distract me from the social problems, which may not be an easy fix, but are in fact within the reach of a conscious society. The one thing that is really stolen from a community like ours is trust and once that trust is breached it is imperative that we look past the criminals that have wronged our personal properties and look to the lack of social programs which act to balance the gross inequities within the system.

Please do not become like our neighbours and fear fellow community members: donate to the food bank, volunteer with local charities and petition your government to start fixing the problems that they choose to ignore.

MELISSA FARRANCE,
Salt Spring

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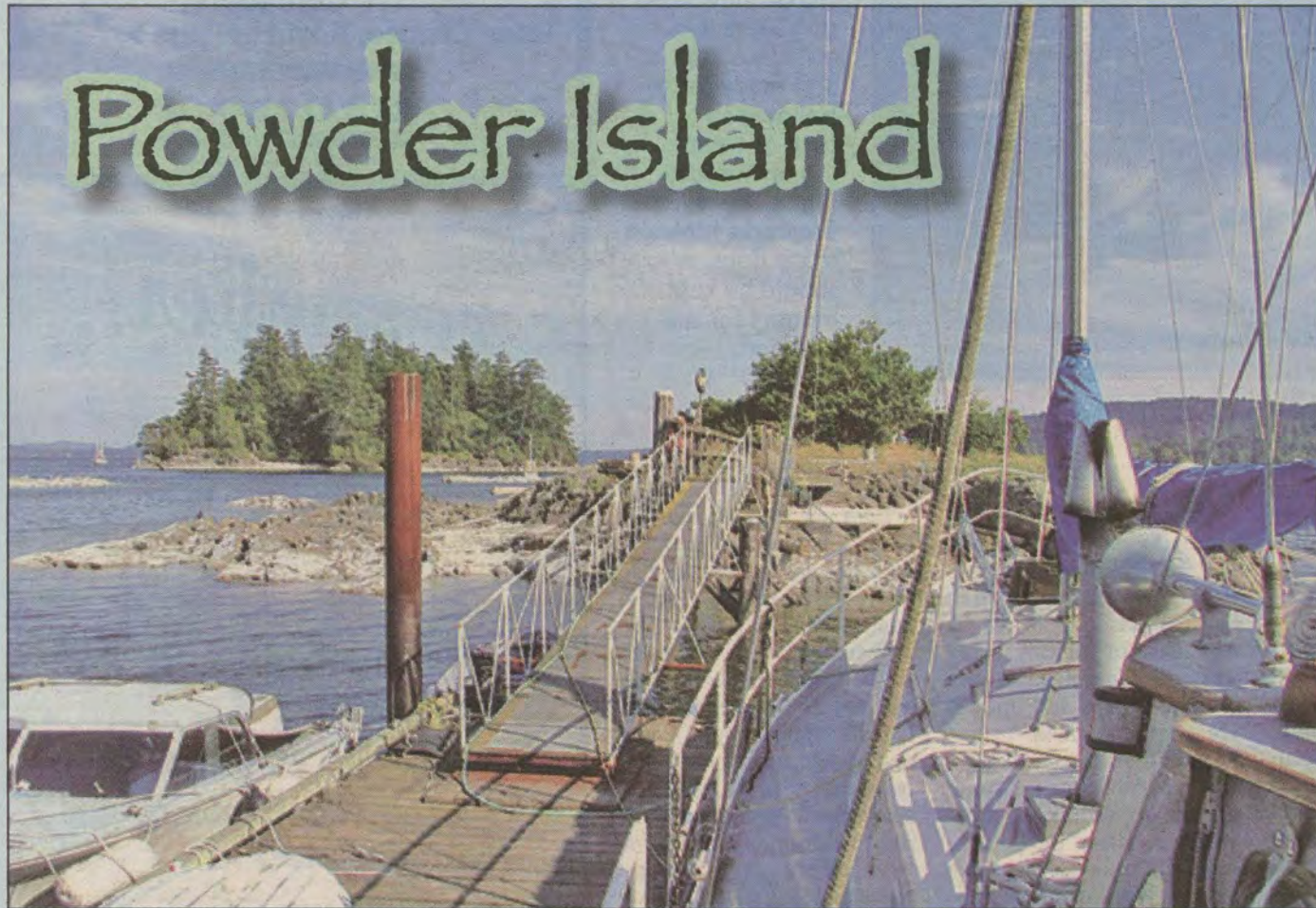
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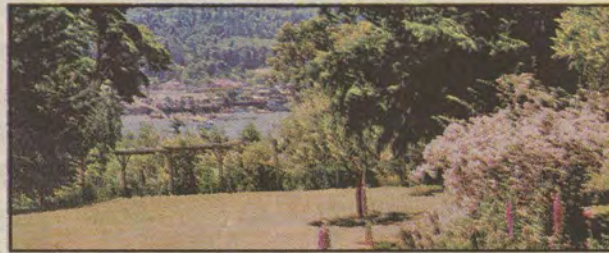
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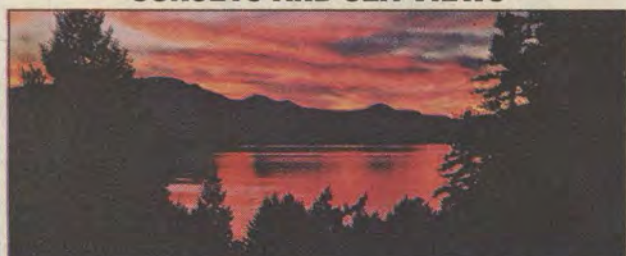
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More letters

Schroer concert

I have just happily returned home to Salt Spring Island and am very excited that tomorrow musician Oliver Schroer will be bringing his amazing Camino concert to the island.

This Thursday is an evening I have been looking forward to for a long time. The multi-media concert features the sounds and sights of his 1,000-kilometre walking journey on the ancient Camino de Santiago, including the inspired music Oliver wrote in the churches and cathedrals along the way, enhanced with beautiful projected images and sound-scape recordings.

His violin music is infused with ancient sounds and new ideas. It is uplifting, insightful and simply beautiful. I can't speak highly enough of Oliver or his music and boundless creativity.

I hope you can all come, and invite a friend.

The show starts at 7:30 on Thursday, October 26 at All Saints By-the-Sea.

Tickets cost \$10 for youth, \$15 for seniors and \$20 for adults and are available in advance at Salt Spring Books and Acoustic Planet Music or online at www.oli-verschroer.com.

Check it out at www.oli-verschroer.com

JAIME ROKEBY-THOMAS,
Salt Spring



SPOOKS: A group of Rotarians was seen dressed in Hallowe'en garb last week, out and about to promote the local Rotary Club's annual Spooktacular event, set for this weekend at the Farmers Institute.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Readers reminded to use Gulf Islands Online

Driftwood readers had to wait until today (Wednesday) to read about Friday's armed robbery on newsprint, but the paper's website posted a story on Friday afternoon.

In cases of local "breaking news" that occur well before the Wednesday paper, Driftwood staff are able to post an initial story online at www.gulfislands.net.

Stories and photos of the downing of an ultralight plane in St. Mary Lake on September 29, and the Murakami fire earlier this year were first reported through the Driftwood's Gulf Islands Online service.

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Public Library**

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Unless otherwise instructed, the Library Board will publicly recognize all donors who assist in the purchase of the site adjacent to the library for the purpose of building a new library.

I prefer to remain anonymous.

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RANTS & ROSES

RANTS

Rants to contractors for the indiscriminate cutting of our tree branches and foliage which provided a limited visual and sound barrier from the road on our property in Trincomali Heights. Apparently this excessive trimming was necessary to improve the road access for the ever-increasing truck traffic servicing the five new lots at the top of the hill.

It would seem that the development of those five lots is at the expense of the existing 105 property owners who presently live on the

hill. Me thinks the contractors have their priorities ass-backwards here.

Joe Clark (Naked on Trincomali)

Last Saturday night someone with more time and anger than good sense and warm feeling threw a large quantity of motor oil at the front and side doors of our freshly painted United Church. It took several of us quite a while to clean it up. May that person some day find a way to replace anger with a warm heart and also find a way to use precious time

more constructively. Helen Hinchliff

ROSES

We would love to send our wonderful staff at Barb's Bakery and Bistro the biggest grandest bouquet of chocolate-covered roses. Thank you all for holding down the fort and putting in the extra hours, blood, sweat and tears last week. It means the world to us that we were able to get back to Kelowna unexpectedly to be with our family. Gracias Merci Danke. J & J

Many fragrant blooms to

John Rowlandson and Island Star Video for the loan of equipment for the showing of 'A Great Day in Harlem.' The jazz society

Garage sales full of roses to all those who helped, donated and shopped at the Co-op Preschool's garage sale. Thanks to those who said "keep the change." Our kids really appreciate it! Thanks to GVM for the coffee — we enjoyed it.

Island roses to the folk who feed the folk, Sunday afternoons in the village. Food is us!

Lions love roses too. Thank you, Salt Spring Lions Club, for all you do!

More roses than ever I could afford to the "inmates" and crew of Veronica's Room. Great job. The Boss, Bobby

Banned people, purchasers question Booth

My wife, Jean Barakett, purchased 323 Stewart Road. Eric Booth of Frazier Road was not the listing agent for the property.

"NO TRESPASSING" signs were placed on a property on Salt Spring with a list of banned individuals. My name and that of my wife were on the list.

In the interest of "clarity," neither I or my wife have had any contact with Mr. Booth other than an August 23, 2006 letter forwarded by Eric Booth to our legal counsel, a copy of which is submitted for publication and follows this letter.

We would also "clarify" that we do not know the property on which the signs were posted and had no intent of trespassing.

Mr. Booth has enlightened us about advice he once received: "Hypocrisy, fraud and tyranny deserve no mercy."

Mr. Booth's letter as it relates to my wife's property purchase on Salt Spring might categorize in one or perhaps all three aspects mentioned by his advisor.

BRIAN MILNE,
West Vancouver

IN DEPTH

'Dear Mr. Adams (of Cook Roberts),

I am the official applicant and real estate consultant for a comprehensive rezoning proposal of four properties on Salt Spring Island, Lot 1, being one of them.

As you are likely aware, one of my clients, Cusheon Beach Ventures Ltd. (CBV), has had a conditional offer to purchase Lot 1 since January this year.

It is our understanding that Justice E.R.A. Edwards has now released his reasons for the ordering of the sale of Lot 1 to your client, Jean Barakett...

I feel it is important to bring to your client's attention that an appeal and stay of orders may be entered should the submissions to Justice Edwards be met without satisfaction to CBV.

Further, and perhaps of greater consequence to your client, is the fact CBV, has

been, and is fully, prepared to proceed with the rezoning of the other three properties which it has under contract.

Should the rezoning be successful in that case, it is CBV's intention to locate a total of 16 residences on Lot 2, as well as nine seasonal cottages.

I have been informed this morning, by regional planning manager John Gauld that the Local Trust Committee is, at this moment, giving consideration to first reading of the current proposed bylaw by resolution without meeting.

Your clients may not be aware that up to the time of giving second and third readings of the proposed bylaw, alterations and amendments, if they have the result of reducing the effect of the proposed bylaw (e.g. reduction in density) are allowable.

As a former Islands Trust trustee, there were several times where I exercised that right to make such amendments.

Thus, it is CBV's intention, in a situation where

your client purchases Lot 1, to have me immediately amend the application to remove Lot 1 from the equation and proceed to public hearing for the establishment of 55 acres of public parkland, instead of 75 acres, as a result of your client's purchase.

It is our belief that the Local Trust Committee will believe 55 acres of parkland, which has already been officially recognized by the Capital Regional District's Parks and Recreation Commission as being valuable, is better than no parkland at all.

Certainly your client may speak at the public hearing likely to occur in October on the matter, but, I would be surprised, given the circumstances of their late entry into the middle of this matter, that their opinions with regard to the merits of their wishes, will be met with much acceptance by the trustees, or, with the greater community of Salt Spring for that matter.

And, as I have been led to believe that your client is looking for a secluded waterfront estate, I would suggest to your client that with 16 residences, most located on the waterfront beside them, Lot 1 will be anything but secluded...

In addition, we have closely read the existing easement agreement registered on title which would allow for the proposed development, including shared driveway access to all additional lots created.

As the order has not yet been entered, I don't know whether your client will be able to withdraw their offer, but I suggest that it may be in their interest to consider other arrangements or resale of the property.

I would urge your client to immediately, and carefully, consider all of the above, so they are entering into their new purchase with eyes wide open as to what the future may hold for them...

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to write me at ebooth@saltspring.com."

What's for Dinner?

Shopping list:

- Cooking oil or butter
- 1 leek
- Garlic
- Butternut (or other) squash
- Cooking wine
- Nutmeg
- Cumin
- Salt
- Black pepper
- Spinach
- Alfredo sauce
- Pasta
- Chicken (optional)



THE GANGES VILLAGE MARKET HARVEST PASTA

Short cuts to cooking for one or two © with Sarah Lynn, 2006

Squash: Squashes are members of the gourd family. The butternut and related species of squash originate from around Mexico - separate from pumpkins and other "winter squash", which originate in South America. The word "squash" comes from the Massachusetts Indian word *askutasquash*, meaning "eaten raw or uncooked". This Indian word apparently applied to summer squash, which, when properly harvested in an immature state, is suitable for eating without cooking. The word "pumpkin" is derived from the old French *pompion*, meaning eaten when "cooked by the sun" or when ripe. This name was first used by Jacques Cartier, who in 1535 found pumpkins under cultivation by the natives of Hochelega, now Montreal. The terms "summer" and "winter" for squash date back to a time when the seasons were more crucial to our survival than they are now. Good keepers became known as winter vegetables if they would keep until December. Butternut squash has a yellowish-tan skin and a beautiful, bright orange flesh. When cooked its flavor is sweet and rich, and tastes somewhat similar to sweet potatoes. Butternut squash tends to be one of the more common winter squashes. Available in early fall through winter, you will want to choose a squash that is heavy with few blemishes. Butternut squash can be stored longer than summer squashes because its skin is so hard and thick. Stored in a cool dry place it will keep for at least a month. If the squash has been cut into pieces, wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate up to 5 days. Why not try it in your favorite recipe?

In 3 tablespoons oil or butter sauté 1 thinly sliced leek bulb & 2 cloves garlic minced. After five minutes add 1 cup butternut (or any other squash) peeled & chopped, & 1/4 cup cooking wine. Simmer covered for 15 minutes or until squash is tender. Add a dash of nutmeg, 1 teaspoon cumin, salt & black pepper to taste & 2 cups chopped spinach. Stir in 2 cups Alfredo sauce & heat through. Toss with 3 cups cooked drained pasta. If desired, add 1 cup chopped cooked chicken. Serve with garlic toast.

Come and try this wonderful dish at
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FOOD DEMONSTRATION**

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▶ This Friday 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

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Student embodies life-long learning

By SEAN MCINTYRE
Driftwood Staff

For most students, graduation is one of life's milestones.

Much like marriage and a mortgage, however, it's a moment most only aspire to living through once, regardless of how promise-filled and hopeful that final year of high school may be.

And that's most likely why officials from the Ministry of Education in Victoria asked staff at Pender Islands Elementary Secondary School what was wrong with their registry upon discovering the school has a Grade 12 student born in 1922.

Sure enough, they were told, 84-year-old Peter Kearvell can be found working on math problems at the school every school day.

He even attends the school's Tuesday evening math clinics to keep on top of his studies.

Last week, Kearvell was working away on those math problems in a quiet sun-filled room when he described why he'd decided to go through high school a second time.

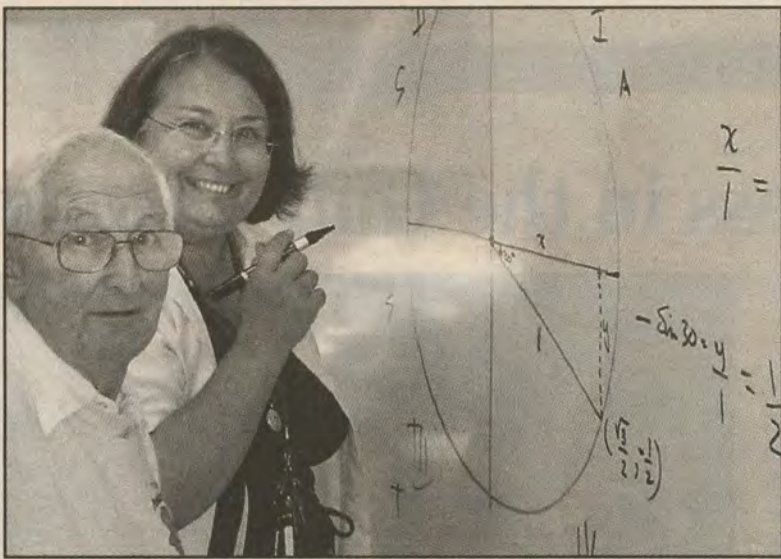
"It stops my brains from going rotten," he said.

Soon after he started school three years ago, Kearvell discovered that part of the learning process was getting used to the changes that have taken place in the classroom since he first graduated in 1938.

"When I was in school we just had numbers," he said. "Now you have radicals, numerators and all kinds of things."

The terminology, it seems, has changed alongside the technology and the days of rote learning, he added, seem to have passed by the wayside.

"It's interesting to watch children



HEAD OF THE CLASS: Peter Kearvell ponders a problem with math teacher Colleen Fitz-Gerald at the Pender Island School.

Photo by Sean McIntyre

at work," he said. "We all had to learn the times table up to 12, but today everybody's using calculators."

After the Second World War, Kearvell, originally from England, worked as a KLM pilot in Holland until the late 1950s when he took a job with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in Montreal.

He helped raise a family of three children and completed a successful career when his passion for sailing cast him to the Gulf Islands in 1980. He's lived on Pender Island ever since.

For school principal Martin Blakesley, Kearvell's decision to return to school is an inspiration and an important lesson for his school's 90 students. Even the staff learn from Kearvell's resolve.

"Schools are supposed to be a reflection of life in the real world," Blakesley said.

"Peter's done everything he's had to do to have his career and here he is doing calculus and trigonometry, stretching his brain and setting a wonderful example for younger students."

Before taking on calculus in September, Kearvell said, things were much easier.

Having endured the Great Depression, survived the Second World War, tolerated the roaring '50s, the Cold War, President John F. Kennedy's assassination, the civil rights movement, Canada's October Crisis and Trudeau mania, Kearvell said, last spring's History 12 class proved less to do with remembering dates and names than with writing personal essays about

"You must be joking. That's not history, that's the story of my life."

— Peter Kearvell

his life experience.

"You must be joking," he recalled thinking when he read the course syllabus for 20th century history by a teacher nearly half his age. "That's not history, that's the story of my life."

Despite the advantage of living through the history textbook, he said, students at the school treat him much as they would anyone else.

Though most of his studies are self-guided, Kearvell sits in on several classes each week to get that authentic school feeling.

Pender Islands school is an exceptional place to learn, he said, even if things have changed considerably since he was a lad.

"Based on what I hear about kids these days on the news, I'm very impressed," he said. "If they go wrong it's not because of this school."

Kearvell admires the school so much he's not prepared to leave. He isn't so sure when he's bound to graduate and quite honestly admits to having no particular career goals or intentions on pursuing post-secondary education.

"We'll have to see," he said.

On that note, the school buzzer (also different from Kearvell's younger days) marked the end of the lunch hour and beginning of another afternoon of school-work.

Fire board looks at safety

Salt Spring fire trustees have stepped up their efforts to explore street-lighting options for crosswalks located along Lower Ganges Road.

The decision comes as dark winter weather, slippery road conditions and recent public protests re-ignited a drive to improve pedestrian safety between Atkins Road and Ganges village.

"It's important there be some movement on this before we end up with a grisly scene," said trustee Ken Lee. "From an emergency response perspective, we definitely have concerns."

The board will submit a formal request to BC Hydro and the Ministry of Transportation on the issue.

In other fire board news, trustees discussed cancellation of Hallowe'en Fulford fireworks in response to federal safety regulations on required distances between the show and public roads.

Fulford trustee Bruce Patterson said he regretted the event's cancellation after a 30-year tradition.

Board members discussed the possibility of hosting other south-end Hallowe'en events, including a "haunted fire hall" in 2007.

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6 LITRE TOILET REGULATIONS

Since the regulation took effect Jan. 1, 2005 all toilets installed in the Capital Regional District must be CSA or Warnock Hersey certified to use no more than 6 litres per flush.

For more info, visit www.crd.bc.ca/water, call 250-474-9684, or ask your local plumbing retailer, supplier or design professional for our brochure.



CAPITAL
REGIONAL
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Water Services

ChamberNews

SALT SPRING ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November 2006

Let's Talk Business



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chamber@ssisland.com
www.saltspringtoday.com

STAFF
Perry Ruehlen, Executive Director
46 volunteers

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

November 2:

Doing business in the Gulf Islands

Full day of awards and workshops

The Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce is planning a full day of workshops on November 2nd for local businesses to attend. Our first workshop of the day is a panel discussion titled "Doing Business in the Gulf Islands". The idea behind the workshop is to have a panel of half a dozen people who will briefly discuss their experience in doing business in the Gulf Islands and open the floor to discussion with the people in attendance. Concurrently, there will also be a panel discussion workshop regarding preventing theft and fraud in the workplace.

After a refreshment break, the morning will continue with a panel discussion titled "Access to the Gulf Islands" where transportation providers will make up the panel.

During lunch, awards will be presented to the seven winners of our first annual Business Awards.

The afternoon will continue with a discussion entitled "Tourism in the Gulf Islands - What does the future hold?" The afternoon will conclude with our AGM and a wine and cheese reception.

The overall goal of the day is to share experiences and brainstorm ideas on how the chamber of commerce and the business community can work closer together to sustain local business and encourage shopping locally.

The date is November 2nd and tickets are \$50 for the day, \$20 for lunch only and \$10 for AGM only. Tickets for the full day event or lunch only are on sale until Monday October 30th at the Chamber of Commerce.



Photo by Derrick Lundy

WARREN LANGLEY poses with his design for the first annual Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce Business Awards.

Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting Thursday, November 2 • 3-4 pm Harbour House Hotel

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Establishment of Quorum
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes from 2005 Annual General Meeting
5. First call for nominations - K. Bell
6. Annual Reports:
President's Report - P. Allan
Administrator's Report - P. Ruehlen
Financial Review - P. Ruehlen
7. Second call for nominations - K. Bell
8. Third and final call for nominations - K. Bell
9. Presentation from candidates
10. Election of Directors - K. Bell
11. Announcement of New Board of Directors
12. Appoint Auditor for 2007
13. New Business
14. Adjournment

All members of the Chamber are encouraged to attend.



WOMEN IN BUSINESS MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Thursday, Oct. 26, 11:30 a.m.

Harbour House Hotel

\$15.00 per person

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Welcome!*



Salt Spring Island
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 121 Lower Ganges Rd.
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The Government of Canada has contributed to this initiative. **Canada**

We extend best wishes to all the participants in the 7 categories of the 1st Annual Salt Spring Business Awards!



OFF TO SEATTLE: Phantom Ball winners Don and Hilda Layzell receive their trip-to-Seattle prize from Lady Minto Hospital Foundation president Alan Wigan (right). This year's Phantom Ball — the 10th annual — raised more funds than ever, with 437 people donating \$62,313.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

New fire hall for Ganges moving closer to reality

At their monthly public board meeting last week, Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) trustees passed a motion to establish a provincially-backed \$1.3 million line of credit intended for the acquisition of land and preliminary planning for the new Ganges fire hall.

Board members said their efforts centre on two properties located close to the Ganges village core to serve as an expanded fire hall and

emergency services facility. A survey conducted for insurance purposes released earlier this year stated the Ganges fire hall would require at least a million dollars of renovations and upgrades to bring it into minimal compliance with current standards.

Fire board chair Ted Hinds said any move to spend the funds will require approval by island taxpayers.

The matter will likely be brought to the public in Jan-

uary when property negotiations are finalized and architectural plans are received.

"We want to get the whole package together before taking this to the ratepayers," he said.

"The longer we wait, the more it's going to cost."

This week the district issued a Request for Expression of Interest to provide construction management services for the project, which includes a 12,000-square-foot building.



NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF BYLAW NO. 3384 – NOISE SUPPRESSION (SALT SPRING ISLAND) BYLAW

The Board of the Capital Regional District gives notice that it intends to adopt Bylaw No. 3384, *Noise Suppression (Salt Spring Island) Bylaw No. 1, 2006*, at its meeting of Wednesday, November 8, 2006, in the Board Room at 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 1R7.

The purpose of Bylaw No. 3384 is to ensure the peace and enjoyment of residents in the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area by establishing regulations and penalties to assist with and encourage the abatement and control of disturbing noise.

A copy of Bylaw No. 3384 may be inspected between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday inclusive, from the date of this Notice until November 8, 2006 at the locations listed below:

- Public Notice Posting Place, Main Floor, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC
- Animal Control & Bylaw Enforcement, #212-2780 Millstream Road, Victoria, BC
- Building Inspection Office, #206-118 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC

You may also view Bylaw No. 3384 on the Internet @ http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/animalcontrolnoiseti_/index.htm Select Bylaw No. 3384 from the list of bylaws.

Questions regarding Bylaw No. 3384 may be directed to Don Brown, Chief Bylaw Enforcement Officer, telephone (250) 474-3351 (local 21), or toll free 1-800-665-7899.

DATED this 25th day of October, 2006

Carmen Thiel
Corporate Secretary

HENRI PROCTER
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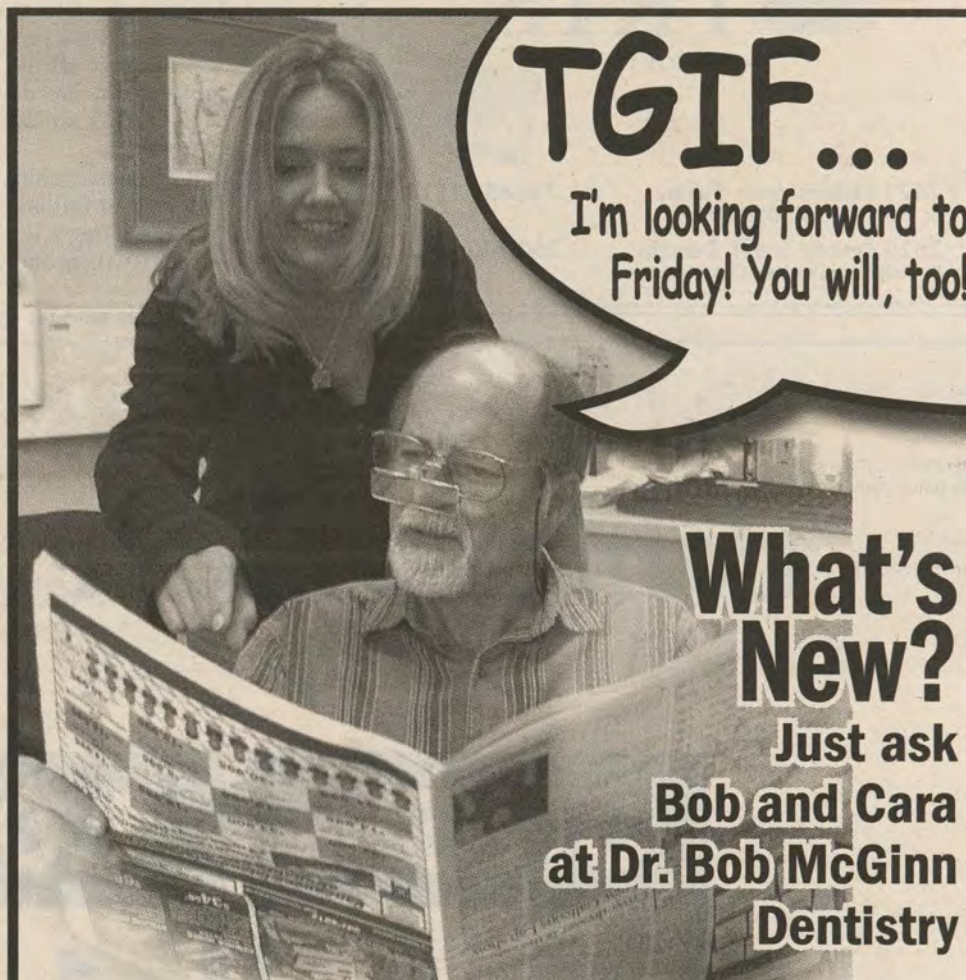
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TGIF...

I'm looking forward to Friday! You will, too!



What's New?
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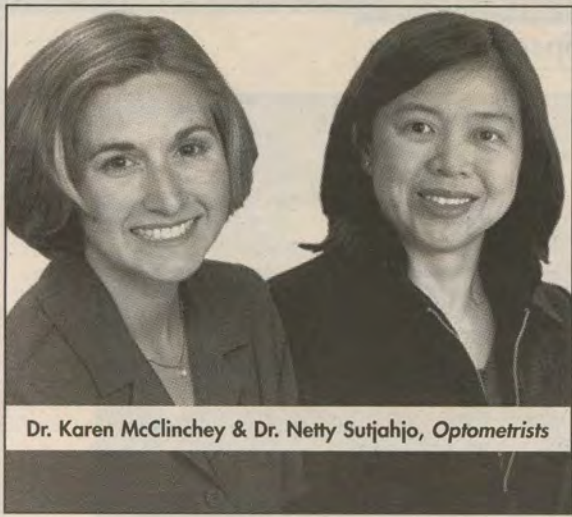
TGIF is the Driftwood's new weekend edition starting Nov. 3

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Thanks, Bob...
Thanks, Cara!



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Anniversary coin, guest speakers at monetary foundation's AGM

By **STACY CARDIGAN SMITH**
Driftwood Staff

A new \$50 coin produced by the Salt Spring Island Monetary Foundation (SSIMF) should be available the first week of November, said SSIMF president Bob McGinn Friday.

The coin is being manufactured to celebrate the anniversary of Salt Spring Dollars.

"We just wanted something kind of special. We've been around five years now, and I like silver. Silver's worth something . . . It instills more confidence than paper," said McGinn.

The coin is .999 fine silver and weighs half an ounce. It has a diameter of 30 mm, making it slightly larger than a toonie. Designed by local gem carver Thomas McPhee, the coin features a mermaid on one side and a pair of whales on the other. It is being manufactured at the Lasqueti Mint.

One thousand coins will initially be produced. Of these, 100 are retained by the mint and 199 are proofs, meaning they are the first off the mint and differ slightly from the other coins, said McGinn. Proofs are available for purchase for \$89.95.

Brilliant uncirculated coins are available for \$64.95, and brilliant coins are available for \$50. Only a limited number of the coins will actually make it into circulation.

"The whole plan was for these to be



One side of a Salt Spring \$50 coin

more collectable and less of a circulating denomination," said McGinn.

However, he said, they will mint more if there is a greater demand.

Regular Salt Spring Dollars are available in \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$50 and \$100 denominations and, according to the SSIMF's website, are accepted at 170 stores on the island.

The program supports the local economy by ensuring money is spent on-island. Those dollars not spent also generate funds, which McGinn said are available to support the community in the form of loans. To date, McGinn said two groups have approached and been

approved by SSIMF for loans. Neither loan has been paid out as of yet.

Although McGinn says a "fair" number of people use Salt Spring Dollars on a regular basis, he would like to see businesses re-circulate it rather than immediately cashing it in at a bank.

"Certainly if it's in circulation more, people would take it away as a souvenir," said McGinn.

Investing locally is the topic of an upcoming talk sponsored by the SSIMF. Tennessee-based investment advisor Catherine Austin Fitts will make a presentation at the SSIMF annual general meeting on November 2.

McGinn is an advocate of Austin Fitts and her work. It's "about thinking locally, which is very consistent with Salt Spring Dollars . . . If people feel that they would like to and are considering

shifting out of the stock market, out of mutual funds, and want to look at how they can invest locally in the community, this is something they shouldn't miss."

In addition to Austin Fitts' presentation, silver coin-artist McPhee and a representative from the Lasqueti Mint will be making presentations.

The meeting begins at 6:15 p.m. with presentations starting at 7 p.m. at Art-Spring.

Although the event is free, there is a suggested \$5 donation to help cover the presenters' costs.

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CHECKING OUT THE COMPETITION: Gulf Islands Secondary School teacher David Collombin and student Catlin Hilyer square off during a recent staff-senior girls volleyball game. Photo by John Cameron

Rowers shine at premier event

A pair of rowers raised on Salt Spring held their own among the world's best at the 42nd annual Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston over the weekend.

Representing the University of Victoria, Korena Vine and her teammates finished third in the championship fours event.

Noah McColl's Yale University team came in seventh position in the lightweight youth men's eight event.

The two-day gathering is among the world's premier rowing events with world championship and Olympic-calibre athletes representing universities, colleges and independent rowing clubs from around the world. Several thousand boats participated in over 100 races.

According to Korena Vine's mother Wendy Vine, the students have now set their sights on the Canadian National Championships in November.

U15, U17 girls grab first wins

As the mists lifted from the field at Portlock Park on Saturday afternoon, the Salt Spring U10 Hooligans hosted a fast, fit and skillful Prospect Lake team.

Parents and supporters were treated to an exciting and at times desperate performance by an undermanned home team.

Dhurval Shah made it his personal goal to find the back of Prospect's net three times for a hat trick, and ensured an exhausting-but-well-earned victory for the Hooligans.

Crucial saves were made in goal by Nicholas Pringle and Johnny Caron, and along with sterling defensive work from Nick Honour and Dylan Shaver, and some timely tackles by Sebastian Howe, Prospect Lake was kept to two well-taken goals.

Luke Hylands and Lois Everest covered kilometres of ground in attack and defence, with Everest popping up from a melee of players to score the final goal for the Hooligans.

The U12 girls recorded their first victory of the season Saturday, beating Gorge 2-1 in a fine display of controlled soccer.

Kimberley Rothwell scored both goals as she terrorized the Gorge defence

SOCCER KICKS

with her forceful runs and powerful shooting.

Salt Spring was on the offensive from the start, and it was only a matter of time before the goals rolled in and the girls took a 2-0 lead.

Gorge replied with one marker, but Salt Spring held firm under pressure, with Hannah Pearson making two particularly vital interceptions at the back.

The Salt Spring girls came close to building on their lead, but were content with a victory.

Special mention goes to Hailey Brown, who played her first game of the season and looked very comfortable in a midfield role.

The U13 boys played a great game this weekend against a rough Cordova Bay squad.

Tim Camps nailed the first goal, assisted by Ronan Gunn, and leaving the score tied 1-1 at the half.

When Gunn scored from the 18-yard box, the score tied at two each, until Cordova Bay scored the winning goal at the last minute.

The Salt Spring boys showed their usual grace and finesse, and managed

to remain composed despite the many unnecessary injuries incurred. Byron Mussell rocked in goal the whole game.

Salt Spring's U15 girls played an excellent game against Peninsula, but settled for an unfortunate 1-0 loss.

Peninsula has been known as the best team in the league, so it was excellent that the Salt Spring girls held them off to one goal.

Everybody played a great game, but Madi Fetherston had a particularly good match, and Cassie Bascom made some great saves in net.

Salt Spring's fledgling U17 girls gold team nailed its first win of the season, downing Sooke 1-0.

The local girls carried most of the game with Helena Bryn-Jones scoring the goal.

Coach Dave Morgan said the team also had several "near misses" with one shot hitting the crossbar, two balls just missing each post and two balls going over the crossbar.

While everyone gave a good effort, special mention goes to Natalya Alonso, Erica Cronin and Rosalie Baldwinson on the forward line, Emily Rothwell in the midfield and Caitlyn Pal on defence.

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Driftwood
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SIMS Slayers jubilant with Cowboys match

By **BILL BARRETT**
Driftwood Contributor
Sunday's game against the Nanaimo District Secondary School (NDSS) Cowboys saw the Slayers play their best and most exciting game of the season.

The Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS) team was competitive throughout the game with the lead trading back and forth, and at the end of the third quarter it was 21 to 18 for the Slayers.

In the fourth quarter, the Slayers were downed by injuries, but they persevered and kept the final score to NDSS 32, SIMS 21.

The NDSS team roster has 40 players, while SIMS has 13, including the Slayers' new recruit, Grade 6 student Kayla Pultke as a receiver.

On the Slayers' first possession of the game, quarterback Luke Stevenson called his own number, peeled left

and ran for a 52-yard touchdown.

This sole play galvanized the Slayers and they were on their game!

The next score was from a "23 blast," in which full-back Kevin Abbott made his block and allowed tail-back Eric Pultke to "escape" and run 77 yards for the touchdown.

The last Slayers score came after Abbott ran a "34 dive" to the Cowboys' one-yard line and Pultke then ran into the end zone on a 23 blast.

After each touchdown, the Slayers offensive line gave the extra effort and the team made their converts.

Defensively a solid effort was put forth by all players with Stevenson, Abbott and Pultke leading the way with most tackles.

Regarding the SIMS Slayers' offensive play-calling strategy, as coach I have taken the position that the team will be led by their

quarterback, who will select from a prescribed set of plays as he "reads" the opportunities in the opposing defence.

This is not the "norm" for football.

But I feel that by "empowering" the quarterback and the team, the outcome of game is then directly related to the players' determination.

When coaching, we give them the plays and it is the "players' game to play!" Therefore, the "Warrior of the Game" title goes to Luke Stevenson for his leadership, desire to play and "game sense."

Way to go, Luke!

A team "thank you" goes out to assistant coaches Mark Lucich and Shaun Price and JB coordinator Shellie Barrett for their contribution to the success of the SIMS Slayers football program.

The Slayers play Sunday in Parksville against the Titans.

Scorpions hold their own but fall 36-14 to Nanaimo team

By **ROY BANKS-BYWATER**
Driftwood Contributor

The Scorpions kicked off their second-to-last game of the season against Nanaimo District Secondary on a beautiful Friday afternoon last week.

The first half did not look hopeful as Nanaimo jumped out to a quick lead, scoring four unconverted touchdowns.

With the first half coming to a close, last week's star, Ian Barrett, caught a kick-return and moved it 25 yards up field. This sparked something in the Scorpions as quarterback John Foley was able to find receiver Sebastian Banks, who pushed the ball 15 yards before being tackled on the opposing team's 28-yard line.

The very next play Foley was again able to find Banks — this time wide open in

the end zone. The Scorpions play stayed strong into the second half, starting with a short kick that was recovered by Myles Teagle.

The Scorpions then made a big drive down the field that included a 21-yard run by receiver Barrett.

Running back Taylor Stibbards finished the drive, scoring the touchdown to make it 14-24. Despite the Scorpions' efforts, which included a great play by defensive lineman Mike Shipley, who recovered a fumble, Salt Spring was unable to contain Nanaimo's offence, which scored two more unconverted touchdowns.

Team defensive leaders included linebackers Sebastian Banks, Hugh Finer and Myles Raposo, safety Barrett and corner Teagle.

The Scorpions have a bye this week to rest their wounds.

SIMS runners make tracks at Beaver Lake

Eight Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS) cross-country runners competed in last Wednesday's Vancouver Island Championships at Beaver Lake in Victoria, with one student taking second spot and the girls' team placing third overall.

SIMS student Kevan Brown placed second among fellow Grade 8 students in the two-kilometre run.

Rhys Hardy took 31st, Cameron Sutherland, 33rd and Erik Rothwell, 36th.

Among the girls, Grace Morgan led the local pack coming in sixth. Kaylea Kray placed 15th, Seanna Johnston, 19th, and Alex Crandall, 24th.

The girls' combined score put them in third place out of all the schools competing in the event.

At least five of the SIMS runners plan to compete against older students in the high school championships, which take place today (Wednesday,) also at Beaver Lake.

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Old Boys even score, hold on to first

The Salt Spring Old Boys' 3-1 victory versus league rivals Vantreights Sunday afternoon propelled them into a first-place tie with Sooke United.

"The first half was entirely dominated by the Old Boys who kept to coach Braak's game plan of short, timely, easy passes to the open player," said Fraser Hope.

Effective ball control by Ben Cooper, Mike McCormick and Martin Thorn, he added, kept Vantreights players pinned in their own half for much of the game.

Unrelenting pressure eventually paid off as Antonio Alonso scored the game opening goal late in the first to give the home side the half-time lead.

A second-half surge by Vantreights forwards failed to tie up the game thanks to solid performances from Eamon Murphy and Donny Brown, Hope said.

The Old Boys took a commanding second-half lead courtesy of a pair of goals from Ben Cooper.

A solid defence kept the opposing attack threat in check, allowing goalkeeper Mike Davis to hold on to the shutout until Vantreights scored with only minutes remaining.

The team will put their 5-2 record and hold on first position in the Vancouver Island Soccer Association's Masters C division on the line against the Fernwood Dragons in a match Sunday at noon.



ON THE BALL: Salt Spring Old Boy Mike McCormick, left, goes for the ball in a 3-1 game on Vantreights. Photo by John Cameron

Dragons squad shut out at home in 2-0 match against Sooke United

Familiar surroundings and local support wasn't enough to help the Salt Spring Dragons extend their two-game winning streak against visiting Sooke on Sunday afternoon.

According to Louise Doucet, the game was fast paced and both teams fielded strong teams, yet only Sooke United managed to put the ball in the net.

"With only two games under their belt, the team was hoping for another win to add to their undefeated standing so far this year but this was not to be," she said.

"Although well matched, Sooke proved to be quicker to the ball and, despite many well-planned attacks on net,

Salt Spring was unable to score."

With a record of 2-1, the Dragons now sit in the middle of the Lower Island Women's Soccer Association's third division with two games in hand.

Because Sooke has played their full schedule this year, Doucet said, the on-field experience showed in the 2-0 final score.

Despite the loss, quick responses from Jana Thomas in the defensive third and Cheryl Johnson's strong performance in the offensive third gave the team some positive results in looking ahead to their next match.

Johnson also played in the

defensive third as full back where quick accurate passes were the order of the day, Doucet said.

Jeanie Gray played her usual invaluable style both as sweeper and in the midfield, thoughtfully placing the ball and setting up the play.

The keeper's duties were shared by Vanessa Shemilt and Lindsey Kovats.

The local squad welcomed back Liz Wilson and Rhea Davidson as strikers and saw Angela Schult and Meghan Gutierrez play their first full game with the team.

The Dragons hope to regain their momentum when they take on the Renegades off-island on Sunday.

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FC loses lead at home game

An early lead and a solid effort couldn't help Salt Spring FC Div. 1 men avoid their fifth loss of the season at Portlock Park Saturday.

"I didn't think we did anything wrong," said team manager Jordon Morrison. "Vantreights is just a good team. Things started out nice, but then kind of collapsed."

The dramatic lone FC goal, scored midway through the first half on a breakaway by Kevin Brazier, gave the hometown crowd a short-lived opportunity to celebrate. Within minutes of

taking the lead, Vantreights responded with a pair of goals before the half.

Despite a persistent effort throughout the second half, FC players failed to score an equalizer and a late goal on returning keeper Jonathan McDonald put the game out of reach.

The team's failure to keep up the pace after the first goal prompted Morrison to suggest an alternative tactic for future matches.

"We shouldn't get the early lead," he said. "Everybody played decent, but we just didn't follow through."

While Morrison said the game wasn't any more physical than usual, the referee issued red cards to players from both squads as tempers flared late in the game.

Despite occupying eighth position in Div. 1 of the Vancouver Island Soccer Association with a record of 2-5, Morrison said the team's spirits remain high in anticipation of this weekend's match against first-place Cowichan.

"Our strategy is to win," he said. "We'll see what we have to do in practice this week."

GISS boys on championship trail

The Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) boys soccer team had a topsy-turvy week as the boys lost 2-1 on Tuesday at Shawnigan Lake, before rebounding Thursday in Qualicum Beach with a 2-1 victory.

The split put the Gulf Islanders back in the hunt

for a high playoff seeding for the island championships in November.

According to coach Doug Pearson, the Scorpions came out strong against Shawnigan, but went down one-nil when keeper Jordan Borth was blinded by the sun on a lob directed his way.

Just before the half, striker Rusty Fedberg equalized after a fine cross from rookie Keegan Pearson. The locals piled on the pressure, said Pearson, but at the 70-minute mark defender Isaac Raddysh was tripped. The foul went undetected and the Shawnigan striker scored on the ensuing break-away.

Despite an all-out attack, Shawnigan held on to the final whistle for the upset.

Due to injuries, only 14 players ventured north to take on the undefeated Kwilicum Kondors on Thursday.

Although GISS started brightly, defender Gord Havelaar was called for a dubious foul in the box and the Kondors converted on the penalty kick.

Despite a huge territorial advantage, said Pearson, "the Scorpions blasted shot after shot wide or straight to the embattled Kondors keeper."

Finally, Rusty Fedberg was clumsily tripped in the box and captain Eland Bronstein slotted home the equalizer.

"Relieved to finally score, the islanders seemed to relax and at the final whistle, despite the tie score, everyone knew they were a much more talented team," he said.

In order to break ties in the standings, tied league games go straight to shootouts this year, "so the drama wasn't over."

Keeper Brandon Shaw confidently stopped all three shots sent his way, while the Scorpions scored on all three to secure the extra

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Time to roll up your sleeves...

With flu season is on the way, influenza clinics are headed to Salt Spring. It's time to read up on disease, and on the shot that can help protect you from it.

What is the flu?

According to Health Canada's 'Getting serious about the flu - What can you do to prevent it' page on their website, (go their influenza page, HYPERLINK "http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dc-ma/influenza/index_e.html" http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dc-ma/influenza/index_e.html, and click on the link), influenza "is a common infectious, respiratory disease that affects between one in four and one in ten Canadians each year." However, the flu can also be quite serious and even cause death in some cases. According to Health Canada, "Every year, up to 1,500 Canadians, mostly seniors, die from influenza-related pneumonia and many others die from other influenza related complications such as an aggravation of underlying chronic heart and lung disease."

How do you get it?

No one is completely immune from the disease. Health Canada says: "The flu is caused by the highly contagious, influenza virus, and spreads rapidly from person to person - usually by a simple cough or a sneeze." People often confuse it with the common cold or with stomach flu (which causes a sore tummy and diarrhea), but influenza has nothing to do these.

What are the symptoms?

Most cases of the flu start with a cough, headache and chills and quickly develop into a fever that usually lasts two to three days, muscle aches, a loss of appetite, a bad cough and extreme fatigue that may last 2-3 weeks.

In some cases, especially children, vomiting and diarrhea might also occur.

How can you prevent the flu?

The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu shot. Another way to prevent it is by regularly washing your hands. A healthy lifestyle, including a well-rounded diet, adequate sleep and physical activity, is also essential to staying well.

Who should get a flu shot?

Getting a shot is more important from some people, including children ages 6 to 23 months, adults and children with chronic heart and lung disease, anyone living in a nursing home or chronic care facility, people 65 years of age and older, and people with chronic conditions such as diabetes, anemia, cancer, immune suppression, HIV or kidney disease. For more information, talk to your doctor.

Can the flu shot give me the flu?

Health Canada says the "flu vaccine cannot cause influenza because it does not contain any live virus." However, common side effects include soreness around the injection area, a slight fever, fatigue and muscle aches. These shouldn't last more than a day or two.

What should I do if I get the flu?

If you do catch a case of the flu, increase your fluid intake (including water, juice and soups), and give your body plenty of time to heal with 7 to 10 days of bed rest.

Drop-in influenza clinics will be available on the island on Thursday, Nov. 9 from 1:30 to 3:30 and on Friday, Nov. from 10 to 11:30 and from 1:30 to 3:30. Family clinics will be available on Tuesday, Nov. 7, and Monday, Nov. 20. Please call 538-4880 to make an appointment.

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