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Wednesday,  
January 24, 2007

47TH YEAR ISSUE 4



**ON STAGE**  
GISS THEATRE  
STUDENTS DELIVER  
PAGE 13

**BEN'S HEART**  
TENOR HEPPNER CHARMS AUDIENCE  
PAGE 17



# Driftwood

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## MORTGAGE QUESTIONS?

... ask Arlene



## Weather

Things might dry out a bit with sun and clouds forecast today (Wednesday) and Friday, and sunshine all weekend. Highs to 7 C; overnight lows to 2 C.

## Inserts

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## Trustees pledge fire hall referendum

### Public opposition halts counter petition

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Staff

Sirens of public alarm have convinced Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) trustees to halt the counter-petition process on the Ganges fire hall proposal and hold a referendum instead.

"It really doesn't help the fire department, trustees or volunteers to have people upset with the process," said Mark Wyatt, an SSIFPD trustee, on Monday. "This is something that could present the entire department with a big problem."

Fire trustees voted unanimously to restart the public process at a private meeting last Thursday, three days after 11 people spoke out

against the process during a SSIFPD public meeting.

Speakers cited concerns about the safety of neighbours living near the proposed site, a potential \$5-million price tag and a lack of community dialogue.

Wyatt and SSIFPD chair Ted Hinds said the district will gather a fire hall design plan, budget, traffic impact study and other relevant information before leaving

the decision to Salt Spring Island voters.

In a letter submitted to the Driftwood by Wyatt on behalf of the SSIFPD, trustees said construction of a fire hall can only be supported if the majority of island residents are behind it.

"On behalf of the trustees, I would like to apologize to the community for prematurely initiating the counter-petition process,"

the letter reads. "While we were following the Ministry [of Community Services] guidelines as an improvement district in initiating this process, in fairness to the community, we need to take the time to complete the plan and initiate an informed public discussion."

Under the revised process, the \$1.1-million offer will

**REFERENDUM 2**



**ON THE LAKE:** Enjoying a brisk row on St. Mary Lake last week are, from left: Karen Hosie, Susan Grace, Jill Thomas and Jane Wither- spoon. The four are practising twice a week for a competition at Elk Lake coming up in February.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Pillar problem is plaguing Rainbow pool construction

The Rainbow Road pool has experienced its first major construction glitch.

Peter Lake, the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) member chairing the pool construction committee, said that "without getting into a lot of technical detail of the possible causes, the result is a slight deflection in a couple of the [concrete] columns."

Lake said the unexpected situation would no doubt "give rise to alarmist rumours," which is why PARC agreed to provide the preliminary facts before

receiving an engineers' report on the matter.

"It has to be stressed that this is not a question of structural integrity," he said. "The structure is designed to national building code standard with a substantial safety margin. The structure has been made and erected according to plan. The consulting engineers are working on the situation and remedial measures will be taken in due course. This will of course occasion some delay and extra expense."

PARC will be revising its

last projected pool opening date of April 30, 2007.

In a January 10 Driftwood Viewpoint piece, Lake reported that as of the end of November 2006, some \$3,186,121 had been spent on construction, servicing and other soft costs, which is about 5.5 per cent over budget.

However, he said, some of the extra expenses came as a result of upgrades chosen after the budget was set.

The commission next meets as a whole on Monday, January 29 at 7 p.m. in the Portlock Park portable.

## Lefebvre posts bail at \$5 million

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Staff

Salt Spring Island resident Geoff Savage is sticking up for his close personal friend following John Lefebvre's arrest in California last Friday.

"I've known John for a long time, he's done a lot of good work and I hope all that can continue," Savage told the Driftwood Monday. "He's done all sorts of good work from the Four Great Rivers in Tibet to Salt Spring and back."

Lefebvre, 55, is scheduled to appear in a Manhattan courtroom today (Wednesday) where a federal court judge will review his bail conditions. A preliminary hearing is set for New York next month.

The part-time Salt Spring Island resident was

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# Skeena: same RAD as Gabriola ferry

By **STACY CARDIGAN SMITH**  
Driftwood Staff

One of the ferries serving Salt Spring Island is outfitted with the same equipment that malfunctioned two weeks ago, causing a 3/4-ton truck to plunge into the water at Nanaimo Harbour.

According to findings by the Transportation Safety Board of Canada (TSBC), a problem with the right-angle drive (RAD) units caused the incident involving the MV Quinsam.

The truck was the final vehicle being loaded onto the Quinsam before the vessel made its way to Gabriola Island for the 6:55 p.m. sailing on January 9. As the vehicle pulled forward onto the loading ramp at 6:57 p.m., the ramp fell.

Although the single passenger was able to pull himself to safety, the truck slipped into the water.

In a January 16 letter to B.C. Ferries president and CEO David Hahn, TSBC director of marine investigation Yvette Myers wrote the accident was caused when

the "two stern right-angle drive units rotated away from their normal 'pushing in' position. This resulted in the ferry breaking one of its mooring chains and rapidly backing away from the berth."

The Skeena Queen, which runs between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay, is also outfitted with RAD units, said B.C. Ferries' director of media relations Deborah Marshall.

RADs are used to steer and propel the boat. A boat may have two or four RADs, depending on the vessel. Each RAD can turn 360 degrees and is independently powered by a diesel engine. They can only be controlled from the wheelhouse or the engine room.

According to Myers' report, information indicated the RADs may have rotated as a result of the malfunction of the electronic or mechanical components of the steering control system or "the inadvertent rotation of the RAD control joystick."

Myers went on to write that "information available

to the TSBC indicated that since 2002 there have been several instances of erratic RAD behaviour caused by component failure."

One such incident took place in 2002 while the Bowen Queen was discharging vehicles at Gabriola Island.

The Bowen Queen is currently used as a relief vessel, filling in for boats when they undergo refits, said Marshall. The vessel will fill in for the Skeena Queen next month.

Myers also wrote other vessels with RADs "have a similar history of erratic behaviour," but did not specify which vessels she was referring to or when the incidents occurred.

Marshall was unaware of the specific incidents Myers' report referred to, but said B.C. Ferries' engineers are currently working with the TSBC to prepare a log detailing the history of RAD units on vessels in the fleet. Marshall said the report should be ready sometime this week.

Last week a B.C. Ferries'

media advisory announced the company was committed to installing audio-video alarms on all nine vessels equipped with RAD units.

Marshall said company engineers are currently working with the manufacturer of the warning alarms but she did not know which ships would receive the upgrades first.

A second letter from Myers, dated January 18, stated a visual examination of the "wires, chains and securing arrangements" used for mooring the Quinsam at the time of the accident found that these means do not appear "sufficiently robust to hold the vessel in dock." B.C. Ferries personnel stated they also agree with this recommendation.

In addition, B.C. Ferries released a 70-page safety review by former B.C. auditor general George L. Morfitt on Monday. The report makes 41 recommendations to enhance ferry system safety, but concluded "overall, the company is operating a safe coastal ferry transportation system."

## FOR THE RECORD

A story about a donation to the Salt Spring Island library in last week's Driftwood incorrectly identified the late Sharon Mitchell Perry as a library volunteer and the funds as coming from her estate.

The donation was in fact made by Perry's daughter Jane.

## LTC meets February 1

The next public Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting is arriving soon after the last, with a Thursday, February 1 date set.

Last year the LTC met on Tuesday afternoons at Art-Spring, but that has been changed to Thursdays for 2007. Most, but not all, dates fall on the first Thursday of each month.

Meetings begin at 1 p.m. with a town hall dialogue between trustees and the public.

Islanders wanting advance notice of the agenda can arrange for it to be e-mailed to them from the Ganges Trust office, or pick up a copy from the office.

remain valid until February 28. No deposit was placed on the Kings Lane property.

What happens after the deadline remains unknown but, Wyatt said, it is likely the board will need to renegotiate the offer once it expires.

"How we proceed will be based on the recommendations we receive from the community," Wyatt said.

Earlier this month, trustees announced plans to borrow up to \$5 million for the purchase of property and construction of a new fire hall on the bowling alley located at 154 Kings Lane. The SSIFPD informed residents the plan would proceed unless 750 registered land owners signed a counter-petition form by February 16 at 4 p.m.

Trustees Wyatt and Hinds said they will never know how many residents had signed the petitions since the deputy returning officer will destroy all the forms by week's end.

The decision was based on the response they received from the public, they said.

Hinds added it will likely take several months to assemble all the needed information and initiate the referendum process.

He ruled out any chance of being ready to hold a ref-

**"I'm happy we'll get to see the democratic process."**  
— Don Gainor

erendum in conjunction with upcoming trustee elections in March.

"That's not going to happen," Hinds said.

Though cost and timing considerations initially made trustees reluctant to pursue the referendum route, residents opposing the counter-petition process said it is the only way to accurately gauge the public's position on where, when and how a new fire hall should be built.

After speaking publicly against the fire trustees' initial approach, island resident Don Gainor said he was relieved trustees listened to the public.

In addition to a flawed political process, he said, the decision to build the hall on Kings Lane remains a contentious issue.

"I'm happy we'll get to see the democratic process," he said.

John Woodward, who also spoke against the matter, said the longer time frame will give trustees the chance

to receive more ideas from taxpayers.

"I'm delighted to have this thing put on hold," he said.

As a director with the Farmers Institute, Woodward questioned why trustees should overlook trying to build the hall in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) when the high school, recreation centre and RCMP station are all built on ALR property.

"I believe firmly that if it is in the public interest, taking something out of the ALR is worthwhile," he said. "That is no reason to abandon any ideas."

Based on his experience, Woodward said, land registered under the ALR is generally cheaper than unprotected properties.

Woodward said the process, location and potential \$5-million price tag prompted him to speak out against the project during last week's public meeting.

He encouraged SSIFPD trustees to take advantage of the Islands Trust's ongoing Official Community Plan Review so as to place the new fire hall within the greater vision for the Ganges Village area.

The SSIFPD's next public meeting is at the Ganges fire hall on Monday, February 19 at 7:30 p.m.

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WE 08:57 3.6 11.8	10:44 3.3 10.8			
15:57 1.5 4.9	19:26 0.5 1.6			
21:46 2.4 7.9				
25 02:21 1.9 6.2	29 04:25 3.4 11.2			
TH 09:20 3.5 11.5	MO 08:36 3.2 10.5			
16:50 1.1 3.6	11:32 3.2 10.5			
26 00:04 2.5 8.2	20:17 0.4 1.3			
FR 03:06 2.4 7.9	30 05:05 3.5 11.5			
09:45 3.5 11.5	TU 09:55 3.1 10.2			
17:42 0.8 2.6	12:36 3.2 10.5			
27 02:23 2.8 9.2	21:05 0.3 1.0			
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North W/F	\$851,943	\$846,323	-0.7 %
Central Waterfront	\$893,602	\$972,729	8.9 %
South W/F	\$720,079	\$750,654	4.2 %
Lakefront	\$481,304	\$493,142	2.5 %

Source: B.C. Assessment

## Assessing the '07 assessments — other islands play catch-up with SSI

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Staff

Below average property assessment for Salt Spring's 2007 assessments are the inevitable result of the past five years' exceptional real estate market, according to Brian Hawkins, BC Assessment's Capital Area assessor.

Average assessed values in Salt Spring's eight "neighbourhoods" rose by an average 6.9 per cent in the one-year period ending on July 1, 2006. The figure is well below the 18.7 per cent average set in 2005 and the 24.7 per cent increase recorded in 2004.

Assessment increases on the island are among the lowest in British Columbia. Province-wide values rose by 23 per cent with most growth occurring in Vernon,

Kelowna, Kamloops, Fort St. John, Sidney, Victoria and Vancouver.

Closer to home, waterfront properties on Pender Island rose by as much as 42 per cent with non-waterfront going up 22 per cent. Increases on Galiano, Mayne and Saturna islands outpaced Salt Spring Island by 25, 18 and 21 per cent respectively.

"It's likely the rest of the islands are playing catch-up with Salt Spring," Hawkins said. "Now that properties on the island are more expensive, people are looking elsewhere."

With 50 sales registered during the assessment period, he added, the Magic Lake area on Pender Island showed the highest increases in the southern Gulf Islands.

Just because Salt Spring

failed to register double-digit growth in 2006, doesn't necessarily mean island property owners will lose out.

"From a tax perspective, it may be an advantage," Hawkins said. "Folks over on Salt Spring might benefit from a reversal of what they're used to."

While taxes may not be going down, he said, land owners will not see dramatic increases based solely on increasing property values.

Changes in assessed values, Hawkins said, depend largely on movements in the local real estate market. Assessors also take into account a property's size, location, quality and location, he added.

According to Salt Spring realtor Tom Navratil, the 2007 assessments approximately reflect what is hap-

pening in the real estate market.

Since 2005, he said, property sales on Salt Spring declined 14.5 per cent. In spite of the decrease, Navratil said, average selling prices still rose 4.62 per cent (the median sale prices rose 0.61 per cent), during the same period.

"It seems that the assessment values are still catching up with the recent active market, though the market itself has levelled off, posting only slight price gains," he said, adding the average selling price for a property in all sectors on the island has increased 97 per cent since 2001.

The average sales price of a residential non-waterfront property on Salt Spring is \$497,973 (median \$428,500).

## LEFEBVRE

From Page 1

released from a Los Angeles jail on Friday after posting bail at \$5 million. Bail conditions restricted him from leaving the city until his court appearance.

Investigators arrested Lefebvre at his winter home in Malibu, California last week based on evidence that he allegedly conspired to promote illegal gambling activities by transferring billions of dollars of internet bets placed through NETeller, an online money transfer company Lefebvre co-founded with Stephen Lawrence in 1999. Police arrested Lawrence in the U.S. Virgin Islands last week.

The Canadian citizens face charges under the Unlawful Internet Gambling Act passed in late 2006.

The act was introduced in late 2006 to help curb the estimated \$6 billion that leaves the U.S. each year via unregulated, offshore and online casinos. People found guilty of transmitting funds known to have come from

criminal activity are liable to a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

According to information released by the U.S. Attorney's office in New York, Lefebvre served as president of NETeller from 2000 to 2002 and remained an active member of the company's board of directors until December 2005. As of December 2004, he owned a 13.44 per cent share of the company.

"There is ample indication these defendants knew the American market for their services was illegal," said FBI assistant director Mark Mershon in the statement.

Prosecutors allege Lefebvre retained an active role in the company until his arrest. A NETeller statement released after the arrests stated Lefebvre no longer has any connection to the company.

During an interview at his Sunset Drive home last summer, Lefebvre said he did not earn his money from the

profits of online gambling sites.

Savage said Lefebvre's lawyer is refusing to comment until more details regarding the charges are made.

"At this point there are no concrete charges so he is evaluating his legal strategy," Savage said.

Barring judicial intervention in Lefebvre's ongoing investments, Savage said, work on the Vesuvius Inn will continue as planned.

"John has asked me to convey many thanks for support received from all his friends on Salt Spring," Savage said. "Restoration of the Vesuvius pub is very important and work continues. We have met with workers and assured them everyone will continue getting paid."

Lefebvre bought the Vesuvius Inn after he moved to the island in 2005. He hopes to restore the pub to its former glory as a one-of-a-kind venue for live folk and rock music.

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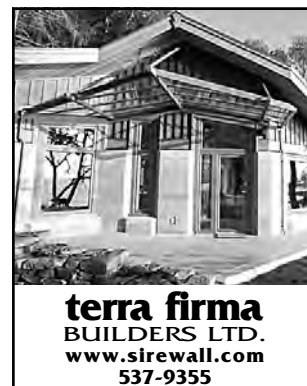
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# Trust's rock bylaw gathers moss

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Staff

Whoever thought people could spend so much time talking about dirt?

Following the Islands Trust's decision to give first reading to proposed bylaws 418 and 419 last summer in an attempt to limit the quantity of rock, soil and other aggregate property owners may remove from their property, it turns out yet another bylaw might be needed to set everything straight.

Based on suggestions from some of the 25 participants at a Thursday evening public meeting, members of the Salt Spring Islands Trust's Advisory Environment Committee (AEC) agreed to consider a new bylaw that would differentiate between small-scale operators and larger "industrial-scale" mining operation.

"We are here to listen and

to get ideas," said committee chair Andrew Haigh.

The debate has polarized environmentalists and construction industry representatives though, based on last week's presentations, it's becoming hard to know where to draw the line.

"I think for the most part we are a pretty reliable group and are pretty caring," said Ken Byron, speaking on behalf of the Salt Spring Island Construction Association. "We all live in this community and we care about what goes on there. We are not out to destroy it and we are here long term."

Byron recognized the importance of protecting the island's natural heritage, but said it must be done while respecting the rights of the local economy.

He said the proposal to levy a fee for the removal of more than 30 cubic metres or three truck loads of fill

would unfairly target smaller operators and property owners.

He suggested limits be increased to 1,000 cubic metres of rock and more than 1,000 cubic metres for fill used in the construction of driveways.

Directors from the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce also stepped forward in support of less stringent regulations. In a letter presented to the AEC, the chamber claims any attempts to overly regulate the island's construction industry could have a dramatic impact on the island's economy.

Bob Weeden, president of the Salt Spring Island Conservancy, encouraged the Islands Trust to implement a best management practices system under which both sides could work to make new regulations successful.

Disturbance of land wrought by logging, farm-

ing and construction, he said, contributes nearly 50 per cent of the phosphorous in Cusheon Lake. High phosphorous levels increase the likelihood of potentially toxic cyanobacteria blooms in the water, Weeden added.

Incorporating ecology into the building process via a best practices code, he said, is the only way to preserve the island's fragile flora, fauna and water supply.

"My feeling is the next half of buildings that we build on this island will cause more damage to the environment than the first half," he said. "They will unless we adopt a best management practices based system of guidelines of rules and regulations that will reflect who we are and what we are."

The AEC will examine options presented at Thursday's meeting in preparation for its recommendations to the island's trustees.

# Road ranking determines priority

By STACY CARDIGAN SMITH  
Driftwood Staff

Curious about snow removal on your street or how long it takes crews to fix pot holes?

According to Peter Wightman, the Ministry of Transportation's Vancouver Island district manager, roads are attended to according to their priority and priority is determined by a road's traffic volume. Basically, the busier a road, the less disrepair it is allowed to fall into.

And school bus routes get special consideration, said Wightman.

For the winter months, roads are classified from A to E, with A being the highest priority. For the summer, roads are ranked from 1 to 8, again with 1 ranking the highest.

The reason for the higher specificity in warmer months is that crews will attend to a tree that has fallen across an unmaintained road in the summer, but will not plow that same road in the winter.

Wightman said there are no regulations as to how many staff must work in a

specific area, or to the type or amount of equipment that must be used. Instead, regulations are focused on the end product.

"A different company may have a different game plan [for completing the task]," said Wightman.

According to Rick Gill, general manager for Mainroad South Island Contracting Ltd., the company that maintains Salt Spring roads under contract from the provincial government, acceptable snowfall levels start at 4 cm for Class A roads.

Gill said Class A roads are the major routes, such as the Trans-Canada Highway, of which there are none on the island.

Fulford-Ganges Road is a Class-B road, and six cm of snowfall is allowed to accumulate before the road is plowed.

Sunset Drive is a Class-C road and 10 cm is allowed to accumulate.

Scott Point Drive and Mount Belcher Heights are examples of Class-D roads, with 15 cm accumulation levels.

Although streets are

cleared according to priority level, each time it snows, the levels are reset and the sequence starts again.

In turn, if there are many consecutive snowfalls, roads ranked lower may not be cleared for quite some time.

Gill said he feels Mainroad is doing a good job maintaining roads given this year's conditions, but said the company does receive a lot of complaints from residents wondering when their road will be cleared.

According to Salt Spring road foreman John Charlton, Mainroad has eight staff on the island: himself, a mechanic and six other full-time workers.

Gill said contract help has also occasionally been brought in to deal with some of the heavier falls, but was unsure of specific numbers.

Although Charlton was unable to comment as far as staffing levels are concerned, he was supportive of the crew.

"We've been running with the same crew for decades now. We have a lot of history and local knowledge and

skill," he said.

Ken Garner, transportation supervisor with School District 64, said the snow has "really affected" school bus service on the island this year.

Although service has been at times restricted to main roads or cancelled altogether, Garner applauds the work crews have been doing.

The service has been good, he said. After the ferry routes and school routes are cleared, the crews get right to work on the bus routes.

However, snowfall isn't the only problem crews are dealing with: the frequent rain mixed with frost is causing roads to crack and pot holes to form.

"It's just a bad mix," said Gill.

Mainroad was awarded the southern Vancouver Island roads maintenance contract approximately two years ago. It is a 10-year contract, which is consistent with practices across the province, said Wightman.

Of 28 contracts available across the province, Mainroad has four of them, said Gill.

# Beaver and frost add to island's road woes

High snowfall isn't the only problem causing problems on Salt Spring roads this winter.

"It's been an extended winter. Now we're dealing with frost on the roads and the roads are failing," said Mainroad South Island Contracting Ltd. general manager Rick Gill.

There has been flooding on many roads on Salt Spring and throughout the Gulf Islands, he said.

The end of Collins Road was washed out. Gill said it would be too expensive to fix the road given current weather conditions and crews are therefore in discussion with the single resident affected to find a temporary solution.

John Charlton, Mainroad's local foreman, said flooding recently occurred on Lower Ganges Road by Canal Road when an eight-foot-long roadway culvert pipe shifted.

"The ponding there is a result of too much rain for the pipe to handle because the pipe is out of line slightly," said Charlton.

But weather isn't the only nuisance crews are dealing with: frequent flooding on North End Road near Lang Road is the result of a resident beaver, said Charlton.

A beaver plugs the 20-inch culvert pipe with brush nightly, causing flooding in the area and frustration for road crews. "We're not going to try and run it over with a truck or anything, although sometimes I feel like it," joked Charlton.

Charlton is currently in discussions with Ministry of Environment staff to see what can be done to persuade the beaver to move to another location.

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**What's On This Week?**  
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**WINTER TRIM:** With an eye to spring, Christine Copeland prunes an ornamental plum tree at a Sunset Drive property.  
Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Fulford fire training facility still grounded, says Trust

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Staff

Construction of a \$400,000 state-of-the-art fire training facility remains far from a done deal in spite of comments made during a public meeting by Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) trustee Ken Lee last week.

Claims the fire department is "right where it wants to be" with its application to remove a portion of the Fulford Fire hall property out of the Agriculture Land Reserve are premature, according to Salt Spring trustee Peter Lamb.

"I've still yet to see any application," he said during a conversation outside the Ganges fire hall following the January 15 SSIFPD meeting.

Later in the week, Lamb confirmed the application, submitted last October, has not yet been forwarded to him or fellow trustee George Ehring by Islands Trust staff.

A separate application has been made to rezone the

property to accommodate its proposed use.

He added a recent decision to prioritize the applications on the grounds they serve the public interest does not guarantee the matter will be referred to the province's Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) for approval.

"There appears to be some urgency to do it from their point of view and we've agreed to give it some priority, but there is still a process we have to go through," said Lamb.

SSIFPD trustees maintain the facility is needed to train the department's growing ranks of volunteers.

Speaking in a 2006 interview, fire chief Dave Enfield said live-fire training for Salt Spring's volunteer firefighters can cost up to \$120,000 per year.

According to the SSIFPD 2007 budget, training expenses account for three per cent of the fire department's \$1.3 million in expenses.

The new facility would

rank among the province's top training centres. Trustees deny any possibility of using the area to train off-island firefighters.

Brodie Porter, the Islands Trust's regional planning manager, said Local Trust Committee trustees will likely speak to the matter at their next meeting on February 1.

Before trustees consider forwarding the application to the ALC, Lamb said, it must first be examined by the Trust's Agriculture Advisory Committee. The accompanying rezoning process is expected to take at least nine months.

Plans to locate the training ground behind the Fulford fire hall have come under fire from neighbours concerned about the release of potentially hazardous chemicals.

"We do not have any faith in the board," said Vanessa Farias, regarding fire trustees' repeated attempts to promote the facility as an environmentally-friendly training facility.

## Crash in crosswalk

A four-vehicle accident by the Rainbow Road crosswalk on Thursday has kickstarted a fundraising campaign for a pedestrian-controlled light at that intersection.

A driver slammed on the brakes to avoid colliding with a 24-year-old woman attempting to cross the road in the early afternoon of Thursday, January 18.

The woman suffered no injuries but the vehicles sustained moderate damage. Three drivers were issued

tickets for driving too close by local RCMP as a result.

Ministry of Transportation (MOT) district manager Peter Wightman last week pegged the cost of a light at \$20,000. MOT had previously agreed to pay half the cost, with a Chamber of Commerce campaign fundraising the rest.

Watch for the Coins for Crosswalks campaign to start next week, said chamber vice-president Peter McCully.

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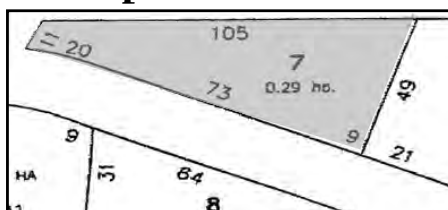
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# First baby title not so easy to bestow

By **DAWN HAGE**  
Driftwood Staff

After waiting two weeks for a New Year's baby, Salt Spring was graced by the arrival of not just one or even two, but three new babies within a 28-hour period. Two were born at Victoria General and one was born at Lady Minto Hospital on Salt Spring.

There's nothing as exciting as the arrival of a brand new baby, and rumours were flying on the morning of January 15 that the first baby of 2007 had arrived. Reporters raced to confirm the birth and a photographer was dispatched to take the picture for the Driftwood's special advertiser-supported page.

Sure enough, Antoine Lucio Gonzalez was born at 9:28 p.m. on January 12 at Victoria General Hospital (VGH) to parents Jodi French and Osmany Gonzalez. Weighing 6 pounds, 15 ounces, he is a healthy and happy little boy. French had planned to deliver her baby on Salt Spring, but last-minute complications forced her to leave the island and head to VGH for the birth.

When contacted, French cautioned that several Salt Spring babies were due, but as the first confirmed arrival in 2007 of a baby born into a Salt Spring family — even though the birth occurred off the island — her family received the honours.

In the meantime, Sarah Leslie was having mild labour pains on the night of January 12 and when her water broke at 9 a.m. January 13, she decided it was time to go to Lady Minto Hospital. She arrived at 10 a.m. and little James Darwin Maxwell Leslie arrived at 1:41 p.m., weighing in at 8 lbs., 1.5 ounces.

"You had the first Salt Spring baby!" everyone exclaimed. And, true enough, she was the first mom to have a 2007 baby at Lady Minto Hospital. Although Leslie and her friends and family were surprised to see another New Year's baby gracing page 33 of last week's Driftwood, she was presented with a gift from the Ladies



**HERE'S TO 2007:** Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary volunteers Marjorie Nash and Donna Way congratulate Sarah Leslie and newcomer James Darwin Maxwell Leslie with the traditional auxiliary gift.

Auxiliary for the honour of having the first baby born at Lady Minto in 2007.

In the meantime, French was chatting with her midwives about her delivery and mentioned there had been another Salt Spring mom down the hall from her at Victoria General.

Sarah Nicol had been seeing an off-island obstetrician and was planning to have a natural birth at Victoria General Hospital. At the last hour, her doctor decided a cesarian section was necessary and Riley James Nicol was delivered at 10:03 a.m. on January 12. He was a healthy 8 lbs. 8 ounces and joins 15-month-old big brother Liam.

Because her prenatal care was being handled by off-island doctors and not Salt Spring's Community Midwifery Care (CMC), Nicol and her husband James were simply "off the radar." Driftwood staff, Lady Minto and the midwives did not know about the baby until the afternoon of January 17.

When contacted, Nicol was unaware of the "first baby of the year" event and was quite surprised to hear that Riley was actually the first baby born in 2007.



**AND THEN THEY WERE FOUR:** Sarah and James Nicol and 15-month-old Liam welcome newborn Riley.

Photo by Sean McIntyre

Although it seems like a straightforward task to name a community's first baby of the year, it is surprisingly complicated on Salt Spring. Moms can end up delivering off island at the last minute, so local hospital records don't tell the whole story. Although Maggie Ramsey and Terri Murray of Community Midwifery Care (CMC) handle 98 per cent of the babies on Salt Spring, some families, like the Nicols, choose off-island care, and CMC may not have

all the information. Last year the first baby of the year was born without any outside caregivers.

French and Gonzalez are more than happy to share the spotlight with both Leslie and the Nicols as all three families celebrate the safe arrival of their healthy and beautiful baby boys and all three families will receive gifts as a trio of New Year's babies. The Salt Spring community has truly been blessed by an abundance of riches.



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# Salt Spring maternity care among best in the province

By DAWN HAGE  
Driftwood Staff

Despite rumours to the contrary, the baby business is alive and well on Salt Spring Island. Maggie Ramsey of Community Midwifery Care welcomes an opportunity to set the record straight.

"People will come up to me and ask 'how can you maintain a practice with one or two births a month?,' because that's the number of notices they see in the paper," she said. "The truth is, we average about 60 births a year on Salt Spring."

Most months see four to six births, but there are always variations, such as December 2006 where there were a record-setting 10 births, including twins.

"It is normally more balanced throughout the year," said Ramsey. "You can trace these large groups back, though. There was the snowstorm of '98 . . . the hockey strike . . ."

Midwifery has come a long way since it was regulated a decade ago.

"The changes have been incredible," said Ramsey. "GPs have pulled out of maternity care all over the country and there has been a huge change in attitude from the general public towards midwives."

The Community Midwifery Care group, with midwives Ramsey and Terri Murray, takes care of 98 per cent of the women who are having babies on the island. Doctors will come in to assist with a surprise breach or medical complication, but there are currently no general practitioners or obstetricians practising on Salt Spring. Women who have high-risk births or

**"Salt Spring is the only community in B.C. where midwives are the only maternity care providers."  
— midwife Maggie Ramsey**

need cesarians are advised to find a practitioner off island, but can still receive pre and post-natal care from Community Midwifery.

"When a mom comes in for a first visit, we do an assessment and find out right off the top if they are eligible for a home or hospital birth on island. They need to be low risk to be eligible, which about 90 per cent are."

Parents can choose whether they would like to deliver their babies at home or at Lady Minto Hospital (LMH), under the care of Community Midwifery.

"About 40 per cent will deliver at home and about 60 per cent will choose the hospital," said Ramsey.

"Lady Minto has recently installed a fabulous new birthing tub for labour in its birthing suite and I find there are less home births once the parents see the tub . . . Both ways of having your baby are equally comfortable."

First-time and new-to-the-island moms will often ask if it is safe to have your baby on Salt Spring. They are given a list of risks and benefits and all the information necessary to make an informed choice. Midwives can't administer an epidural, but are able to offer other options for pain management such as mas-

sage, walking, acupuncture and soaking in the bathtub or shower. Medical options include entanox (laughing gas) and short-acting (and very effective) pain meds such as fentanyl.

The advantages of choosing to have a baby on Salt Spring are endless.

"Besides being a safe option for healthy moms and babes, Salt Spring provides a service that is hard to match in a big centre," notes a handout given to all new parents. "Our statistics (see sidebar) show that we are able to provide safe care, with low rates of C-sections and transfers to a larger hospital, with good outcomes for babies and moms."

Ramsey and Murray have more than 50 years of combined nursing and midwifery experience between them and have handled "all of the maternal and newborn emergencies that you can imagine at least once."

Community Midwifery Care has just applied for a grant from the Rural Maternity Network to create a template for other rural communities to follow the Salt Spring model.

"Salt Spring is the only community in B.C. where midwives are the only maternity care providers," said Ramsey. "Everywhere I go, people from small communities are telling me about their hospitals closing."

"We are hoping to use the grant as seed money to look at the Salt Spring model of maternity care that would become a prototype for other communities in B.C.," she said.

"The future is looking really good."

## Salt Spring birth stats released

The following information is based on the experience of 456 women and their babies cared for by Community Midwifery Care in the Salt Spring community from 1998 to 2006. It is intended to supply a general idea of the consistent trends for local birthing women.

1. Percentage of moms planning to have their babies on Salt Spring: 90 per cent

2. Percentage of actual Salt Spring births: 74 per cent (about half at Lady Minto and half at home)

3. Breakdown of births that were intended for Salt Spring but ended up off island: eight

per cent (36 women) developed pregnancy problems; eight per cent needed to be transferred to a larger hospital in labour; one per cent (five babies) had to be transferred out to a bigger hospital.

4. Births planned for off island from the outset: 10 per cent

5. Reasons: One or more previous cesarean sections, difficult previous births, serious medical problems, desire for epidural, uncomfortable with the level of service on Salt Spring.

6. Rate of C-section for Salt Spring women who plan to deliver and start their

labour on Salt Spring: seven per cent (28 women)

7. Rate of C-section for all Salt Spring women, including those who have pre-planned C/S: 14 per cent

8. Overall C-section rate at Victoria General Hospital: 35 per cent

9. Main reasons for Salt Spring moms to have a "booked" C-section: breech, 60 per cent (18); repeat C-section, 28 per cent (8); other, 12 per cent (four).

10. Main reasons for Salt Spring moms to have a C-section in labour: Failure to progress, 75 per cent (21); other, 25 per cent (seven).



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## The right choice

Salt Spring witnessed a near miracle this past week: a public body changing its mind in response to pressure from constituents.

While many islanders love a raucous political fight, and some heavy-hitters were gearing up for a juicy one, Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District trustees obviously weren't enthusiastic about spending the next month or year in conflict mode and building a fire hall tainted by public controversy.

It was a long shot that 750 property owners would take the time to oppose the \$5-million plan or the process by acquiring, completing and submitting a counter-petition form, but the documents were reportedly being photocopied and distributed far and wide in a campaign that was gaining momentum. It was heartening to see so many people exercising the only voice available to them. Everyone who took that step or gave trustees their opinion played a part in effecting change.

Fire trustees also deserve appreciation for reading the public mood and giving us the same public consultation opportunities as most other communities.

It's easy to see how fire trustees or similar groups with specific tasks get themselves into these jams. They're intimately involved with the issues at hand, have already hashed out the pros and cons, and are ready to make recommendations on what they feel is the right thing for the community. Meanwhile, everyone else is back at square one with the most basic of questions.

The referendum process is an excellent public education tool and essential to gain buy-in for major capital projects.

Being forced to justify a proposal connects the proponents to those served by and paying for it. Even if it's not easy, the exercise builds a community, while a rammed-through project, which in this case contained no real details, shreds it.

Public scrutiny demanded by a referendum also ensures local government bodies have done all their homework on a proposal with public service in mind and tried to keep costs as low as possible.

As one trustee told the Driftwood Monday, there's no point pushing through a project that will not be embraced by taxpayers who care about how their money is spent. It's true.

The referendum choice will prove its worth in the long run, and not necessarily in ways that can be measured monetarily.

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## It's time to rethink recycling in the 21st century

By RICK LAING

The transition from old to new year invites retrospection and two books I've recently read were the inspiration to write, once again, an article on recycling.

When we environmentalists envisioned the 3 Rs in the '70s and '80s, the reduce and reuse aspects were emphasized and the recycling component was supposed to continue to evolve by changing packaging, composting and other new technologies.

Now, a generation after recycling became a household word, the reduce, reuse component is virtually non-existent and recycling continues to plod along, uninspired, collecting an ever-increasing mix of low-grade mate-

### VIEW POINT

rials that hopefully some industry can use somewhere.

Governments and their planning departments supported recycling programs mainly from concerns about limited landfill space. That has always been their primary goal; where the recyclables go and what toxic waste they create elsewhere is not their concern as long as a few more years of life can be squeezed from their landfill. Questions such as: Exactly how useful are the recycled products to industry? How much industrial pollution and waste are caused

when materials are recycled? How much extra fossil fuels does it take to move recyclables from point A to B to C, etc.? Why do we continue to use wood fibre as packaging and paper when it can't be composted because of the presence of dioxins and other toxins and is shipped to offshore markets instead? Why are we wasting time and energy on worthless items like tin cans and glass when electronics with their thousands of valuable (and toxic) compounds are tossed aside? These questions are not asked as people involved in recycling morph from activists to comfortable bureaucrats thinking about their pensions?

The first book is *Cradle to Cradle* — Remaking the Way We

Make Things by W. McDonough (an architect) and M. Braungart (a chemist). It challenges the belief that human industry must damage the natural world. They describe recycling as "guilt-ridden down-cycling" resulting in lost value, lost materials and increased contamination of the biosphere. They argue convincingly that products can be designed from the outset either as "biological nutrients" that will easily and safely degrade in water and soil, or as "technical nutrients" that will continue to circulate as pure and valuable materials within closed-loop industrial circles. The book itself is made from plastic resins, and is waterproof, extremely durable, can be reprinted or recycled and is

a brilliant example of a "technical nutrient."

The other book, *Heat* — How to Stop the Planet from Burning by G. Monbiot, gives well-researched evidence about the reality of global warming, emphatically debunking the denial campaign funded by Exxon-Mobil, and offers real solutions. There is hope, but again governments must show leadership and act decisively. I am not a fan of larger government, but creating a "Ministry of Connecting the Dots" would be a step in the right direction.

*The writer was the island's recycling coordinator from 1987 to 1994 and designed/built the existing Salt Spring Island depot.*

## Fundamental change, not tweaking, will improve island governance

By ALIX GRANGER

Once again Salt Spring taxpayers will be opening their annual tax notice to find an increase in their taxes, and again the thought goes through their heads: What are we getting for our tax dollars? The potholes get bigger, there are few public services for many of us, such as water, garbage or sewers, and the practical problems of no local government increase steadily.

At the same time, taxes are increasing to buy library property we do not need to pay for. Islanders for Self Government believes that a locally incorporated municipal government would be a more appropriate and effective governance structure for all the services we need and should have.

With local government we would have more centralized long-term planning, the community would be able to have more input into decision making and property

### IN DEPTH

taxes would be used for the benefit of Salt Spring and not exported to other rural communities.

The Islands Trust is attempting to find better ways to govern the islands and has set up a Task Force on Governance that is considering three alternatives, none of which are particularly far from the present structure or close to really addressing the issues. They appear to be just an attempt to tweak the present structure into a more acceptable form without the fundamental change that is so necessary. An examination of these proposed changes shows this clearly.

• A slight increase in the number of trustees for islands with a large population, but not one approaching repre-

sentation by population or tax base. Salt Spring, for example, might elect two additional trustees, but this would only represent 13 per cent of the council when democratic representation would be closer to 50 per cent.

• A change in the allocation of decision-making power at Trust Council so that larger local trust areas, by virtue of their populations and/or contributions, have a greater say over decisions taken at the council table. Again, democratic representation would require a major shift in decision-making power, which is unlikely.

• Coordination with regional districts to provide a better opportunity for communication and liaison between local trustees and the CRD. This is another insignificant item because there already is frequent communication and how does this tackle the major issues?

The task force has appointed Allan Neilson-Welch of

Kelowna, a consultant in the areas of governance, service reviews and municipal finance, to analyze the above three proposals. The cost of Mr. Welch's work, at an estimated \$25,000, is to be shared equally by the Province and Trust, with a \$3,000 contribution from the CRD, both of which costs are funded by your tax dollars.

In the course of his study, the consultant will meet with members of Trust Council, staff and the CRD, but there are no meetings scheduled with the Salt Spring public or local organizations. This is an incredible omission.

The Trust has said there will be consultation with the public after the report has been produced, but a more balanced viewpoint might be presented if there was an opportunity for other viewpoints to be presented at an earlier stage.

One of the guiding principles of the task force states that "the Governance Task

Force will coordinate the Islands Trust's consultation with those members of the public who are interested in the Islands Trust Area. Consultation will take place in an open manner that ensures that all interested parties have a fair opportunity to participate."

Despite this principle, the Governance Task Force has held all its meetings in Victoria, often at times inconvenient for local islanders to attend, never mind the costs. There do not seem to be any plans for the consultant to seek submissions from Salt Spring Islanders, nor to visit Salt Spring, during the course of his analysis.

Islanders for Self Government has been watching the deliberations of the task force to see if there will be any effort directed towards solving the practical problems created by the present governance structure — taxation without commensurate representation, diversion

of tax dollars to other rural areas instead of being spent for needed services on this island, local control of planning within the Trust mandate and lack of policies which produce economic opportunities for local residents. A perfect example of the current absurd situation is the financing of a needed crossing light at the foot of Rainbow Road.

What rational person understands why the only way found to achieve this objective was to wheedle half the cost from a reluctant provincial government and then go begging bowl in hand pleading for donations from the already overtaxed public? This bizarre situation typifies the problems that can only be addressed by forming a municipality where control truly rests with the residents of Salt Spring Island.

*The writer is a member of Islanders for Self Government.*

# SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:** *How do you feel about building a new fire hall on Kings Lane?*



**Mitchell Robert**

*A lot of people on this island are scared of new things, but new things are sometimes a good idea.*



**Tyler Anderson**

*It's a good idea. I guess it's probably needed.*



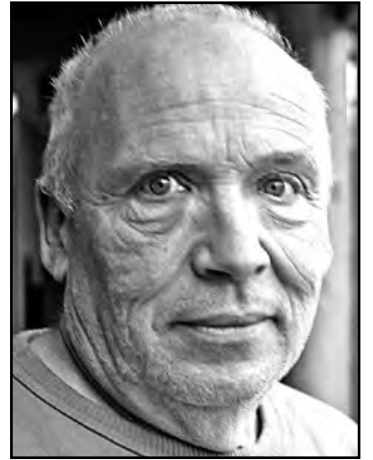
**Elehna DeSousa**

*Anything to make the firemen happy. They are serving the community and deserve the best.*



**Robbins Harris**

*It's going to be awfully noisy for the community and there's bound to be an increase in traffic.*



**Dave Carlson**

*That's better than where it is now. Let's just spend the money.*

## Letters to the Editor

### Referendum path

Over the last week we have been listening to the concerns of the community over the counter petition for the proposed new fire hall on Kings Lane.

At our public meeting last Monday we heard from a number of concerned citizens on a multitude of issues, including the counter-petition process; the proposed site; the current fire hall, (can something be done with the existing building?); tax issues; trustee transparency; pedestrian safety; siren issues; relation to the official community plan; focus groups; public input; ladder trucks; ALR properties; the safety of people who might sign the petitions; and even the notion that the district could consider expropriation — a draconian way of getting things done indeed!

We've also been out in the community listening to what Salt Springers have to say, and the general consensus is that we're going about this the wrong way, that we should slow down and allow for public input into the process. People recognize the fact that we need a new fire hall as we plan for the next 50 years, but there are far too

many unanswered questions to continue down this path.

In response to the concerns of the community, the SSIFPD trustees will be rescinding the counter petition on the new hall immediately. We will prepare a comprehensive plan on the proposed new hall, with public input through a series of open meetings and forums. When we feel we are ready with a complete plan, concise budget, and have answered all of the outstanding questions to the satisfaction of the community, we will seek public approval through a referendum process.

On behalf of the trustees, I would like to apologize to the community for prematurely initiating the counter-petition process. While we were following the ministry's guidelines as an improvement district in initiating this process, in fairness to the community, we need to take the time to complete the plan and initiate an informed public discussion.

**MARK WYATT,**  
SSIFPD trustee,  
SSIVFD volunteer

### Backwater blues

During the last snow storm I walked to and from town

and the GVM area quite regularly, and it is with horror that I've witnessed so many elderly people trying to navigate the traffic on Lower Ganges Road with no safety options.

Can I ask, how hard would it be to put up a pole with a button and a red and green light? The existing cross walk is very badly marked; poorly lit for people crossing during the dark stormy days, and not lit well enough for drivers busy concentrating on keeping their cars on the road.

I have helped a number of people cross from the GVM side of Park Road to Dagwoods where they wish to enjoy a coffee. Here, there is no crosswalk at all, nor any sidewalks, just a slippery hill and a big ditch. What do you think is the matter with us?

Do we proudly prefer to be a backwater community that boasts no traffic lights, no lit crosswalks and no sidewalks? Wouldn't we rather proudly offer our seniors some safety? Does another gentleman have to die before we put up the pole with the button?

**HAZEL GARDNER,**  
Pallot Way

### Unending gratitude

It was one of those perfect opportunities — missed. I wish I'd grabbed the mike and shouted for all in the audience to hear: "Yes, our children are amazing, but they didn't get here in a vacuum. They have had the benefit of a most brilliant music teacher."

Salt Spring has a truly great high school, staffed with fabulous, dare I say gifted, teachers. My oldest son, a 2006 graduate, is now happily rubbing shoulders with other engineering students at the University of Alberta. His excellent first-term marks reflect a solid high-school base in physics, chemistry and math. (He's known on his floor in residence as "the Calculus Guru.") He sings in the mixed chorus and plays in the prestigious hand-bell choir, and he is incredibly happy. My point is, he was perfectly prepared for life off the rock, in the big pond of university life.

I could continue to sing praises to so many of the educators here, but just for today, following another innovative, creative, sold-out performance at ArtSpring

last week, my admiration and unending gratitude goes to Mr. Smith for playing a huge part in our lives for the past five years.

What an immense privilege for my sons to have been motivated, encouraged and taught by such a passionate, clever master. Thank you, Bruce!

**CATHY CRONIN,**  
Salt Spring

### Second hand smoke

I want to give some info on second-hand smoke (SHS). This is not personal judgement, I'm giving scientifically reviewed facts.

SHS is also called "environmental tobacco smoke."

Breathing SHS is also called "passive smoking."

(Canadian Cancer Society — [www.cancer.ca](http://www.cancer.ca).)

SHS is more dangerous than directly inhaled smoke due to the temperature of the smoke and the reaction of lung tissue. Cooled smoke can penetrate deeper.

SHS contains 50 out of the 4,000 chemicals in greater quantities.

(James Repace MSc (researcher of ETS for over 25 years) [www.repace.com](http://www.repace.com).)

SHS outdoors decreases

to background levels for fine particles or carcinogens at about seven metres from the source.

(Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, Scientific Review Panel on Health Effects of Exposure to ETS, 1997 — [www.oehha.ca.gov/index.html](http://www.oehha.ca.gov/index.html).)

Over 50 compounds in tobacco smoke are identified as carcinogens.

(California Environmental Protection Agency — [www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov).)

SHS is now classified as a "toxic air contaminant."

(CEPA, Air Resource Board September 2005 — [www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/ets/finalreport/finalreport.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/ets/finalreport/finalreport.htm).)

Correlation between exposure to ETS in infants and children and: SIDS, bronchitis, pneumonia, induction of asthma, exacerbation of asthma, middle ear infections.

More info will be updated January 12, 2007 at [www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/ets.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/ets.htm).

I am only speaking about banning cigarette smoke (and butts) in children's public playgrounds.

**LISA DODD,**  
Salt Spring

**MORE LETTERS 10**

## Fire district needs sharper answers for referendum

It's no secret that when power is challenged, men dig in their heels. It is one of the less endearing facets of human nature.

So I have to take my hat off to the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) trustees. Faced with a deluge of opposition to the new \$5-million fire hall proposal, the trustees have agreed to a referendum, thus enabling all Salt Springers to have a say. They could have just circled the wagons and bulldozed this massive expenditure through. Instead, they took the high road. The SSIFPD trustees and Salt Spring will be better for it.

Having said that, the fire hall needs to present a compelling and reasoned case for the \$5-million tab. So before this love fest gets out of hand, there are still a number of questions that need to be cleared up. The fire trustees may believe they have already addressed these questions. If that is the case, they need to come up with better answers, so please,

### HEAD TO HEAD

BY PETER VINCENT



indulge this old man.

Why has the option of renovating the old fire hall for a little over a \$1 million been given short shrift? It may not accommodate everything on the fire department's grocery list, but by most standards, it will meet the need. I went shopping last month for a new car. I wanted a Lexus, but settled for a Hyundai. It's called "living within one's means."

Or living within the community's means. My tax notice has more additions and addenda than a Capital Regional District building permit. I am being nicked and dimed for everything from swimming pools to sewage, including an already sizable chunk for fire protection. Chances are, next year's notice will include another line item for the upcoming library. The fire district states the \$5 mil-

lion will only cost me another \$41 bucks for the next 20 years. Just pile it on with the rest of Salt Spring's hobby horses. Is it any wonder that there has been a great hue and cry?

The SSIFPD trustees say they will sell the downtown property to defray the costs of the new hall. But who really owns that property? Isn't it us beleaguered taxpayers? Wouldn't it be great as the Visitor Centre? Or an extension of the Saturday market? And who does the fire district think is in a position to buy that piece of land, replete with parking problems and building restrictions, for about \$1 million? Who wants to see a nice set of McDonald's twin arches at the epicentre of Ganges?

The trustees say the present location is dangerous in the summer with all that tourist traffic, and yet they've pooh poohed public concern about the scores of pensioners concentrated around the new location. Is the old location any more

dangerous than the new?

When SSIFPD trustee Mark Wyatt responded to concerns about plunking the new fire hall down in the middle of the greatest concentration of wheelchairs and walkers on Salt Spring, he intimated the pensioners should be grateful. Has anyone asked said pensioners?

The SSIFPD says that the other two sites (one on Atkins Road and one on Rainbow Road) weren't suitable. They weren't suitable because they are in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), which means there will be hoops to jump through. No such problem with the chosen site. This is called the path of least resistance, despite site problems like road access and the huge cost of acquiring land.

Interestingly enough, when it comes to prying to some land out of the ALR in the Fulford valley to make room for a training facility, islands trustees Peter Lamb and George Ehring promised to give it "top priority" as far as the Islands Trust's role was con-

cerned. It can be done.

Here's a concept. Why can't the fire department get by with two enlarged fire stations — the one in Fulford and the one at Central Hall? With about 400 new homes going up at Channel Ridge, wouldn't it make sense to have a fully equipped structure at Central? Is it a response time issue? It is about two minutes between the Central Hall location and the downtown location, particularly with sirens wailing.

When queried about upgrading existing fire halls, Mr. Wyatt responded that "just isn't an option." Well, that just isn't an answer. Please expand.

The fire trustees and staff may feel uneasy about the outcome of the promised referendum, but they also know in their heart of hearts that a referendum is the right course. If the fire district presents a clear and persuasive case, Salt Springers will agree. If not, an alternative plan will need to surface.

[petevinc@telus.net](mailto:petevinc@telus.net)



## NOTICE TO ELECTORS WITHIN THE CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

### ELECTOR APPROVAL PROCESS FOR CRD BYLAW NO. 3351 - AMENDMENT TO SOURCE CONTROL LOCAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT BYLAW

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of Directors of the Capital Regional District ("CRD") proposes to adopt Bylaw No. 3351, "Source Control Local Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1996, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2006" for the purpose of ensuring that there is fair cost apportionment for the services of the Regional Source Control program (RSCP) throughout the CRD.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the CRD may proceed with Bylaw No. 3351, which amends **Bylaw No. 2402, to include sewage flows from privately operated sewers or other facilities that have connections to CRD sewage facilities in the apportionment of RSCP costs to each municipal participating area**, unless at least **26,555 electors** within the CRD indicate by signing the elector response forms, that the Board must obtain the assent of the electors by way of referendum before proceeding to adopt Bylaw No. 3351.

The elector response form must be in the form as established by the CRD and forms are available from the CRD on request. The only persons entitled to sign elector response forms are electors of the area to which the alternative approval process opportunity applies. The alternative approval process opportunity applies within all municipalities and electoral areas of the CRD, including Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria and View Royal and the Electoral Areas of Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island and Southern Gulf Islands.

**The deadline for delivering the original signed elector response forms, in relation to Bylaw No. 3351, to the CRD is 4:30 p.m. on Monday, the 26th day of February, 2007. Forms must be received by the deadline to be counted.**

**The CRD has estimated that the total number of electors within the Capital Regional District is 265,553 and that 10% of that number or 26,555 electors must submit elector response forms to prevent the CRD from enacting Bylaw No. 3351 without the assent of the electors by referendum.**

Further technical information concerning Bylaw No. 3351, or the RSCP may be obtained from Mr. Trevor Smyth, CRD Offices, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6 (Telephone 360-3082) during regular office hours Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) from the date of this notice until the 26th day of February, 2007. Information on the RSCP is also available at:  
[http://www.crd.bc.ca/es/environmental\\_programs/source\\_control/index.htm](http://www.crd.bc.ca/es/environmental_programs/source_control/index.htm)

#### QUALIFICATIONS FOR RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTORS

**Resident Elector:** You are entitled to submit an elector response form as a Resident Elector if you are 18 years or older on the date of submission of the elector response form, are a Canadian citizen, have resided in British Columbia for 6 months and in the CRD for at least 30 days prior to signing the elector response form.

#### Non-Resident Property Elector:

You may submit an elector response form as a Non-Resident Property Elector if you are 18 years or older on the date of submission of the elector response form, are a Canadian citizen, have resided in British Columbia for 6 months, have owned and held registered title to property in the CRD for 30 days and **do NOT qualify as a Resident Elector**. If there is more than one registered owner of the property (either as joint tenants or tenants in common) only one individual may, with the written consent of the majority, submit an elector response form.

**To obtain an elector response form, or for further information, please contact CRD Administration Department, P. O. Box 1000, 625 Fisgard Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6 or by telephone at (250)360-3129 from 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.**

**A copy of the elector response form may be downloaded from: <http://www.crd.bc.ca/election/>**

Elector response forms may also be obtained at the following CRD offices:

- Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Planning Services Department, #2 – 6868 West Coast Road, Sooke, BC V0S 1N0 (Mon. – Fri., 8:30 am-4:30 pm)
- Building Inspection Office, #206-118 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2S4 (Mon.-Fri., 8:30-10:00 am, 10:30 am-Noon, 1:00-4:30 pm)
- Building Inspection Office, 4605 Bedwell Harbour Road (Driftwood Centre), Pender Island, BC, V0N 2M0 (Mon., Wed., Fri., 8:30 am-Noon; 1:00-4:30 pm)

A copy of Bylaw No. 3351 and a copy of this Notice may be inspected during regular office hours, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) from the date of this notice until the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007 at the following locations:

- public notice board in the lobby of CRD headquarters @ 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC;
- Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Planning Services Department, Salt Spring Island Building Inspection Office and Pender Island Building Inspection Office (at the addresses and during the hours listed above); and
- on the CRD website:  
for Bylaw 3351: [http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/bylawsubjectto\\_1/](http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/bylawsubjectto_1/)  
for this Notice: <http://www.crd.bc.ca/election/>

Given under my hand at Victoria, B.C. this 10th day of January, 2007.

Carmen Thiel  
Corporate Secretary  
Capital Regional District

## More letters

### Wrong location

In your story in the January 17 Driftwood about the meeting discussing plans for a new fire hall near Ganges, you quoted me and others raising our concerns about the speed with which the fire trustees are moving on this matter.

The story missed what to me is the crucial problem with the fire trustees' plan for their new fire hall — its location.

The planned location at 154 Kings Lane mean that fire trucks will have to pass the old and the new Greenwood's, the Salt Spring Seniors clubhouse, a kindergarten, and the geriatric section of the Lady Minto Hospital, just to get to Lower Ganges Road. Any fire trucks going downtown will also have to pass the Heritage Place assisted living facility.

The clients and residents of these facilities are free to roam around the area, including the roads, and many of these people are dealing with physical and mental challenges. One elderly gentleman was killed a couple of years ago in a road accident in that area.

Fire trucks are not the only danger added to this area with the proposed new fire hall. There is also the rush of volunteers in their cars and trucks to the fire hall whenever there is a call for their services.

The roads near the proposed fire hall are narrow and already carry heavy traffic. These roads also have narrow shoulders and lack sidewalks.

I know the fire trustees "envision" road improvements in this area. Have they also figured out how to expedite these improvements, and who will pay for them? Why don't we envision a better location for the fire hall, and if necessary get it removed

from the Agricultural Land Reserve? This can happen with strong public support.

I have spent most of my life involved in the field of health care, and last year I retired from the board of the Vancouver Island Health Authority. My experience in this field shows me that the combination of many vehicles moving at high speeds, narrow roads, and large numbers of pedestrians with various disabilities is a recipe for disaster.

I support our fire department and the fire trustees' effort to build a new fire hall. I differ with the trustees in terms of the location of the new fire hall, and their plans for a speedy approval. That's why I urge the fire trustees to look elsewhere for a new fire hall.

**DON GAINOR,**  
Scott Point

### Deer moving in

As a gardener, I have become accustomed to chasing deer from my property. I try to be patient with them, though it is increasingly difficult.

This morning, when I opened the back door to fetch some firewood from the carport, I found a pile of deer manure up against the door. Nor was that all. There was enough scattered around for at least two deer.

Since, like other animals, they learn from each other, I am appalled to contemplate a future in which I must plough through deer manure on my way to the car, to tread it into the car, and thereafter to tread it wherever I go.

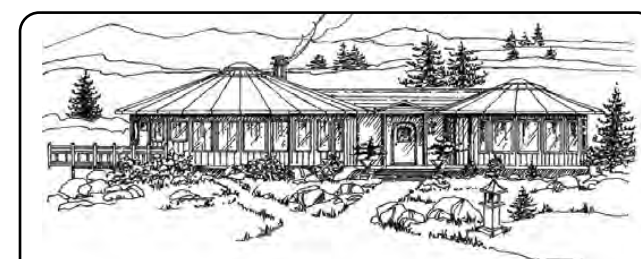
We need an open season on deer, until there are enough natural places for them without their being squeezed into my house!

**RONALD HOLCROFT,**  
Salt Spring

**MORE LETTERS 11**

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## More letters

### Trust not protecting us

I am writing in response to the "development log jam" article of January 17.

The situation in which I am involved is a perfect example of why there is a backlog at the Islands Trust.

I am a long-term local artist looking for accommodations so that I can live and paint in the same location legally and advertise my business location.

I was, I thought, very fortunate to find homeowners and art lovers who had the perfect location for that endeavour.

At the beginning of November, the Islands Trust told these kind souls that they would need to block off a 100-square-foot stairway to make the suite legal; this the homeowners were immediately ready to do. After paying the \$1,000 fee and being assured this would be quickly reviewed, we waited, hopeful and excited.

Now they are saying that "perhaps" it will be on the March agenda, but "perhaps not."

My season for peak production and work is rapidly approaching, and because of this ridiculous procrastination I may well have to walk away from this opportunity.

The economy of this island depends on artisans and artists like me being able to work and display our creations in affordable and accessible, legal accommodations. Please help us!

All the Islands Trust had to do in this case was to give the order to block off the stairwell and send out a bylaw officer to check it out — that's all!

Now the homeowners are so sick of the ridiculous delays and arbitrary laws and rulings that they are actually selling their home and leaving the island. Ironically the people from whom they bought the property a year ago left for the same reason!

The Islands Trust is not protecting the island way of life!

They are making it impossible to live within the law, and forcing illegal suites and cabins to be lived in. Their policies are elitist and promote fear and feelings of helplessness for those of

us who grease the financial wheels of the island whilst on a limited income. I have friends who constantly live in fear of discovery, and their landlords live in fear of the bureaucracy they would have to face to make it legal. . . Catch-22 comes to mind!

As a footnote, I recently spent four months on Nantucket Island in Massachusetts. There are no longer any full-time residents to speak of. The elite homeowners only live there in July and August, and "workers" live in \$3,000/month shared accommodation.

There is no community and no one can afford to stay in the winter.

Congratulations Islands Trust, you are turning our lovely year-round community into an elite group of seasonal homeowners who can live in serene isolation from those of us in the real world, and those landlords who would help us can't.

Well done!  
**TINA LOUISE SPALDING,**  
Salt Spring

### At the Met

Last Saturday morning, my delightful friend Margaret Spencer and I caught the 7:50 a.m. ferry to Swartz Bay to go to the cinema at the Silver City Theatre in Victoria.

It was pitch black and the roads were somewhat icy, and for a bit I had second thoughts about the wisdom of undertaking such a trip so early. But we were rewarded with a beautiful and unforgettable experience.

For that Saturday morning, at the same time all over Canada, the Metropolitan Opera showed in High Definition and Surround Sound, a live transmission of Mozart's opera *The Magic Flute*. And it was a *Magic Flute* like none other I have seen.

The voices were brilliant and flawless, the sets extraordinary.

The performance was directed by Julie Traynor, who brought *The Lion King* to Broadway, and she used her talents with vivid puppetry to great effect.

Margaret, whose vision isn't what it once was, still enjoyed every minute of the opera. Much of my joy that morning came from knowing how delighted she was.

As far as I could see, we two were the only Salt

Spring Islanders attending this showing. I hope this will change. Three more live operas will be transmitted by the Metropolitan Opera this year, the next being Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* on February 24, featuring the truly stellar soprano Renee Fleming. It will be shown in the same theatre, the Silver City in the Tillikum Mall, at 10:30 a.m. The cost of the tickets, \$15.85 including tax, is certainly a bargain. The only drawback is the necessity of catching that early morning ferry. But it's important to arrive in plenty of time, and purchasing tickets in advance is a good idea.

For more information, please call me at 537-5853 or go to the Met website at <http://www.metoperafamily.org/metopera/> and click on "Watch and Listen," and then "The Met Opera Goes to the Movies." The number for ticket information at the Silver City Theatre is 250-381-9301.

**DOROTHY CUTTING,**  
Price Road

## Seniors' Residence



If you don't want to look after your property any more and you would like to be within walking distance of shopping, consider a move to Heritage Place. Heritage Place offers independent living in the ground level suite of your choice with your own patio. You can live quietly on your own or socialize with other residents. Heritage Place may be your way to stay on Salt Spring as you age.

Your monthly rent includes all utilities; parking; the evening meal; emergency call system; and friendly professional staff on site every day. The only expense you have besides your rent is your telephone bill. You may arrange for any community service provider to come to your suite to help maintain your independence at Heritage Place.

Many Seniors have been able to sell their home and invest the proceeds so that the interest on the investment plus their government pension pays the rent at Heritage Place, without touching the capital from the sale of their house. We can arrange free independent advice with a certified financial planner and investment advisor for you or talk to your current investment advisor for information.

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# Three-day homeless count set for early February

By **STACY CARDIGAN SMITH**  
Driftwood Staff

Salt Spring Island Community Services' (SSICS) Second Annual Homeless Count takes place February 6-8.

It is important to complete the count so SSICS can continue to offer programming to benefit those who are homeless or live in substandard housing conditions.

"Without the numbers we

can't apply for any provincial or federal funding," said Ragnhild Flakstad, SSICS' program coordinator.

There are also separate grants available through the Capital Regional District, which is why SSICS has teamed up with the Victoria Cool Aid Society this year to complete homeless needs surveys at the same time, said Flakstad.

"These numbers can kind

of encapsulate how big the problem is," added SSICS executive director Rob Grant.

"There's an image that Salt Spring is bed and breakfasts and a Saturday market, and I think the numbers should make a case [to the politicians] that there's an issue here."

The count will take place over three days at three separate locations. Interview stations will be set up in private areas and surveys will be

administered by two individuals, one professional counsellor and one individual who has experienced poverty or homelessness.

The questionnaire should take between 10 and 15 minutes to complete, said Flakstad.

Last year's count was on February 28. Mobile volunteers handed out surveys in various locations and a total of 52 were completed.

However, "we found last year that we didn't count everybody in one day," said Flakstad.

In turn, the count was extended until the end of March, allowing for an additional 33 surveys to be completed. From the 85 surveys,

42 people indicated they were homeless and 32 indicated they lived in substandard accommodations.

At present, there is no homeless shelter on the island save for the services offered by the United Church on Hereford Avenue.

"Homeless people should come out and connect with people who are counting to learn about the resources that are available," added Grant.

"This year, we're trying to get a more accurate account by giving people three days to report homelessness and substandard housing," said Flakstad.

Stations will be set up in the following locations at the

following dates and times:

- February 6, Salt Spring Island Community Services Food Bank, 268 Fulford-Ganges Road, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- February 7, Mrs. Clean Laundromat, Gasoline Alley, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- February 8, Fulford Inn, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The interview locations were chosen based on accessibility and privacy.

SSICS is asking the public for donations of toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, hats, gloves, scarves and ferry tickets that can be distributed during the count.

For more information, contact Ragnhild Flakstad at 537-9176.

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## RANTS & ROSES

### ROSES

A big thank you to Calum Ceyssens for coming up with the oh-so-perfect name of "Fritz Bitz" for our new snacks — they're doing great! The Fritz Movie Theatre

A rose to Rex and Amanda for allowing us to leave our van in their yard two weeks ago when the snow hit. R&T

Roses grown with pride and humility on Salt Spring to Sheila Harrington for reminding us all (through her January 17 Driftwood Viewpoint piece) that the only possible path to peace on our planet is to love all our neighbours as ourselves. Alexandra Bell

To all the hydro workers who got the electricity back on as soon as possible during our many winter storms — thanks — and expect a real bouquet of fragrant roses delivered to your office in June.

Thanks and bundles of

roses to the great islanders at Christmas who helped or gave to people they didn't even know. That spreads the true meaning of Christmas.

To Dori — a dozen long stemmed dusty roses for your hard work in making our work environment a brighter and sweeter place to be. GL and DA

Car loads and truck loads of roses to all the kind people who picked up hitch-hikers in the recent snowstorm and took them safely to work. Carol and Lynda

Warm and fragrant arctic roses to the nice man who rescued my dog from the freezing waters of the swamp. Love, "Buddy"

A rose (with thorns) to the Ganges fire hall for not playing those painfully loud, distorted Christmas tunes at top volume (no matter what they say). This constitutes auditory assault. It is such a great relief when they finally turn it down, or off. You people are wonderful. This awful noise is not. L. Hamilton and R. Wilson

250 roses to GVM for the \$250 of free gas I won in your draw. Extra blooms for purchasing raffle prizes from local businesses. Karen Hudson

Oodles of roses to Sam L. for all of his kindness and for not being upset when I dented his car, with my head, as it broke my fall at the Lions Hall on Friday the 19th. An ambulance full of roses to the greatest EMTs (Nancy and Catherine) for their expert and gentle care. Bunches and bunches to Dr. Barclay for coming to the hospital to oversee my care. And bouquets of roses to Gail and Sharon in the ER too. And roses to the universe for all the prayers said, because my neck wasn't broken!

Roses for Maggie Ramsey and Jake Watt, who rescued a young man, wet and cold in the wee hours of a cold winter morning, took him in and gave him coffee and a hot shower, while he waited for a ride home. He won't forget the kindness.

## What's for Dinner?

### Shopping list:

- Fine oatmeal
- Brown or green lentils
- 1 large onion
- Cooking oil
- 2 large carrots
- Mushrooms
- Black pepper
- Dried coriander
- Mace
- Nutmeg
- Soy Sauce
- One small can kidney beans
- Garlic
- Margarine
- Ground almonds or ground flax seed
- Vegetable bouillon



### THE GANGES VILLAGE MARKET **VEGETARIAN HAGGIS** Short cuts to cooking for one or two @ with Sarah Lynn, 2007

How to honor the immortal memory of Robbie Burns without sacrificing your vegetarian guests' principles. Robert Burns is Scotland's best-loved bard and Burns Suppers have been held in his honor for over 200 years. He may not have been the original but he was the epitome of the rake and roving boy. Men love him openly, women less so openly - but love him as much. His was a life unfettered by convention. Burns begins his "Address To A Haggis": "Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face, Great chieftain o' the puddin'-race! Aboon them a' ye tak your place, Painch, tripe or thairm: Weel are ye wordy of a grace As lang's my arm. The groaning trencher there ye fill, Your hurdies like a distant hill, Your pin was help to mend a mill In time o' need, While thro' your pores the dews distil Like amber bead." Think on it. Therein is a lust for life and social justice and a love of good food and a recognition of human creativity. Haggis is made from offal, what the Scots call 'pluck': heart, liver and lungs. Suet, oatmeal and onion are also a part of the 'puddin' which is encased in a sheep's stomach to make ... a sausage. Though a once-a-year-thing now (served as the centerpiece of traditional Burns Night suppers, held each year on January 25, washed down with whisky-no "e" in the Scottish 'water-of-life'), it was a staple of the impoverished Scottish crofters' diet, eaten at least once a week. Burns' love of and respect for those outside of the main is part of my motivation for developing a vegetarian version of haggis. I may get told off by some for making vegetarian haggis. They may even consider it a sin against humanity to do this recipe. But remember, if you have 30 people coming to a Robbie Burns Night, up to half of them may be vegetarian. They're not going to survive on just the whisky and the 'neaps and tatties' alone. Robbie would have respected them. So do I.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Put **1/2 cup fine oatmeal** in a bowl and cover with water. Let it stand for at least an hour. Drain thoroughly. Place **1/2 cup of brown or green lentils** in a pan of water to cover and boil rapidly for 20 - 30 minutes or until soft (the time will vary according to the type of lentils). When the lentils are ready, drain and rinse them in a sieve. Sauté **1 large onion, chopped** in **1 tablespoon vegetable oil** until it is soft. Add **2 large carrots, finely grated, 4 to 6 mushrooms, sliced, 1 teaspoon ground black pepper, 1 teaspoon ground dried coriander, 1 teaspoon mace, 1 teaspoon nutmeg, & 1 tablespoon soy sauce**. Mash **1 small can of drained kidney beans, 2 cloves of garlic, finely minced, salt and pepper to taste, & 1 tablespoon margarine**. Finally, combine the drained oatmeal, with **1/2 cup ground almonds or ground flax seed, 1 vegetable bouillon cube & cracked black pepper**. Mix well. Mold with your hands into a loaf shape, transfer to an ovenproof dish and cover with aluminum foil. Bake for 30 to 40 minutes. Let stand for five minutes before serving.

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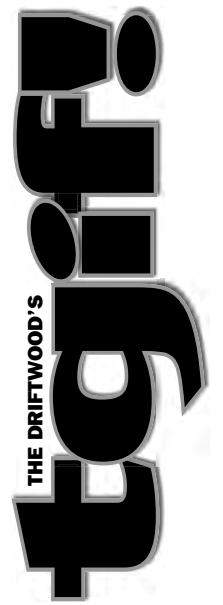
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**ON STAGE COUNSELLING:** April Mackey (left), Vivien Simic (centre) and Pandora Morgan perform in a scene from *Metamorphoses* in which Phaeton (Morgan) receives psycho-analytical counselling (from Mackey) for the abandonment issues and sense of entitlement she has regarding her relationship with her father, Apollo (Simic).

Photo by John Cameron

## Gifted GISS students transform hearts in acting extravaganza

By MITCHELL SHERRIN  
Driftwood Contributor

Full-house audiences were awed by divine performances at ArtSpring when a pantheon of students from Gulf Islands Secondary School's (GISS) Acting 11/12 class unveiled their productions of *Metamorphoses* and *Us and Them* last weekend.

Largely student directed and produced by GISS drama class members, muses smiled upon the two productions guided by GISS teacher Jason Donaldson, which displayed the Orphic skill of participant student talents.

During *Us and Them*, a pod of some 13 students portrayed how groups can become antipathetic and suspicious of each other when they allow thoughts of division to germinate within a community.

After building a wall of blocks between each other, the two groups both speculated on their counterparts with skillfully executed overlapping and mirrored dialogue.

"They could be doing anything behind that wall," one member speculated.

The mature play narrated by Sarah Lemky offered thoughtful commentary on the divisive mindset that seems always ready to take

hold of a community. And, since the ensemble cast portrayed such a unified everyman voice, it might even serve as a lesson for those islanders who might form in groups to oppose perceived threats to social order and common decency.

Led into madness by their leaders (Kyla McColm and Jordan Robinson), the story wrapped up with a battle scene effectively lit by a retinal-frying strobe effect (courtesy of tech wizard Marv Coulthard).

Following *Us and Them*, some 27 thespians came together to craft a glittering constellation of Greek myths linked under the theme of transformation for Mary Zimmerman's clever adaptation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*.

Highlights among the heroic vignettes, Lowell Rockliffe portrayed a tragic Midas who freezes his delightful daughter (portrayed with brilliant physical comedy by Kyla Tuttle) after he is bestowed a wish by Bacchus (Alex Corley, who added cynical charm).

Deserving praise for confident workmanship of character roles, Bonn Smith and Dejan Loyola camped it up as various demigod duos (Smith's Dionysian drunk

Silenus was particularly spectacular, as was Loyola's eye-rolling Hermes).

And Sarah Penhale barely restrained her prodigious acting gifts within solid supporting roles such as the Midas-tale narrator.

Utilizing her gifted dancing skills, Patrice Bowler created a memorable role as "Hunger" when she entwined a god-offending pragmatist (Joel Eddington).

And Helena Bryn-McLeod and Dan Millerd offered a sample of engaging and honest beautiful romance with their rendition of the classically ill-fated Ceyx and Alcyone.

Jordan Roper displayed his generous comic talent in a madcap farcical romance where he donned numerous costumes in order to woo a coy nymph (Dani Rainsford).

And Ruby Black explored disturbing territory in a tale about a young woman bewitched by Aphrodite (Halley Fulford) who seduces her father (international student Markus Schaible).

Also of note was the delightful tone set by Tsun Tsang, who narrated the tale of Eros and Psyche with complementary tenderness and detachment.

While Tsang's narrative

cohort muses that, "Hardly any one of these stories ends happily,"

"This one is different," Tsang said sagaciously.

Unquestionably, Pandora Morgan stole the show with a modern adaptation of the Phaeton myth (son of god Phoebus Apollo tries to ride the solar chariot but loses control and sets the Earth on fire).

She turned the story on its head as a bikini-clad debutante who recounts how she crashed her dad's car.

"Give me the keys to your car. I want to drive it myself across the sky. It's my turn. You promised," she pouted.

Following a coda where Midas (Rockliffe) atoned for his avarice and freed his daughter (Simpson), the show ended to roars of approval with a spontaneous standing ovation.

The remarkable collective undertaking of the two plays was well deserving of praise.

For those remarkably talented acting students who are graduating this year, let's hope they continue performing. And for those younger students who continue to study theatre at GISS, thankfully we can look forward to a Ceres-blessed crop of divine future productions.

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# Newman night rings out with community spirit

By **ANDREA RABINOVITCH**  
Driftwood Staff

Last Saturday, over 100 people gathered in Mahon Hall to celebrate, honour and roast Virginia Newman and the Newman clan on the occasion of her 84<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Virginia was definitely surprised as she was captured with her daughters Sue, Amy Newman of Vancouver/Wells and Wendy Keeping of Ladner, and grandchildren Patrice and Lauren Bowler.

They never made it to the Golden Island for a celebratory supper, but what ensued secured Virginia as a well-loved Salt Springer with far-reaching roots in the community.

Entering the hall on a throne carried aloft by teenagers, the crowd cheered and sang a song created by event organizer Gordon Keel and played by Murray Shoolbraid. Her three daughters came trudging in encased in a cloth prison.

The hall was decorated with quilts by Sue Earle,



Virginia Newman lifts her cup as she enjoys performances at Mahon Hall at a surprise birthday event.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

paintings depicting Virginia done by Patricia Brown and Leslie Corry, and a huge quilt made by Christina Penhale commemorating the years of Scrooge becoming an island Christmas tradition.

The mother of five, who with her late husband Ray nurtured their own children and included any and all to their side, has offered gifts of music, dance, performance and peace activism. It was time for the community to give back.

Starting with an expanded Spotty Dog sequence, always a favourite in Scrooge, doggies, large and small, performed their tricks with aplomb.

Andrea Rankin and Al Robertson next sang a song honouring the recipient.

The Raging Grannies rapped favourite sayings of Virginia, an original Raging Granny, and told tales of her attempt to get them to sing on key.

Shilo Zylbergold, in character as the irrepressible Ghost of Hanukah Past Spiegelbaum, wrote a great comic skit with wife Jane Goodall as the perfect

straight woman.

Spiegelbaum enters psychiatrist Dr. Dolittle's office to unload about his recurring nightmare. Having to sing endless scales and performing night after night were bringing back post-traumatic stress syndrome in the poor fellow. Though not totally cured, he left the office leaving Dr. Dolittle the unfortunate task of curing her next patient: Mr. Fezziwig.

Bob Twaites bound on stage as judge and jury in the trial of Virginia Newman. Turning all her many attributes into crimes created funny opportunities for Twaites, sons Owen and James, neighbour and fellow Scrooger Gail Kent, Scoop Hack (Mitchell Sherrin) of the Muckraker (the Driftwood) who'd gathered comments from the attendees, and Patrick Cassidy (long-time Scrooge and/or Cratchett) to roast her.

The most touching tribute of the evening was by Hetty Clews, who told the story of Virginia discussing the state of the world and destruction of the environment to a group in Hetty's home.

A young girl was quietly sitting, her eyes becoming more and more distressed. Virginia reached down and said, "Now don't you worry. We're going to be doing something about that."

Two songs by Howard Kliaman, whose huge voice filled the hall, and one by Zylbergold, provided added entertainment.

And of course no Newman gathering would be complete without dancing and food. Led by Monik Nordine, Swing Shift played, Sue sang, dancers danced, the crowd dipped into the potluck, four year olds talked to 40 year olds, 50 year olds danced with 18 year olds, everyone laughed, and left the building with the same feeling one gets being around Virginia Newman: happy and inspired.



LOVE SHOW: Delton Woolcock is seen with some of his artwork now on display at ArtSpring.

Photo by Stacy Cardigan Smith

## Love of life and painting bursts through exhibit

By **STACY CARDIGAN SMITH**  
Driftwood Staff

The perseverance and determination of Salt Spring painter Delton Woolcock is on display at ArtSpring with his collection called "Love" showing until the end of January.

The exhibit, which Woolcock said has been in the works for "a few years," is of varied themes: nature, space, cultural heritage and finances. Many of the paintings are abstract, but some are highly structured, using thick borders in primary colours and featuring heavy brush strokes.

Not all the work is painted on canvas. Woolcock sometimes uses cardboard and wood — basically whatever he has available to him at the time.

"Art isn't cheap [to create] anymore," he said with a smile.

Woolcock speaks shyly about a car accident that, at age 16, left him in a three-week coma. A friend of a friend, basically a stranger, he said, sat by him throughout those weeks.

He credits this person for saving his life.

"She pulled me back . . . I was quite fortunate because I had a miracle. God showed me that there was something special on earth, which is love, which is what this show is about," he said.

At 37, Woolcock continues to suffer headaches as a result of the injury.

"Perseverance is very important," he said of his art. The phrase can also be seen to encapsulate his life.

Born in Jamaica, he was adopted by a Canadian family at the age of seven and moved to Ontario. He has been living on the West Coast for 17 years and on Salt Spring for four.

Woolcock is proud of his Jamaican heritage, but feels at peace on the island.

"I'm pioneering a whole new life," he said.

Nonetheless, his heritage comes through strongly in his Money Art Collectable series. These pieces feature real money pasted onto canvases bordered by the colours of the Jamaican flag: red, green and yellow.

Although this collection features Canadian and American money, he would like to see it taken further, and believes it has the potential to encourage economic and cultural discussion.

"You can view your currency and talk about it," he said.

But more than anything, Woolcock paints because he enjoys it.

"I try to teach myself [that] 'I paint for the love of painting,'" he said.

Woolcock is basically self-taught, not having taken a lesson since high school art class. But although he has maintained his enthusiasm, he realizes not every artist has that ability.

"Starving artists and new artists really need people to purchase art so it will encourage artists to continue making art," said Woolcock.

That is also why he has combined his work with that of Ethan Marcano, whose impressive, detailed and colourful works in oil also hang at the arts centre until the end of the month.

"My plan was to create shows and go through to other galleries," said Woolcock. However, this has yet to happen.

Woolcock said purchase prices of his pieces are negotiable. For more information, contact the artist at 538-8073.

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GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD

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S	Star	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30			
257	308	CBC	Frasier	JFL:Gags	Hockey All-Star Game NHL					News	MarketP.	the fifth estate		News: The National		The Hour				
120	702	SRC	La fosse aux lionnes	Kif-kif	Union	Journal	Téléj.	Virginie	L'Épicerie	Match-étoiles		Enjeux		Le Téléjournal		Journal	Mélie			
268	354	KNOW	Dora	40LittleB.	George	Arthur	Mechanics	Kratts' C	Polar Sky	Arctic Mission		Warnings From Wild		We Built This City		Scatter.	Dotto			
400	400	TSN	Basketball NBA New Orleans/Ok. City vs Toronto							Tennis Australian Open				Paint. Championships		Sportscentre				
255	358	CH	Days of Our Lives		CH News		News	Vanity	Malcolm	Queens	In Case		Torque (2004) Ice Cube.		News					
7		OMNI	7th Heaven		HappyD.	F.House	F.House	Malcolm	Reba	Acc.Jim	Friends	Raymond	Standard	Diya	Promised Land		It's a New Day			
251	336	GBLBC	Oprah Winfrey		News	National		News	ET	ET Can.	Bones			Global Currents		News				
250	321	CTVBC	Tyra Banks Show		CTV News		News	eTalk	Access	American Idol				CSI: NY		News	News			
10	254	M	Chai	Extra	Law & Order: C.I.	Simpsons	King Hill	Law & Order: S.V.U.		Cantonese News		News	News	Scrubs	Simpsons	SouthPk	Late Sh.			
256	389	A-VIC	Daily	Inside Ed.	A Channel News at 5		Report	Fortune	Jeopardy	The Dead Zone				Fancy Dancing (2002) Jason Priestley.		News	:35 Daily			
253	359	CITY	CityLine		Ellen DeGeneres	Daily	CityNews	Inside	Friends	Beauty & Geek				End of Days (1999) Arnold Schwarzenegger.						
14		KSTW	Reba	Reba	WifeKids	WifeKids	'70s	'70s	Queens	Queens	Beauty & Geek			One Tree Hill	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	SouthPk	SouthPk		
290	382	KCPQ	Judge Greg Mathis		King Hill	King Hill	Simpsons	Malcolm		American Idol				Q-13 News		Simpsons	Scrubs			
288	380	KOMO	First News @ 4		News	News	News		Fortune	Jeopardy	G. Lopez	Acc.Jim	Knights	In Case	Primetime: Medical		News	:35 News		
287	379	KING	Oprah Winfrey		KING 5 News		News	News	Magazine	Inside Ed.	Friday Night Lights			Deal or No Deal	Medium		News	:35J. Leno		
291	383	KCTS	Arthur	C.George	Clifford	Business		News	Steves'	Oregon	Oprah's Roots			Great Performances at the Met (P)		Served?		News		
502	390	NEWS	News: Canada Now		The Hour		News: The National		News: The National		News: The National			News: The National	Wild Canada		News: The National			
289	381	KIRO	Judy	Judy	News	News	News		ET	Access	Armed & Famous			Criminal Minds	CSI: NY		News	Late Sh.		
552	543	YTV	Phantom	Avatar	Parents	Sponge	Being Ian	Adrenalini	Sabrina	Malcolm	Fresh P.	Weird		15/ Love	Family	:05 Prank	BobMarg	Madison	:3510 Best	
407	419	RSP	Miller TV	Poker Monte Carlo	Pratt & Taylor		Connect.	Poker World Heads Up		Ultimate Fighter 2				B.D. Sports Show	SN Connected		SN Connected			
520	505	DISC	Daily Planet		Perfect Disaster		Dangerous Survival		Myth Busters	Daily Planet				Myth Busters	Sago Mine Expl.		Dangerous Survival			
324	632	EA1	Movie	The Devil's Advocate (1997)	Keanu Reeves.		The Devil's Own (1997) Brad Pitt.		The Devil's Own (1997) Brad Pitt.					True Confessions	Robert De Niro.		The Void			
615	520	A&E	CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami					The Sopranos			The Sopranos		Bounty	
557	541	FAM	:15 Proud	:40Recess	:05 Kim P.	Suite Life	L.Time	Darcy	So Raven	Smart G.	8 Rules	Derek		Sinbad	Bonnie		Popular		8 Rules	Derek
42	539	TCM	:25The Greatest ...		The Heroes of Telemark (1965) Kirk Douglas.		Detective Story (1951) Kirk Douglas.		Detective Story (1951) Kirk Douglas.					Lonely Are the Brave Kirk Douglas.			Movie			

## THIS WEEK'S MOVIES

Salt Spring Driftwood: Current: New Lineup Movie Breakout for Jan 24, 2007 to Jan 30, 2007

WEDNESDAY, JAN 24

- 29 ★★ The Devil's Own (1997, Suspense)** A young terrorist ventures to New York City and becomes the house guest of a cop. *Brad Pitt, Harrison Ford* (2h)
- 42 ★★★★★ Detective Story (1951, Crime Story)** A tough police detective goes after an illegal abortionist who had helped his wife. *Kirk Douglas, Eleanor Parker* (2h)
- 6 ★ Torque (2004, Action)** A biker tries to clear his name after a rival gang leader frames him for murder. *Ice Cube, Martin Henderson* (2h)
- 12 ★ Fancy Dancing (2002, Drama)** A dreamer has to get a job in order to keep his visiting rights with his son. *Jason Priestley, Tanya Allen* (2h)
- 13 ★★ End of Days (1999, Action)** A New York alcoholic bodyguard must protect an innocent woman from becoming Satan's bride. *Arnold Schwarzenegger, Gabriel Byrne* (3h35)
- 29 ★★ True Confessions (1981, Crime Story)** Two brothers, one a priest and one a detective, are drawn together by a brutal homicide. *Robert De Niro, Robert Duvall* (2h)

9:30 PM

- 42 ★★ Lonely Are the Brave (1962, Western)** A cowboy escapes from jail and is then hunted down by a number of people. *Kirk Douglas, Gena Rowlands* (2h)

11:00 PM

- 29 ★ The Void (2001, Sci-Fi)** A group of scientists inadvertently create a black hole that threatens the world. *Adrian Paul, Malcolm McDowell* (1h35)

11:30 PM

- 42 ★★ The Big Carnival (1951, Drama)** A reporter smells a come-back opportunity when a miner is trapped in a cave-in. *Kirk Douglas, Jan Sterling* (2h)

THURSDAY, JAN 25

- 29 ★★ Frantic (1988, Drama)** An American doctor finds it impossible to find help when his wife disappears in Paris. *Betty Buckley, Harrison Ford* (2h)
- 42 ★★ Summer Stock (1950, Musical)** Romance is in the air as a theater group takes over a farm to put together a production. *Judy Garland, Gene Kelly* (2h)

9:00 PM

- 12 ★★ Head Over Heels (2000, Comedy)** A young woman thinks she has found the perfect guy, until she suspects him of murder. *Freddie Prinze Jr, Monica Potter* (2h)
- 29 ★★★★★ Mean Streets (1973, Crime Story)** A small-time crook and his three friends commiserate in New York City's Little Italy. *Robert De Niro, Harvey Keitel* (2h)
- 42 ★★ The Harvey Girls (1946, Musical)** A group of proper young waitresses help to civilize rowdy communities of the Wild West. *Judy Garland, John Hodiak* (1h45)

10:45 PM

- 42 ★★ Yolanda and the Thief (1945, Musical)** A con artist tries to convince a rich convent-bred girl that he is her guardian angel. *Fred Astaire, Lucille Bremer* (2h)

11:00 PM

- 29 ★★ Spanking the Monkey (1994, Comedy/Drama)** A young man goes home to take care of his mother and her broken leg. *Jeremy Davies, Alberta Watson* (2h)

FRIDAY, JAN 26

- 29 ★★ Presumed Innocent (1990, Crime Story)** A lawyer finds himself tried for murder when a victim is identified as his mistress. *Harrison Ford, Brian Dennehy* (2h15)
- 42 ★★★★★ An American in Paris (1951, Musical)** An ex-GI stays in Paris to pursue a career as an artist and to romance women. *Gene Kelly, Leslie Caron* (2h)

7:30 PM

- 69 Honey, We Shrank Ourselves (1997, Comedy)** An absent-minded inventor gets into trouble when he uses his shrink machine one more time. *Rick Moranis, Amy O'Neill* (1h30)

9:00 PM

- 12 ★★ Big Daddy (1999, Comedy)** An irresponsible bachelor's life is altered when he ends up taking care of a little boy. *Adam Sandler, Joey Lauren Adams* (2h)
- 69 ★★ Phenomenon (1996, Drama)** When struck by a bolt of light, a small-town mechanic is transformed into a genius. *John Travolta, Kyra Sedgwick* (2h)
- 42 ★★ To Paris With Love (1955, Comedy)** Middle aged widower and son try to marry each other off while in Paris. *Alec Guinness, Odile Versois* (2h)

9:15 PM

- 29 ★★ Heat (1995, Crime Story)** A detective becomes obsessed with nabbing a professional criminal and his daring crew. *Al Pacino, Robert De Niro* (3h)

10:00 PM

- 19 ★★★★★ Witness for the Prosecution (1957, Mystery)** A skillful lawyer takes on a murder case and finds a maze of deceit and murder. *Tyrone Power, Charles Laughton* (2h)

11:00 PM

- 69 ★★ The Even Stevens Movie (2003, Family)** The Stevens win a fabulous trip, unaware that they are the subject of a reality TV show. *Shia LaBeouf, Christy Carlson Romano* (1h35)
- 42 ★ Billy the Kid vs. Dracula (1966, Horror)** When Dracula arrives in the wild west, Billy the Kid straps on his six-guns to do battle. *Chuck Courtney, John Carradine* (1h30)

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## Salt Spring Island

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**2** Get your Smile Card from the group(s) you want to support

**3** Load your Smile Card and use it to pay for your purchases

**4** Group receives 5% of accumulated funds

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S - Salt Spring Island		ExpressVu		StarChoice		Weekday DAYTIME JANUARY 24 TO JANUARY 30												
S	Star	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	
257	308	CBC	C.George	Various	Poko	Various	Zooob	Doodle.	Gill Deacon Show	News		Living	Dinner?	Gill Deacon Show	Various	Miracles		
120	702	SRC	Le Téléjournal/ Mat.		Ma vie en mains		Droit au coeur		Ricardo	Au coeur	Journal	Au coeur	Variées	La firme de Boston	4 et demi...			
268	354	KNOW	Hi-5/25 Berenstain		MagicB.	Various	:10Padding.	Mustard	Various	Scatter.	Various	Various	Various	Gaslight	Various	Various	:40Peep	
400	400	TSN	Sportscentre		Off Rec	Various	Various	M Stihl	Various	Various	Various	Friday Night Fights		Madden	Interrupt	Off Rec	SportsC	
255	358	CH	Grow	Various	Oprah Winfrey		Price Is Right/ Mullally	Young & Restless	News	Divas	Homes			The Guiding Light	Grow	Design		
7		OMNI	Various	Various	Various	Various	People	First Talk	Kung Fu: Legend	World Vision		Robinson	B.Hinn	It's a New Day	SaveBell	SaveBell		
251	336	GBLBC	:00 News		100 Huntley Street		World Vision		Judy	House	News			As the World Turns	Passions	Young & Restless		
250	321	CTVBC	:30 Canada AM		Regis & Kelly		The View		eTalk	Various	Degrassi	Bold & B.	Sue Thomas	General Hospital	Dr. Phil			
10	254	M	News	Various	Various	M Africa	Various	Various	Yoga	Various	The People's Court	Various	F Tai Chi	Various	Mangovib	Maury		
256	389	A-VIC	M Kool	Report	CityLine		Movie TV	Careers	Ellen DeGeneres	All My Children	One Life to Live			Touched By Angel	Dotto	Various		
253	359	CITY	:00 Breakfast TV		Various	Cooks	969		W CityNews/CityL.	Million?	Various			Various	Rachael Ray Show			
14		KSTW	The Daily Buzz		The 700 Club		Divorce	Divorce	Brown	Brown	The People's Court	Alex	Alex	The People's Court	Like You	Like You		
290	382	KCPQ	:50 Q13 Fox News		Judge Greg Mathis		Cristina	Cristina	SaveBell	Videos	Mauri	Greg Behrendt		Jerry Springer	Mauri			
288	380	KOMO	:00 Morning Am.		Regis & Kelly		The View		KOMO 4 News	All My Children	One Life to Live			General Hospital	Northwest			
287	379	KING	:00 Today Show		Today Show II		Tyra Banks/ Martha		Ellen DeGeneres	News	Days of Our Lives			Passions	Dr. Phil			
291	383	KCTS	C.George	Clifford	DragonT.	Big World	Sesame Street		B.Lions	Barney	T.Kitchen	Art Food	K.Brown	Paint	Reading	Zooob	Cyberch.	Maya&M.
502	390	NEWS	CBC News: Today		News		CBC News: Today		CBC News: ? Period	CBC News: Today	CBC News: Today	CBC News: Today	CBC News: Today	CBC News: Politics	News	Business		
289	381	KIRO	The Early Show		Montel Williams		The Price Is Right		Young & Restless	News	Bold & B.	As the World Turns		The Guiding Light	Rachael Ray Show			
552	543	YTV	L.Town	Winx	Various	:50Brothers	:15George	:40 Jane	:05 Pippi	L.Town	Various	Various	Various	:45 Stickin'	:10 Jacob	Flamingo	Martin	Various
407	419	RSP	SN Connected		SN Connected		SN Connected		SN Connected	Various	Various	Various	F NBA Act.	B.D. Sports Show	Prime Time/ Pratt			
520	505	DISC	Various	M.H.Made	Daily Planet		Various		Various	Various	Various	Various		Various	H.Made	Various	Various	
324	632	EA1	Various Movies		Various Movies		Various Movies		Various Movies		Various Movies			Various Movies				
615	520	A&E	W CSI: Miami / 24		W CSI: Miami/City C.		W CSI: Miami/Justice		W CSI: Miami/Case	CSI: Miami/ Jordan	CSI: Miami			W CSI: Miami / 24		W CSI: Miami/City C.		
557	541	FAM	:15 Lilo	:45Einstein	:10W.Pooh	Big Blue	JoJo's	Various	:25 King	:45Recess	:10 Kim P.	Weekndrs	Various	:45 Lilo	:10Fillmore	:35 Proud	Various	:50Barbarian
42	539	TCM	Various Movies		Various Movies		Various Movies		Various Movies		Various Movies			Various Movies				

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Table with columns for time slots (4:00-11:30) and channels (S, 257, 120, 268, 400, 255, 7, 251, 250, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 29, 31, 33, 39, 42). Rows list programs like Frasier, Simpsons, News, and various movies.

Table for SATURDAY, JAN 27 with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and channels (29, 16, 6, 18, 29, 42, 39, 3, 10, 42, 29, 11, 22, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42). Rows list programs like The Fugitive, The Spy Who Came in From the Cold, Catch Me If You Can, etc.

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Table with columns for time slots (4:00-11:30) and channels (S, 257, 120, 268, 400, 255, 7, 251, 250, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 29, 31, 33, 39, 42). Rows list programs like Frasier, Simpsons, News, and various movies.

Table for SUNDAY, JAN 28 with columns for time slots (6:00-11:30) and channels (22, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42). Rows list programs like Big (1988), The Quiet American, etc.

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Table with columns for time slots (8:00-3:30) and channels (S, 257, 120, 268, 400, 255, 7, 251, 250, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 29, 31, 33, 39, 42). Rows list programs like Zorro, World of George, etc.

Table for MONDAY, JAN 29 with columns for time slots (6:30-11:30) and channels (12, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42). Rows list programs like Freaks (1932), The Frisco Kid, etc.

Table with columns for time slots (4:00-11:30) and channels (S, 257, 120, 268, 400, 255, 7, 251, 250, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 29, 31, 33, 39, 42). Rows list programs like Hockey NHL, Lassie, etc.

Table for TUESDAY, JAN 30 with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and channels (29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42, 29, 11, 42). Rows list programs like White Tiger, Shane, etc.



**LOVE OF MUSIC:** Dorothy Cutting is among the fans purchasing music from singer Ben Heppner at a special concert at ArtSpring Sunday evening.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

# Heppner gives heart's pleasure

By JIM ERICKSON  
Special to the Driftwood

At ArtSpring Sunday evening, not only did the timbers shiver, but the plaster cracked and plate glass shattered.

Our hearts were massaged and all that is good about the world was embodied in the two robust, rotund and utterly romantic performers in our small but enchanted theatre.

The two of them bounced out of the wings smiling as if they had been goosed by the stage manager. The one sat at the piano, flipped up his tux tails and adjusted his music. The other adjusted himself into the bow of the piano, placed his right hand on it and they began.

First the piano tinkled a bit, then the voice, more than sound, more than physics, richer than gold and more subtle than the moon whirled us into an evening of matchless beauty few of us have ever witnessed and fewer of us will ever see again.

From the simplest Britten folk song arrangements through a Be My Love that could teach Mario Lanza a thing or two, into the



**MUSICAL GREATS:** Young Salt Spring violinists — Sarah Lundy, Heather Munro, Fiona Munro and Keziah Weir — are seen with Ben Heppner before a performance on Sunday at ArtSpring.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

grandest of opera hall arias — Wagner's Winterstürmchen wichen dem Wonnemond from de Walküre — we were treated to the best of the best and the wondrous of the wonderful: power, passion and performance.

Ben Heppner doesn't have to do this. There are few art-

ists of his stature who will drive through winter weather to perform for 300 people in Dawson Creek or Prince George. Few will get on a float plane to play Salt Spring Island and have to leave on the 6:30 a.m. Long Harbour ferry the next morning. This is our good fortune and I am

sure his great pleasure.

In Mr. Heppner I see a man whose heart is so big that it can't be contained.

He must sing, he must share. Often he is simply standing with hands on his chest. He then will gesture as if passing his heart's pleasure to us. It is his pleasure of our pleasure that makes him the artist and more importantly the man he is.

I now have an image of Ben Heppner different than one of him on the great stages of the world surrounded by huge sets and huge orchestras.

It is of him in the second encore, standing the with eyes closed, sweat glistening on his forehead, as he sang the simplest and most heartfelt version of Roses of Picardy. It is not sweet or maudlin, not forced or acted; it is simply sung from the heart.

ArtSpring is to be commended for this memorable evening. The champagne reception, the art provided by Pegasus Gallery and the charming young string ensemble were classy and elegant. Bravo.

## More than 100 expected for Scottish dance fling

This is the time of the year for the traditional haggis, whisky and Scottish dancing as the Scots celebrate the life of Robert Burns.

This coming Saturday at Fulford Hall will see the Salt Spring Island Scottish Dance Club members and friends having a fling.

"Scottish dancing is for the mind and body one of the best forms of exercise and friendship," states a club press release.

"It is danced all over the world with a huge fraternity. Any dancer can travel with their dance shoes and join in with the local clubs when they travel on holidays. The club is exceptionally fortunate to have instructors who have danced around the world, and who bring their experience to the local club."

This Saturday, after the traditional supper of haggis and roast beef, the different toasts will be performed, recognizing the poetry and songs of the famous Robert Burns.

He was from Ayrshire in Scotland and

died in 1796. Instructor Monica Roots and husband Walter from Galiano Island will lead the evening dance with over 100 people expected at the event.

Wes Clindinning is another instructor with the club who comes from Parksville, as well as Una Lennam from Victoria.

These three instructors have danced and given classes all over the world.

Gail Sibley and Richard Bennett are the local instructors who at present are taking their certification.

For one member of the club, Laura Moore, it is a special event as she is able to dance again after a hip replacement just under two years ago.

Prior to the operation she could only walk the slower dances, but now is back on her toes and dancing up a storm.

A few tickets are available through Rosalind Hope at 537-9997.

The club welcomes new members to the next session, which begins on Monday, February 5 at 6 p.m. in the upper hall of All Saints By-the-Sea.

## Sala Hantle takes centre stage

Salt Spring Island residents Anna Callegari and Beth Gessinger only have one thing to do before setting off on their 11-week Sala Hantle (Stay Well) Africa campaign: throw a party.

Well, maybe they're a little busier finalizing details for a journey that will take them to rural clinics, orphanages and schools in four sub-Saharan African countries, but Friday night at Moby's will be Salt Springers' last chance to bid them farewell.

"We hope to see lots of friends from the community," Callegari said. "Everyone has been very supportive."

To date, the pair have raised almost half of their targeted \$52,000 since

fundraising efforts began in November. Money collected will help support grassroots projects developed by local professionals working in Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and Lesotho.

"This will be a great opportunity because all the proceeds will be hand delivered," Callegari said.

Projects will help support victims living in areas with some of the world's highest rates of HIV and AIDS.

The Friday night event will feature a table with detailed information about the projects and give participants the chance to chat with Callegari and Gessinger about previous trips to Africa.

To keep things moving, the band called Hey Boy, Hey Girl, featuring Stepha-

nie Rhodes, Tom Hooper, Matt Johnson and Dave Campbell, will hit the stage at 9 p.m.

Callegari said people don't need to worry about making their contributions before the pair leave the island since donations will be accepted at the SOLID office in Ganges during and well after their return.

Callegari said she hopes people will keep up to date with the journey by visiting the SOLID website at [www.solidssaltspring.com](http://www.solidssaltspring.com).

"These people are our family and our neighbours," she said.

"We must take on the mandate that their lives are important."

Tax receipts for donations are available upon request.

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**DATE & TIME**

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**DATE & TIME**

Saturday, February 3rd 2006

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# emergency RESPONSE

This special section provides emergency related stories, tips and advice

## Young employees face greater work risks



**YOUTH ON THE JOB:** Kirstin Flannagan works safely stocking shelves at Thrifty Foods on Salt Spring. Young workers are more at risk for injury in the workplace, according to WorkSafe B.C. Photo by Derrick Lundy

By MITCHELL SHERRIN  
Driftwood Contributor

Thanks to a booming economy, a local labour shortage and changes to B.C. employment regulations, island employers might find themselves looking to hire younger workers.

But young employees pose additional considerations to maintaining a safe workplace.

Young workers are more at risk of injury than any other type of employee in B.C. And, according to WorkSafe B.C. (the Workers Compensation Board of B.C.), males under age 25 are at the highest risk for injury in the province (about 33 per cent higher).

The average injury rate per 100 full-time B.C. employees was 3.1 in 2005, but young males (aged 15-24) were injured at a rate of 5.2 during that same year. This means one in every 21 young men were hurt on the job in B.C.

More than half of workplace accidents involving workers aged 15 to 24 occur during the first six months on the job. And almost 20

per cent occur during the first month on the job.

And these employees were not working in mines or forests. The three most common job sites for injured young workers were restaurants, supermarkets and retail stores.

WorkSafe B.C. small business manager Terri Holizki urges employers to invest a little more time and energy to protect young workers. She encourages employers to focus efforts in three areas: initial orientation, job training and on-going supervision.

"You have to have the proper orientation to the workplace, to the job they are doing and to the particular work site [if workers move to different locations]."

Young workers also need extra safety training because they lack general experience, Holizki noted.

Additionally, young workers aim to please, which might prevent them from reporting unsafe practices and young males have "a sense of invincibility," she said.

**YOUTHS AT RISK 19**

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<b>WATER</b>	<b>DRIED INSTANT FOODS</b>
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4L Bottles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crackers
<b>CANNED FOODS</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Powdered Milk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meats	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soups
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candies/Jellies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vegetables	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peanut Butter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beans	<b>BASICS</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Milk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Batteries
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Juice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candles
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soup	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Can Openers
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matches
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pet Foods
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal Toiletries

*Inspect your kit periodically and replace outdated items*

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## Staying safe at work

Few people consider the likelihood of getting injured at work, especially if they are employed in a relatively "safe" sector such as retail, restaurants or accommodations.

But statistics from WorkSafe B.C. (the Worker's Compensation Board of B.C.) reveal that any job can present risks. In fact, the top five sectors for lost days of work and cost of claims for 2005 were:

- 1.) construction (339,000 days lost and \$109.5 million in claims)
- 2.) health care/social assistance (313,000 days lost and \$53.5 million in claims)
- 3.) transportation (250,000 days lost and \$74.6 million in claims)
- 4.) retail (216,000 days lost and \$32.7 million in claims)
- 5.) accommodation/food (168,000 days lost and \$27.7 million in claims)

In 2005, some 168,000

people were injured (188 fatalities) among the 2 million workers in B.C. Statistically, men are far more likely than women to become injured (71% vs. 29%) and the average age of an injured worker is 38.9.

The most common causes for injury reports were strains (19,360), back strains (14,380), cuts (7,350), contusions (6,940) and fractures (3,940).

But the greatest causes for lost days of work were slightly different. Strains accounted for 958,000 lost days of work in B.C. and back strains caused another 568,000 lost days, but then fractures (468,000), occupational diseases (217,000) and contusions (139,000) caused the next greatest number of work disruptions.

And employers and employees should both be familiar with the occupational health and

safety (OHS) regulations that pertain to their field. In fact, employers are required to register with WorkSafe B.C. by law and employees are obliged to report unsafe work practices or conditions.

As an example of OSH regulations, all employers with two or more employees must provide a first-aid kit (different types of kits are required for different sectors and numbers of employees). Many workplaces also require first-aid attendants (even the least hazardous environment with easy hospital access requires a first-aid attendant if there are 11 or more employees on a shift).

The WorkSafe B.C. website ([www2.worksafebc.com](http://www2.worksafebc.com)) provides great information on all kinds of topics, including employee safety tips, hazard alerts, OSH first-aid requirements for each sector and a small-business-owners' primer.

## First-aid courses can help overcome mental barriers

By MITCHELL SHERRIN  
Driftwood Contributor

Without proper preparation and training a first-aid emergency can easily become overwhelming.

People often hold fears — some real and others imagined — about what to do if they must help someone who is sick or injured, said local Red Cross first-aid instructor Adam Gold.

And he finds that helping people overcome those psychological barriers by providing them with tools to successfully manage an emergency is his greatest reward as an instructor.

"Teaching these courses, it's amazing how people open up and you see how their confidence has grown at the end of the course. Knowing what to do in an emergency makes members of our community stronger in their ability to help each other."

A one-day (eight hour) emergency first-aid course would allow someone to scan a scene for hazards to rescuers; initiate the emergency medical system (EMS); assess patient responsiveness; protect vital airway, breathing and circulatory systems; and perform a secondary survey to determine a patient's medical history.

Evaluating scene safety to protect yourself and other bystanders is critical, Gold noted.

"You want to make sure that by entering the scene you are not going to make things worse by adding



Adam Gold

another casualty."

Learning how to assess, monitor and intervene to support the vital airway, breathing and circulatory systems, or ABCs, in the "primary survey" is the core of the course. This is where someone would learn artificial respiration, CPR and how to assist someone who is choking.

"You can conduct a primary survey in a minute. If the patient is conscious, you can do it in seconds," Gold said. "A secondary survey is an interview process. You talk to a person and try to figure out what is wrong."

And Gold teaches Red Cross first-aid courses for specialized groups as well. A six-hour Child Safe course places a focus on home-based emergencies with children.

"So when you find your child gets under the sink and gets into some chemicals (that you would learn shouldn't be there anyway), you've got a process so you don't get flustered and worried."

The Red Cross also offers a Level 1 work-related (eight-

hour) first-aid course that meets Worker's Compensation Board (WCB) criteria. A Standard First Aid two-day course (16 hours) goes more in depth on medical emergencies and the muscular-skeletal system.

"I enjoy getting into bandages, slings, braces and o-ring bandages. You also learn about sudden medical conditions that can arise from diabetic emergencies, sunstroke, hypothermia, poisons and emergency child birth."

Gold recently recertified himself to teach a specialized standard first-aid course designed for boaters, Marine Advanced First Aid. And his specialty is Wilderness First Aid. He teaches classes out of his home on Stewart Road and he takes full advantage of his woodland property for outdoor instruction during Wilderness First Aid classes.

"Wilderness First Aid is a three-day course designed for people who might find themselves more than 40 kilometres from a hospital. The third step in first aid is always to call 911, but in the wilderness it's not there."

He's been a certified Red Cross first-aid instructor for five years (two years on Salt Spring) and has worked as a kayak guide and YMCA program director. After completing a degree in environmental law at Trent University, he moved to the island to start a co-op organic farm.

For more information about classes, call Gold at 537-9129.

## YOUTHS MOST AT RISK

From Page 18

Research conducted for WorkSafe B.C. also discovered that young employees were more susceptible to injury because of: a lack of confidence or understanding of their rights as workers, they were asked to do more dangerous jobs, they showed an unwillingness to ask questions and they were distracted by

other things happening in their lives.

"Employers need to take that into consideration," Holitzki said.

For more information about WorkSafe B.C. initiatives to help protect young workers, check out their website ([www2.worksafebc.com](http://www2.worksafebc.com)).

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- Briquets for cooking (\* Not for indoor use)
- Lamp oil
- Containers for storing all emergency supplies
- First Aid kit - make one up with essentials (bandages, etc.)
- Canned food and can opener
- Ice salt
- Fire extinguisher
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Food for pets
- Toiletries (toothpaste to toilet paper)
- Tools - axe, shovel, hammer, screwdriver
- Plastic trash bags
- Flashlights
- First Aid book
- Essential medication
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- Candles
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**READY FOR ANYTHING:** Members of Salt Spring's coast guard auxiliary head out of Ganges Harbour in their rescue boat for a practice one sunny day last summer. The coast guard is just one of several emergency crews located on Salt Spring.  
Photo by Derrick Lundy

## B.C. burn facts released

According to the B.C. Office of the Fire Commissioner (using 1997 statistics):

- A fire causes damage in B.C. every hour.
- Someone is injured by fire in B.C. every day.
- Fire in B.C. causes approximately \$400,000 damage each day.
- Fire kills someone in B.C. every 10 days.
- Hot liquids or vapours cause 45 per cent of B.C. burn injuries.
- Fires cause 40 per cent of burn injuries in B.C.
- 43 per cent of people burned in fires are between 20 to 44 years of age.
- Children aged 1 to 14 have the second highest incidence of fire injuries.
- The majority of fire injuries occur in private dwellings.
- Flammable liquids and substances such as cooking fats and gasoline are major causes of burn injuries.
- A working smoke alarm in your home cuts your risk of dying in a fire by half.

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# Pod program spawns spirit of self-sufficiency

By SEAN MCINTYRE  
Driftwood Staff

This year's wild winter winds, rain and snow have likely left many islanders looking to their neighbours for a helping hand. Problem is, on Salt Spring neighbours aren't always within sight and the snowy streets can often leave even the most prepared residents left to their own devices.

That's where organizers of the Salt Spring Island neighbourhood pod program hope to step in.

So far it's been a long hike. "There's been a lot happening but not a lot has changed since last year," said Trevor Hutton, one of the pod program's deputy coordinators. "Different areas are at different stages."

Since 2005, organizers have done their best to create self-sufficient support networks in 50 neighbourhoods, or pods. As of early 2007, he added, three are ready to go and many more are on the way.

According to Hutton, the pods are meant to keep people in touch and reduce the burden on emergency crews once a disaster strikes.

Since a major earthquake, landslide or snowstorm has the potential to cut people off from emergency services for hours or even days, it's important neighbours band together to help each other out.

"It's essential to know who has the specialized equipment, what people's special needs are and who is available to help out," Hutton said.

Each community is led by one or two pod captains responsible for keeping track of names and addresses.

"It's important to realize they [the pod captains] are not replacing the emergency workers," Hutton said. "They're just helping coordinate things until the help arrives."

Because all the program coordinators are closely linked to the RCMP and Salt Spring Fire and Rescue, he added, signing up is a sure way to make sure you and your family are accounted for in an emergency.

As for what's involved, becoming a pod captain usually requires organizing a few

**"We've already got a great community here . . .**

**Everybody seems really positive and pretty keen to do it once they know what it's all about."**

**— Trevor Hutton**

meetings each year and keeping up to date with who's around and what skills and services neighbours can offer in an emergency.

"If you spend most of the year on the island, chances are you qualify," he said.

Pods have a tendency to begin on a street by street level and slowly expand to entire neighbourhoods as more people hear about what they're all about.

"We've already got a great community

here. People are usually involved in other things such as crime prevention programs or other neighbourhood groups," Hutton said. "Everybody seems really positive and pretty keen to do it once they know what it's all about."

Ironically, word about the pods has been slow to get out this year because of the weather. Since November, snow and rain have prevented coordinators from speaking with potential pod leaders.

"What we need is better weather," said Patricia Donnelly, the program's other deputy coordinator.

Just because progress is slow, doesn't mean the island's completed pods aren't yet effective.

As recently as last November, neighbours were able to come to the aid of a volunteer who needed a lift to the United Church

homeless shelter after heavy snows made roads impassable to all but the four-wheel-drive vehicles.

Donnelly said the group has 25 volunteers. She acknowledges any good program requires a firm commitment from all involved and that it just can't happen overnight.

On North Pender Island a similar program has taken more than five years to complete, but the results have been worth the wait.

The island's 2,500 residents are split into 72 neighbourhoods, each led by at least one volunteer contact. The North Pender Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program includes more than 85 per cent of the island's population.

For more information on Salt Spring's budding pod program, contact the RCMP at 537-5555, the fire department at 537-2531 or Trevor Hutton at 537-5927.

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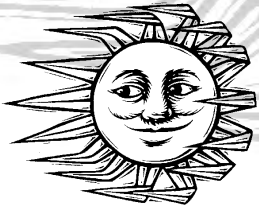
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# Be ready before calling 911

Emergency services are better equipped to respond if they receive thorough and accurate information. According to the Canadian Red Cross, here are some things to consider when you call 911:

- If possible, leave someone with the patient (if there is a patient).
- Provide the name of the caller.
- Prepare to answer whether you'll need police, fire or ambulance (or all three).
- Provide the exact location of the incident (with nearby cross streets, and/or landmarks).
- Provide the telephone number from where the call was made (and stay on the line).
- Describe the emergency (collision, fall, fire, etc.)
- Determine the number of people involved.
- Determine the condition of casualties (Conscious? Breathing? Main problem? Approx. age?)
- Describe any first aid provided.
- Report back to the first-aid attendant with the patient

(if someone stayed with a patient).

The Red Cross recommends that you call 911 if you observe someone who experiences:

- Unconsciousness or an altered level of consciousness
  - Breathing problems (difficulty breathing or no breathing)
  - Persistent chest pain or pressure
  - No signs of circulation (pulseless)
  - Severe bleeding
  - Vomiting blood or passing blood
  - Poisoning
  - Convulsions, severe headache or slurred speech
  - Injuries to head, neck or back
  - Possible broken bones
- Two other useful toll-free emergency numbers (in addition to 911) are Poison Control (1-800-567-8911) and B.C. NurseLine (1-866-215-4700).

"Never hesitate to call for help. It is best to call for help too early than call too late," said Salt Spring unit chief Nancy Pursell of the

B.C. Ambulance Service (BCAS).

If you find yourself in an emergency, Pursell recommends: "Stay calm and focused. Ensure you are safe; do your best to ensure others are safe. Get help."

Children should know their address, phone number and how to use the phone to call for help, she said.

Since most calls involve medical emergencies, Pursell's best advice to stay healthy is, "Wash your hands."

Be aware that 911 call takers are not located on Salt Spring and will not likely be familiar with local landmarks.

When you call 911 on the island, your call is received at the Victoria RCMP call centre in West Shore. From that point, the call could be then directed to a BCAS dispatcher (based in Victoria) and/or a fire dispatcher (based in Langford).

As a final note, please ensure that your address is clearly posted so that emergency services can find you.

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# How many island emergencies?

Salt Spring Fire Department responded to 715 calls, including 14 structure fires, 20 brush/grass fires, 68 motor vehicle incidents and 232 medical emergencies in 2006.

During that same period, the B.C. Ambulance Service

station in Ganges responded to 1,277 calls, the Ganges-based Canadian Coast Guard station responded to 139 incidents (plus 86 routine taskings and approximately 50 public assistance calls) and Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue added

another eight to 10 calls (and dozens of public assistance calls).

But the busiest emergency agency on the island was the Salt Spring Island RCMP detachment, which opened 3,039 files during the same period.

# Beat the elements with this checklist

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- ROPE
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- NAILS
- SCREWDRIVER
- AXE
- TARPULIN
- COMPASS

- PROPANE STOVE
- LANTERN
- FLASHLIGHTS
- FLASHLIGHT BATTERIES
- RADIO BATTERY BACKUP
- FIRE EXTINGUISHER

- THERMAL BLANKET
- WOOL BLANKET
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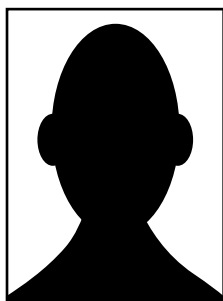


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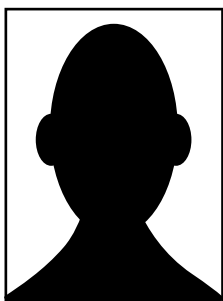
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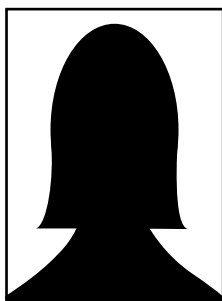
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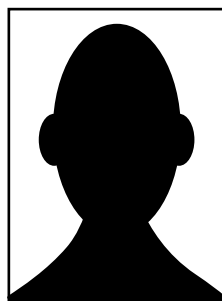
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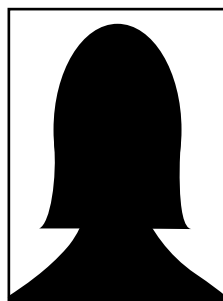
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# WHO'S WHO ON SALT SPRING ISLAND

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TOP SECRET



1. Write the number corresponding to each name in the space provided.
2. Each business is listed on this page.
3. Clip this official entry form from The Driftwood every Wednesday or TGIF every Friday.
4. Once you have correctly identified all participating merchants, please drop off, fax or mail the form to: The Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2V3. Fax: 250-537-2613.
5. Photocopies of entry form are accepted.
6. Winners will be selected by random draw. Two prizes of \$100.00 each will be awarded.
7. Promotion runs January 17, 19, 24 and 26. Entries must be received by 4:30 pm Monday, January 29. Draw will be made at 5 pm Jan. 29. Employees of Driftwood Publishing or immediate family are not eligible.
8. Prizes: Two \$100.00 cash prizes to be awarded



<input type="checkbox"/> JOEL SHAVER	<input type="checkbox"/> GORDON LEE	<input type="checkbox"/> DAVID GRIFFITHS & KIM YOUNG	<input type="checkbox"/> BOB SAUNDERS	<input type="checkbox"/> MAFALDA HOOGERDYK
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Deadline to enter is:  
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**BOBBY**  
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 Rating: PG

Bobby follows 22 individuals who are all at the Ambassador Hotel for different purposes but share the common thread of anticipating Robert F. Kennedy's arrival at the primary election night party: a night that would be remembered for the assassination of yet another Kennedy. This historic film is set against the backdrop of the cultural issues gripping the country at the time, including racism, sexual inequality and class differences. Brilliant performances from an all-star cast including Anthony Hopkins, William H. Macy, Sharon Stone, Martin Sheen and Elijah Wood.

**Fri., Sat., Tues. 7:00**

**THE JOURNALS**  
 of Knud Rasmussen  
 1 hr. 52 mins.  
 Rating: PG  
 in Inuktitut with English subtitles

A follow up film to **Atanarjuat: the Fast Runner**, *Journals* delves into the final days of the Inuit culture and its decline after first contact with Western civilization - a stunning film both on the visual and narrative level. **The Fritz Cafe** discussion period will follow Sunday's matinee.

**Sun. 4:00 Matinee • Mon. 7:00 • Tues. 9:15**

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# What's On This Week

wed. january 24	thur. january 25	fri. january 26	sat. january 27	sun. january 28	mon. january 29	wed. january 31
<b>live entertainment</b> <b>Simply Organic.</b> Pipe organ recital by Barry Valentine. All Saints, 10:10 a.m., followed by muffin & coffee. <b>Karaoke.</b> With Greg Van Riel at Moby's. 9 p.m. <b>Movin' and Groovin'.</b> GISS Dance Performance. Grades 9-11. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Tickets: 537-2102.	<b>live entertainment</b> <b>One Night Stand.</b> With Matt and Tom at Shipstones. 8 p.m. <b>Open Stage.</b> Thursdays at the Fulford Inn Pub. <b>other activities</b> <b>Film Festival Cafe.</b> The Stolen Spirits of Haida Gwaii. At Barb's Bakery & Bistro, 7 p.m. (Doors at 5:30 p.m. for food & conversation) <b>Imagine Salt Spring.</b> First of Planning Salt Spring's Future talks. Sebastian Moffatt on Planning for Uncertainty: Design Concepts to Shape a Resilient and Sustainable Island Community. Community Gospel, 7:30 p.m. <b>Transcendental Meditation.</b> Group Meditation. 7:30 p.m. Info: 537-9448. <b>SS Trail &amp; Nature Club.</b> AGM and luncheon at Meaden Hall. Doors at 11:30 a.m.	<b>live entertainment</b> <b>Amadeus, Atlantic Ballet of Canada.</b> ArtSpring. 8 p.m. Pre-concert chat - 7 p.m. Tickets: 537-2102. <b>other activities</b> <b>Little One.</b> A Good Soil production at Community Gospel Chapel, 7 p.m. <b>Coping With Depression.</b> Seminar with therapist Tom Burton and homeopath Karin Beviere at Arbutus Therapy Centre. 7-9 p.m. <b>Story Time at the Library.</b> For 5 to 8-year-olds, with Clare Cullen. Every Friday, 1:30-2:15 p.m. <b>Preschoolers bring a lap to sit on.</b>	<b>activities</b> <b>S.S.I. Scottish Dance Club Burns Supper.</b> Scottish Dancing and Traditional Burns Supper. Fulford Hall. Tickets: 537-9997. <b>other activities</b> <b>Canadian Federation of University Women.</b> Dr. Margaret Fulton speaks on Saving Planet Earth. Lions Hall. 10 a.m. <b>Sounder Sleep Workshop.</b> With Anna Haltrecht. At Cats Pajamas, 1-4 p.m. Info: anna@bonesforever.com; 537-5681. <b>Homeopathy Workshop for Beginners.</b> Karin Beviere and Tom Burton at the Arbutus Therapy Centre. \$40. 1-5 p.m.	<b>live entertainment</b> <b>Gene Grooms and Warren Langley.</b> Fulford Inn Pub. Every Sunday at 6 p.m. <b>mon. january 29</b> <b>live entertainment</b> <b>Anne Feeney.</b> With Sharon Bailey & friends at SS Folk Club. Fulford Hall, 7:30 p.m. <b>other activities</b> <b>Pottery Classes.</b> Working on the Pottery Wheel with Rita Alexandra. September Moon Pottery Studio. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Info: 537-8981. <b>Osho Kundalini Moving Meditation.</b> Drop-in. 5:30 p.m. Info: Amrita, 537-2799. <b>Tai Chi for People With Disabilities.</b> Cedar Lane Studio with Osman Phillips, 10-11 a.m. Call Osman at 537-5667 before attending.	<b>other activities</b> <b>Drop-In Life Drawing.</b> Core Inn. 3rd floor. 1-3 p.m. <b>Eckhart Tolle Practising Presence Group.</b> 7:30 p.m. Drop in. Info: 537-2799. <b>Texas Hold' Em.</b> Fulford Inn <b>Parks &amp; Recreation Commission.</b> Regular public meeting at Portlock Park portable, 7 p.m. <b>International Women's Day Planning Meeting.</b> At I-SEA offices across the road from the Visitors Info Centre. All women's groups welcome. 10 a.m. <b>tues. january 30</b> <b>activities</b> <b>Pottery Classes.</b> Working on the Pottery Wheel with Rita Alexandra. September Moon Pottery Studio. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Info: 537-8981.	<b>live entertainment</b> <b>Simply Organic.</b> Pipe organ recital by Barry Valentine. All Saints, 10:10 a.m., followed by muffin & coffee. <b>other activities</b> <b>Pottery Classes.</b> Working on the Pottery Wheel with Rita Alexandra. September Moon Pottery Studio. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Info: 537-8981. <b>South End Nia.</b> Fitness for the Whole Self. Wednesdays at The Gatehouse with Arleen, 190 Reynolds Road, 7-8:15 p.m. Info: 653-9235. <b>Dog Training Classes.</b> 7-week series with Sheri Standen begins at Central Hall. Info: 537-5646. <b>South S.S.I. Property Owners and Residents Association Meeting.</b> OAP room in Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m. <b>Portrait Drawing.</b> Painters Guild drawing sessions at ArtSpring every Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon. Model provided. <b>SSI Painters Guild Workshop.</b> Studio Drop In Day. ArtSpring. 9 a.m. - noon. Info: 537-1528.



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**Dinner Specials 5-9 pm**

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**Tuesday – 1/4 Chicken**  
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**Wednesday – Prawns**  
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- February's line-up includes: *The Pursuit of Happyness*; *Arthur and the Invisibles*; *Casino Royale*; *Manufactured Landscapes*; *Curse of the Golden Flower*; *Freedom Writers*; *Dreamgirls* and *Rocky Balboa*
- Check out the Fritz online at [www.thefritz.ca](http://www.thefritz.ca) for current and future movie details.

**cable TV**

- Attention Shaw Cable TV viewers** — The Daily is your source for stories reflecting Salt Spring and southern Vancouver Island people and places. The program is about half an hour in length and repeats continuously during the day and evening with new stories added daily. This week see an interview with Sebastian Moffatt, the upcoming speaker at the Imagine Salt Spring series, a profile of the Thunderbird Gallery and visit the cats at the local SPCA. Also tune in for community messages, weather, B.C. Ferries and news headlines. For further details about community programming, call 537-1335.

**exhibitions**

- Delton Woolcock** and **Ethan Marcano** show artwork in the lobby at ArtSpring until January 31.
- Paul Bryans** exhibits his *Salt Spring Impressions* show at Moby's until the end of February.
- Salt Spring artist **Tina Spalding** is featured through January at the *Salt Spring Roasting Company* cafe in Ganges.
- Lost In My Garden** is a mixed-media show of abstract paintings by **Lynda Crawford** at Island Savings.

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# New restaurant wait almost over

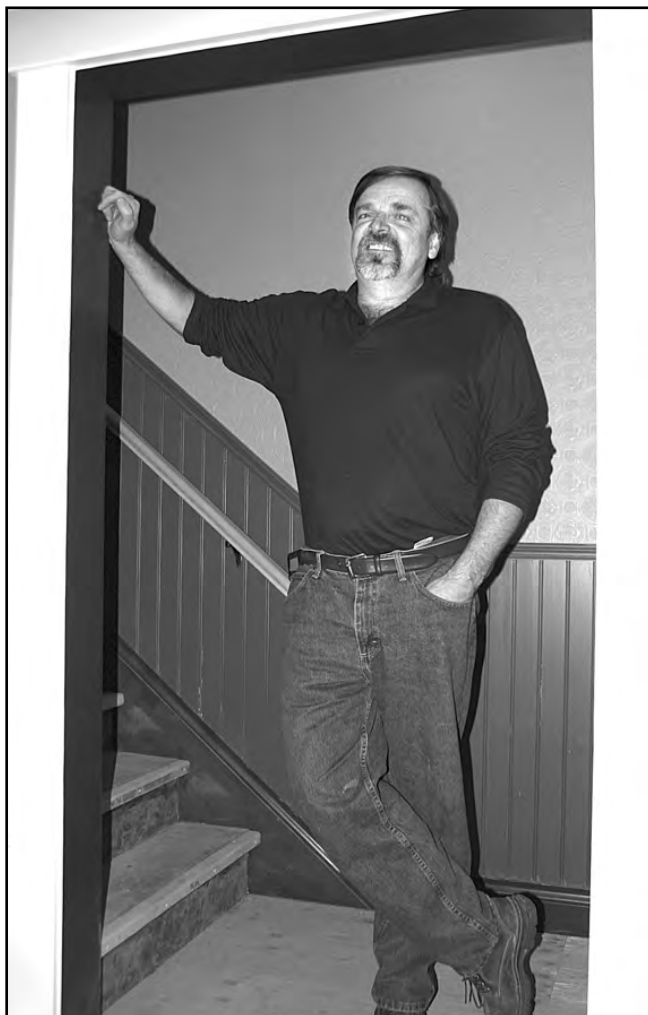
By **SEAN MCINTYRE**  
 Driftwood Staff

Barry Edwards is a busy man these days.

Work on the Salt Spring Inn hasn't let up since it began last summer, but that's all about to change when the newest business on the block opens its doors next month.

After more than six months spent renovating the entire structure from the inside out, the building still needs a few finishing touches, so it's no surprise the specific opening date remains "flexible."

**"I'm not focusing on what this place was in the past because we're doing something entirely new here."**  
 — **Barry Edwards**



**COMMUNITY PILLAR:** Long-time Salt Spring businessman Barry Edwards is set to change life as we know it in downtown Ganges when the Salt Spring Inn opens in February.  
 Photo by Sean McIntyre

Be it the funky checkered kitchen tiles, state-of-the-art sound proofing in the building's floors and walls, art-deco highlights or the restaurant's large central fireplace, it's obvious no expense has been spared to get the heritage building in step with the times.

"One thing that's evident is that it has never been like this before," Edwards said, during an interview from his second-floor office overlooking the village and Ganges Harbour.

"Everything you've seen since you walked into the building is new: the floors, the walls, the lights, the doors — everything. I'm not focusing on what this place was in the past because we're doing something entirely new here."

Edwards, a former co-owner of Moby's Pub, said the project has been in the back of his mind for the past

nine years.

Since moving to the island more than 20 years ago, he's seen the building undergo multiple reincarnations. One thing that hasn't changed, he said, is its great location and fantastic potential.

"It's a great opportunity," Edwards said. "I've always been interested in these kinds of small European-style inns and here it is."

He said more and more people are looking for ways to visit the island without relying on a car to get them around. People travelling to and from Ganges by boat or plane will now only need to

walk up the road for a bite to eat and a place to stay.

"A lot of people who come here aren't used to the dark at night," he said. "They find it difficult to even get into their car. Here they won't have to worry."

The rooms offer something for everyone, regardless of budget.

Some are larger than others, a few have fireplaces and washrooms, while budget-oriented rooms have shared facilities.

Edwards has already received bookings from Central Canada, the United States and Europe, and

the beds haven't even been brought in yet.

"The response has been tremendous," he said.

While islanders are more than welcome to spend the night, Edwards said, most locals will probably be more inclined to visit the inn's restaurant.

Alcohol will be served, but fostering a family-friendly atmosphere will be the order of the day with a menu featuring seafood, burgers, fish and chips, pasta and vegetarian dishes.

"We specialize in what's called West Coast casual," he said. "This is not a pub."

So far he's been overwhelmed by locals who've been curious since work began.

A few weeks ago, Edwards got the nod from Rita Dodds, owner of the legendary Rita's Inn, formerly located in the same building, when she popped in for a look.

"We are striving to be a country inn on Salt Spring in a broad sense, but more specifically I want to target locals as well," he said.

Part of that is creating a place that will last for years and hopefully become woven into the fabric of the island.

"The kind of business I want to have includes families and children and promotes continuity in the community," he said. "We want to make this viable and healthy in the long term."

Part of that means staying open whether it's the middle of August or in the depths of winter.

"The locals are here 12 months of the year as am I," he said. "I don't close up for a month or two. We're here to stay."

# Film Fest preparations underway

This year marks the 8th annual Our Island, Our World Film Festival to be held March 2-4 on Salt Spring.

The festival is a grassroots, non-profit documentary film festival that focuses its films on broad issues of social justice. The bulk of the festival's films are part of the World Community Travelling Film Festival out of Courtenay, which is celebrating its 16th season.

For the past three months, film festival organizers have been attending film festivals all over British Columbia, screening DVDs and videos searching for uplifting and inspiring stories about global issues that challenge us today.

"There are plenty of films out there, but we're looking for those that not only have an important message, but that are beautifully crafted, and tell the story in an inspir-

ing way," said Carol Grier, one of the festival's coordinators. "If you're considering getting involved in the community, or helping one of the international humanitarian efforts on the island, the festival is a great way to start informing yourself about what's going on both globally and locally. Not only will there be over 50 films to choose from, but a plethora of community groups will have tables dispensing information and showcasing their worthy projects."

"We have a broad range of issues that will be highlighted in our films this season, including food and farming, global warming, media and democracy, and many films on music and resistance," Grier continued. "We're excited about the lineup from Courtenay this year, and are finalizing our film selections in the next couple of weeks. We'll be highlighting vari-

ous films in the Driftwood in upcoming issues."

To get a jump on choosing the films you'd like to see, you can see the Travelling Film Festival selections at <http://www.worldcommunity.ca/film2007.htm>. Look for the film guide in the Driftwood in mid-February.

The festival is staffed by many volunteers who will help in all areas: Hospitality (greeting film patrons & billeting filmmakers), drivers (for visiting filmmakers), food sales and service, technical aspects (troubleshooting equipment problems etc.), projectionists, logistics (moving chairs and tables, setting up rooms), publicity and childcare.

Prospective volunteers can call Carol or Dick Grier at 537-4406 for more information. Groups interested in community tables can call Maggie Schubart at 537-9804.

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## Lions Publications



**HAPPY ABOUT HAGGIS:** From left, John Williamson, Robert Crichton, Peter McCully and Rod MacDonald prepare for a Robbie Burns Night haggis parade through Meaden Hall. Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Master gardener course takes root on Salt Spring

Avid island gardeners can hone their skills and increase their knowledge with an intensive 16-week Victoria Master Gardener Program offered on Salt Spring beginning February 16.

Participants will learn current and reliable home gardening information and how to educate their community about environmentally responsible gardening practices.

"The Master Gardener Program consists of a 16-week classroom course offered by The Horticulture Centre of the Pacific and a volunteer training period supervised by the Victoria Master Gardener Association," notes a press release. "Completion of the program requires a

minimum of 80 per cent in each of the following categories: class attendance, homework assignments, an open book final exam and the fulfillment of 60 approved volunteer hours within the 18 months following the course."

The Master Gardener Certificate is awarded upon the successful completion of the course and the volunteer training. To maintain Master Gardener status, you must complete a minimum of 15 volunteer hours and five self-education hours each year.

"Participants will receive up-to-date, relevant information covering all of the gardening basics: botany, soils, plant health, plant identification, pruning, turf, fruit

trees and berries, vegetables, weeds, plant pests and diseases.

Basic principles of design and the use of ornamentals in the landscape will also be covered. The course wraps up with a mock clinic to prepare students for the volunteering that follows the classroom instruction.

Cost for the 16-session course is \$770 and includes all texts and handouts. Classes will take place Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Foxglove nursery starting on February 16.

For more detailed information, visit [www.hcp.bc.ca](http://www.hcp.bc.ca) and to register call the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific at 250-479-6162 or e-mail [info@hcp.bc.ca](mailto:info@hcp.bc.ca).

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ISLAND STAR VIDEO presents...

## Flick Pick

Crank offends but fails to subvert the mainstream norm



Crank is a great idea for an action film: assassin Chev Chelios (Jason Statham) is poisoned by a rival with a funky Chinese drug that will eventually kill him but will do so instantly if his heart rate slips too low. So Chev, using whatever means he can to keep the ol' chugger thumping quick, races off across town to exact revenge.

Yeah, it's a great idea, but where Crank fails is in the execution, and it does so in so many ways they can only be examined in list form. Call me lazy, but crap like this is bad in so many ways that it defies a structured argument.

First: while there is action everywhere and anywhere, it's poorly shot and seems to be edited with the all-too-familiar dictum that if there isn't a cut every six seconds the audience may fall asleep.

Then, of course, they will die. Second: Statham, veteran of this kind of tough-guy role in better films such as Snatch and The Transporter, plays a thoroughly unlikeable lead "hero." There's no reason to cheer for him, even when the script provokes sympathy by putting him in a hospital robe.

Third: this is one thoroughly offensive mainstream film. Chev's gay informant is not only useless but used purely as a meat-shield in one disgusting scene, and his girlfriend Eve is so dumb and whiny she might not be out of place in a 1950's Bond flick.

Fourth: the script strains to make things humorous at times but just goes too far over the top. One scene where Chev revs himself up by pretty much forcing Eve to have sex in front of hundreds of people

in a Chinatown street (kids included) is simply ridiculous and downright embarrassing.

One wonders if Crank isn't in fact intended as some kind of satire of the typical modern action film. After all, it does appear to have at least some degree of self-reflexivity, as when a drugged-out Chev stands on a racing motorcycle while music from Midnight Cowboy plays in the background.

But it's clear that Crank's average audience will probably miss that kind of stuff completely and wait anxiously for the next bad guy to get his hand removed by automatic weapon fire. Good "pop" action films (say, anything by John Woo) manage to subvert the norm a little while being entertaining, but Crank never really amounts to doing much of either.

## New Arrivals...

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**FRITZ SITS:** Salt Spring's "community cat" — Fritz — who lives at Central Hall is seen in one of his favourite perches: atop the public pay phone.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Holistic approach to depression probed

Depression is the theme of a health talk taking place at the Arbutus Therapy Centre this weekend.

Local therapist Tom Burton and homeopath Karin Beviere will address the topic of depression from an integrated health perspective at the upcoming seminar which runs on Friday, January 26 from 7 to 9 p.m.

"Depression occurs along a continuum from mild to life threatening," states a press release.

"Some mild episodes of depression may resolve with time, aided by making important adjustment to one's daily routines, and by seeking out the support of others. Major or clinical depression is a serious, debilitating illness that intensely affects how you feel, think and ultimately how you behave. This illness affects hundreds of thousands of Canadians and symptoms can range from sleep problems, anxiety,

hopelessness, poor energy and appetite to thoughts of suicide."

The seminar will focus on how dynamic therapy is used to cope with and treat depression by helping to identify and work through causing factors through the support of a trained psychotherapist.

"Depression can also be viewed, from a holistic health perspective, as one symptom of the whole person. Discussion around how homeopathy is used to treat depression will help bring a unique integrated approach to this illness."

The Arbutus Therapy Centre is located at #5-121 McPhillips Avenue (upstairs from Apple Photo) and is Salt Spring's newest centre for integrated health.

Cost for the seminar is a suggested donation of \$5. For details contact Karin Beviere or Tom Burton at 537-4728.

## Concert Band ballot number corrected

The Salt Spring Concert Band's quest to identify audience favourites by ballot as described in an article in last week's Driftwood is building great momentum, but a contact phone number was incorrect.

For more information or to obtain a ballot, contact band manager Sheila Spence at 537-2332 (not 2334 as was indicated).

Ballots with a list of choices can be found in an ad in this week's paper. Ballots can also be found around town at various locations including the library, Raven Street Cafe, the Falconshead Grill, Salt Spring Books and Acoustic Planet.

Organizers urge all SSCB fans to fill out a ballot and drop their choice in a box or e-mail director Dawn Hage at [dawnhage@saltspring.com](mailto:dawnhage@saltspring.com) by January 31 to ensure votes will get counted. People including their name and phone number or e-mail will be eligible for several prizes, including a gift basket and free concert tickets.

# Orphan's story moves audience

If you could go to Africa for just one night, would you make the trip? Good Soil Dinner Theatre's production of Little One allows people to do just that.

Live drama, interactive video and a large portable set combine to create a powerful story that is bringing audiences to their feet in churches across Canada and comes to Community Gospel Chapel on Friday, January 26 at 7 p.m.

"Even more amazing," states a press release, "is that the people involved in the show have given up jobs and left friends and family to travel with this small band of thespians and back-stage technicians in order to tell this moving story of one little orphan girl's struggle to survive AIDS and poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa."

Good Soil Dinner Theatre is the brain child of Reg Parks, a Vancouver based video and theater producer who felt a strong desire to raise the awareness of Canadians to the growing plight of children in Africa — many of whom are dying of AIDS and/or starvation every day. It began when Parks was on a video shoot in Zambia a few years ago, "Ultimately, I like to tell stories, and one of the most powerful, most real stories in the world was taking place in front of me: children, death and ultimate hopelessness."

Parks' first thought was to do a documentary on video, but that soon evolved into an idea for Parks' first passion — live theatre.

"Lots of people have seen pictures of Africa in crisis, but life theatre has a way of making it real and present like no video can."

Little One is presented in an innovative manner with video backgrounds instead of sets. A giant screen fills the back of the troupe's portable stage.

The video was shot on location in Zambia, one of the countries hardest hit by AIDS. Many times through-

out the hour and 20-minute presentation the live actors actually interact with "on-screen" African children in dialogue.

"It is a unique and captivating tool that audiences are drawn to visually and emotionally. One scene takes place in an African children's graveyard: the effect is staggering and unforgettable."

Good Soil dinner theatre also acts as a fundraiser for Project Seedbag, the missions arm of Seeds International, a ministry founded and run by Parks' father Rev. Keith Parks.

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## Interesting Wedding Photo or Wedding Story?

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The Driftwood's annual Wedding Planner is being prepared and we are looking for interesting and historic original photographs from our readers.

Hippy wedding in the 60's? Slicked back hair in the 50's? War time bride? We want your photo! Submit with pertinent information by January 31 to The Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2V3. Email: [news@gulfislands.net](mailto:news@gulfislands.net)

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## HEALTH

The second in a series on weight loss success stories

# No more 'hype'

## Rooting out hidden sugars helps islander drop pounds

“When I couldn't get my kilt on, I decided it was time to do something.”

By **DAWN HAGE**  
Driftwood Staff

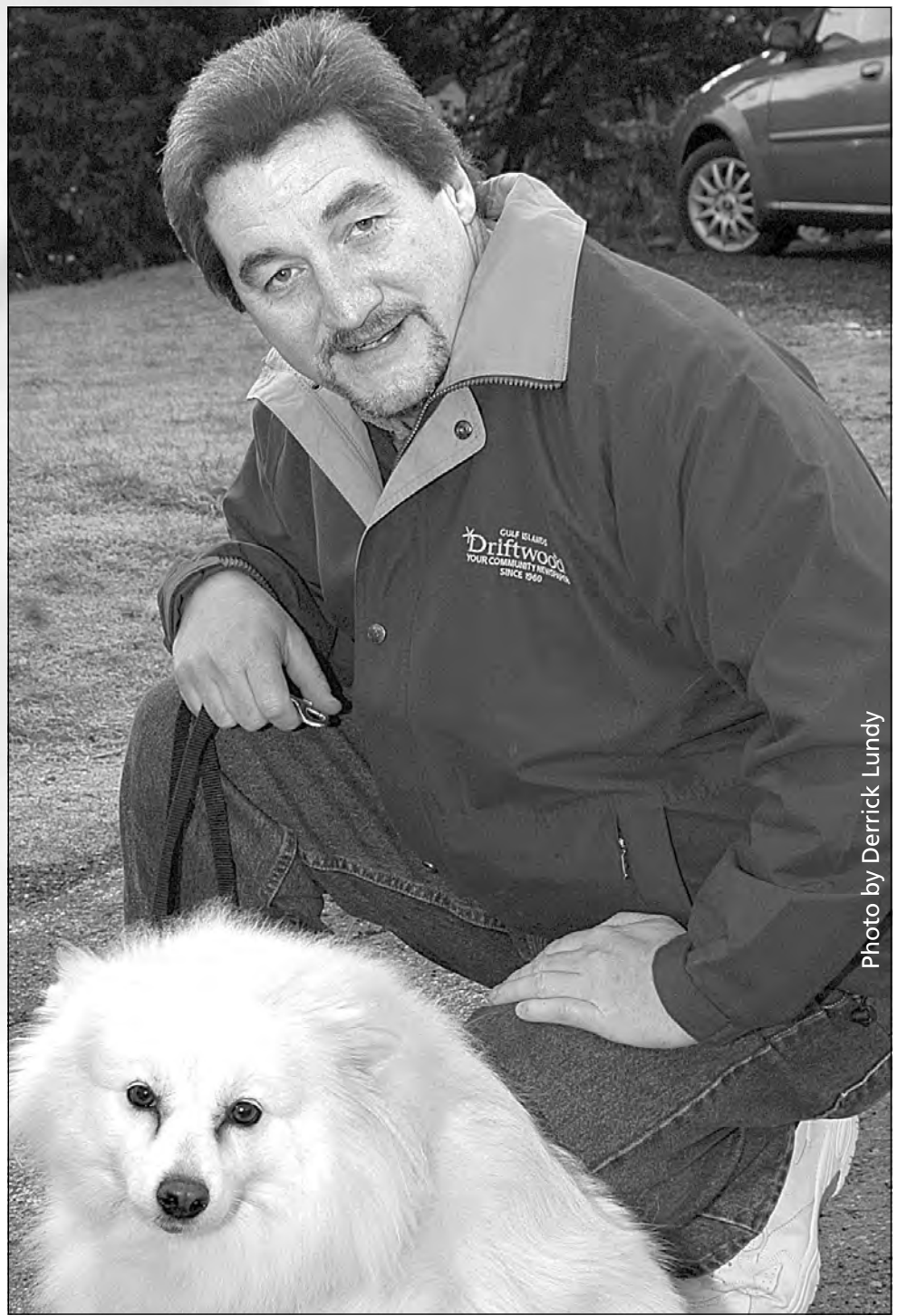


Photo by Derrick Lundy

Peter McCully gets exercise by walking his dog Kelsey.

## Nutritional know-how key to weight loss and balance

Peter McCully had several reasons for wanting to trim down and get himself back on track with good health and fitness.

“I was fat,” he offers bluntly. “And I'm getting older. You have to start looking after your health or you die. My biggest reason is that I want to live a long and healthy life.”

McCully has had issues with his blood sugar for most of his adult life, after being diagnosed as hypoglycemic in his mid 20s. He was distraught to learn that his attempts at healthy eating in the past were a recipe for a sugar spike.

“I would make a shake in the morning with a cup of frozen berries, a glob of yogurt, a banana, Greens + and then I would fill the blender with orange juice,” he said. “The berries, the banana and the orange juice were all really high on the glycemic index. I was trying to eat well and instead I had just been pounding back the sugar.”

“That's what put the weight on.”

McCully's hypoglycemia can also merge into diabetes if he doesn't take care, which was another motivating factor. In addition, his mood swings were huge before the change in diet.

“Just ask anyone around here,” he said, indicating the Driftwood offices.

Ummm, yeah. I decide it's not necessary to poll the staff.

His job description and responsibilities had changed in recent years and his waistline reflected the shift from spending more time in the office and less pounding the pavement.

“When I first started at the Driftwood nine years ago, I was only in the office a few hours a day and I was out walking around the rest of the time. Now that I am sales manager, I'm in my office all the time and maybe get out two hours a week.”

McCully has also realized that job stress is particularly bad for hypoglycemia.

“I'm in a deadline-oriented business,” he explained. “As the stress rose, I would turn to coffee or food.”

“I would get a short high from the coffee or sugar and then come back down and start looking for something else . . . Mars Bars, cookies, more coffee.”

After his job change, McCully quickly packed on 10 pounds. He found his metabolism had slowed and he would eat even more to make up for the lapses in energy. It was a cycle that eventually took his weight up to 212 pounds.

“When I couldn't get my kilt on, I decided it was time to do something.”

McCully started seeking

answers by reading every book that Sam Graci has written and he found that much of the information made sense to him.

“I took tips from Sam's books and also read the GI diet, where they list all the foods that are high in sugar or turn to sugar really quickly.”

He also went to Leah Byron, who runs Salt Spring Nutrition. Byron did an extensive health profile on McCully and gave him examples of a seven-day diet that would help him stabilize his blood sugar, lose weight and give him lots of steady energy without the highs and lows he had been enduring up to that point.

“So, I took tips from Sam and Leah and created my own program from their principles and using the glycemic index,” he said.

Highlights of the food plan he followed and continues to follow are: no caffeine, no sugar, no bread or white flour, with the exception of whole wheat pita bread, no potatoes and no vegetables or fruits that are high on the glycemic index. In addition, McCully cut back on portion sizes.

“I take it easy on cheese and high fat foods. No juice except unsweetened grapefruit occasionally.”

Like others who have achieved success, McCully sees his current diet as a lifetime change.

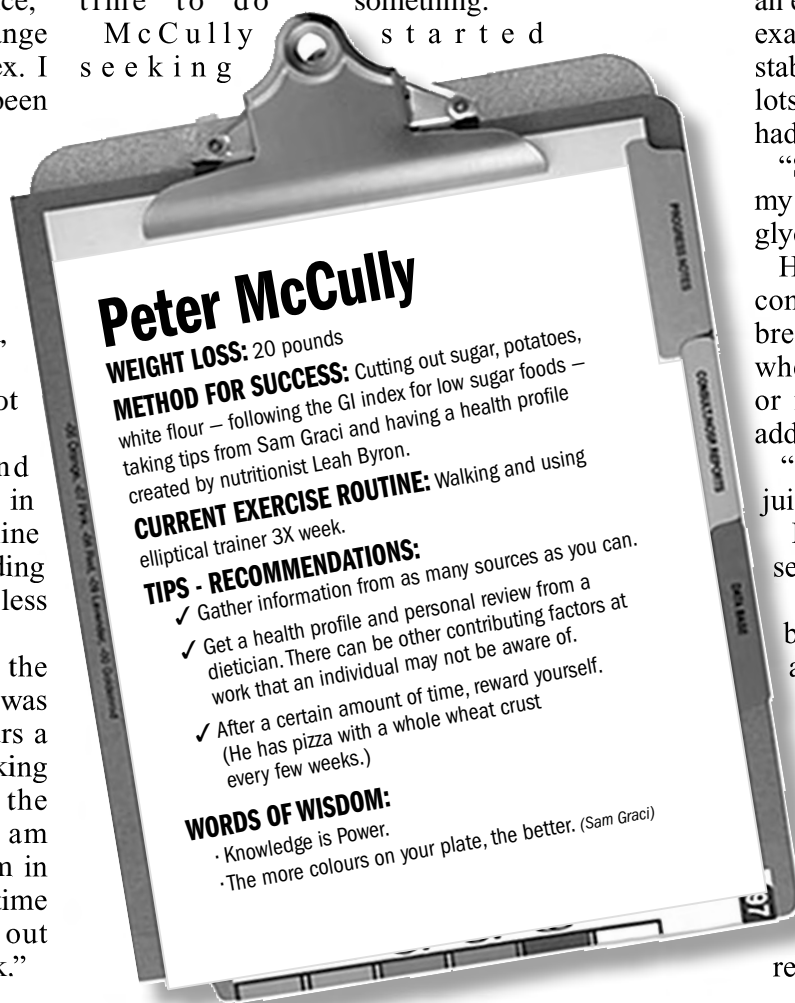
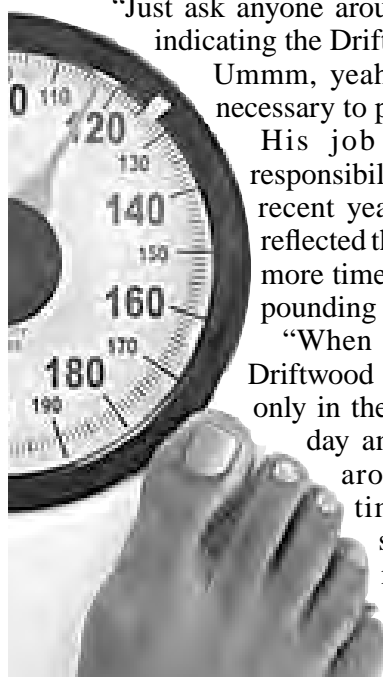
“Sam Graci says it takes 21 days for your taste buds to change. I lost my cravings for sugar after a week.”

He now eats salad five times a week, whole wheat pasta two or three times, lean steak, pork, chicken, beans and tuna.

McCully started his diet on the first of June and by the middle of August he had lost 20 pounds. He has gone from a high of 212 pounds to his current 185 and that kilt was looking pretty darn good as he pounded the bass drum at the recent Robbie Burns Night.



Nutritionist Leah Byron





**FISHER FANS:** Isaac Svendsen and Matthew Grossman spend a little time at a sparkling St. Mary Lake to fish in the weekend sunshine. Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Old Boys shake off winter dust in Nanaimo tie

The Salt Spring Island Old Boys soccer club wasted little time scoring after resuming their season and pulling off a 1-1 draw in Nanaimo over the weekend.

The tie keeps the Old Boys within three points of the division-leading Nanaimo United Masters squad.

Team spokesperson Fraser Hope said the 11-week delay brought on by winter weather and poor field conditions helped the team focus on how to best clinch top spot in their division.

“Coach [Jack] Braak, having done his homework and opposition scouting as usual, laid out the game plan prior to the start — just score,” Hope said.

Indoor practices at school gyms paid off as aggressive pressure on the Nanaimo keeper by Antonio Alonso forced a hasty clearance early on in the game.

According to Hope, Doug Pearson then steered the ball to Mike McCormick, who coolly, calmly and collectively rounded several defenders to score “his best goal in his short but ever

developing career.”

The Old Boys maintained possession of the ball for the rest of the half but failed to add to the lead.

“With the wind and the slight slope to their advantage, Nanaimo pressed in the second half and finally managed to squeak in a glancing header at the post to tie the game,” he said.

He credited a “powerhouse middle team” comprising Donny Brown, Jack Braak, Eamon Murphy, Jim Witherspoon, Mike Davis and Damian Brazier with showing signs for continued success.

“The Old Boys were under the cosh for long spells, but occasional breakouts from defence brought threats but no goals on Nanaimo defence,” Hope added. “A well-deserved draw was a fair result and both teams appeared to be satisfied and glad at last to be playing again.”

The Old Boys’ next game will be against Sooke United at Portlock Park on Sunday, January 28. Kickoff is scheduled for 10:15 a.m.

## Photo finishes snap up winners in Ben Mohr Rock Race sailing event

By **SCOTT SIMMONS**  
Driftwood Contributor

On January 21, 2007, the temperature in Edmonton was -3; in Toronto -5, but on Salt Spring, our little bit of paradise, it was a glorious +6 with light winds and no rain — a perfect day for the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club’s annual Ben Mohr Rock Race.

Eleven boats started the race on that morning but only 10 finished. Poor little Imp had to limp back to port with a broken goose neck.

The fleet was chomping at the bit for the 10:30 a.m. start. Like racehorses and jockeys in the chute, they churned around the start line tuning their rigs. The horn blew at five minutes, then four, one and go.

With lots of yelling and shouting, the boats were off. Someone yelled “Starboard,” then another “Room, I am leeward.”

Learning the lingo is part of the fun. Through this chaos the boats bucked, lurched and pushed on.

Race boats are the thoroughbreds of sail boats. They are sleek speed machines capable of six or seven knots (12-14 km/h).

That doesn’t sound fast, but with the wind and waves, the size of some of the boats and the fact that mere inches separates them, it’s exhilarating.

As the boats left the harbour, headed out to the tricky tidal stream of Captains Passage, the fleet started to spread out with the faster

boats pulling away from the slower boats.

The good news is that this is a handicap sport like golf, so everyone has a chance to win, even if they are not first across the finish line.

So it was an even playing field from JJ Flash with a full crew to Lily being sailed single-handedly and every boat in between.

It was a fast “reach” to Ben Mohr Rock (reach is when the wind is coming from the side) and back. Coming around toward the finish, the dazzling-to-look-at but sometimes-difficult-to-control spinnakers were hoisted up.

Strawberry Express had some unwanted tangles and if not for the skill of our young helmsman, eight-

year-old Keith Simmons, yours truly would have gone swimming.

After untwisting that hourglass in the sail, all hands were drained.

There was one close photo finish between Drew Thorburn’s new Questo and Keith Simpson’s Soul Dancer. Even though Soul Dancer was eighth over the line, Questo came out ahead in the results.

First across the line was JJ Flash, followed by Caliente, but after handicaps were applied the results were: 1. Electra, 2. JJ Flash, 3. Caliente, 4. Luna, 5. Final Dash, 6. Strawberry Express, 7. Saorsa, 8. Questo, 9. Soul Dancer, 10. Lily, 11. Imp (did not finish).

## Basketball heats up GISS gym courts

High school basketballers of all ages kicked off 2007 with a series of tournaments at home and away last weekend.

The Gulf Islands Secondary School’s junior girls team defended the Scorpions’ honour by finishing in first place at a weekend tournament in Port Alberni.

The girls defeated Alberni, Kwilicum and Highlands by at least 15 points.

“We just played really well,” said player Monique Comeau. “We had a lot of steals and had really strong defence and good teamwork overall.”

Comeau was named a tournament MVP along with teammate Colleen Hillis.

In other basketball news, the senior boys made a valiant attempt to clinch top spot at a tournament at Victoria’s St. Michael’s School, but came up short after losing to Oak Bay, the province’s top-ranked triple-A team, by 39 points.

The boys finished the tournament in third place despite decisive victories against teams from Abbotsford’s Rick Hansen Secondary and Maple Ridge’s Thomas Haney Secondary.

“We didn’t let the loss get us down

and didn’t give up,” said player Eland Bronstein.

The team’s third-place finish also didn’t prevent Kirby Garside from being named the tournament’s all-star defensive player. Jordan Borth was named among the tournament’s first-team all-stars.

In home court action, the junior boys split a doubleheader against a visiting Richmond team.

“At first we weren’t really playing our game,” said player Stuart Garside. “Then we stepped it up and won our second game by 20 points.”

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Sat., Jan. 27  
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Salt Spring Old Boys vs Sooke United  
Sun., Jan. 28  
10:15 a.m.  
Portlock Park  
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Driftwood

## Bill Gaston delivers in latest collection of short stories

By ELIZABETH NOLAN  
Driftwood Staff

Too often, it seems, fiction that is set in B.C. or the West Coast comes off as a novelty act. Good storytelling and formal accomplishment are left underdeveloped in favour of a "Hey look! This story's about Tofino!" appeal.

Bill Gaston, a UVic professor and author of several novels and books of short stories, provides a striking example of the opposite of this trend. His 2004 novel *Sointula*, much of which takes place on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, is completely evocative of its West Coast setting, while the quality of writing holds up to any international standard. Interweaving the perspectives of three linked characters, *Sointula* is in turns funny, moving and informative, all the while being so drenched in local scenery that readers may feel they themselves are kayaking between islands and eating shellfish straight from the beach.

*Gargoyles*, Gaston's latest collection of short stories, further showcases his craft

as a writer, as the tighter format of this genre tends to do. This somewhat dark collection is for the most part a study of the negotiation of family relationships, with points of friction, miscommunication and misunderstanding common. Often the problematic relationships are intergenerational: son to father, son to mother, or father to children. Occasionally they occur amongst peers like brother to brother, grown-up childhood friends, or the antagonists in *A Work-in-Progress*.

As the collection's title suggests, the stories in *Gargoyles* are frequently dark and at times even venture into the grotesque (such as the uncle's fate in *The Kite Trick*, or a man's unlikely reaction to the family dog's death in *Honouring Honey*). Some flashes of humour also occur, notably in an out-of-control book reading in *A Work-in-Progress*. The overall tone is much more menacing than in *Sointula*, though, to the point that the reader almost expects something bad to happen, even in the stories where it doesn't. The strange beauty of Gaston's writing, however, is that totally regular characters like ourselves experience bizarre events that for the most part do not seem unbelievable or even far-fetched, given his great clarity and skill.

Deft descriptions bring characters to life such as in *Point No Point*: "Neil grew his goatee forty years ago when he was twenty, the kind favoured by Wolfman Jack and, for a while, the Philadelphia Flyers. And of course bikers everywhere, and Neil has always had his Harley. Jet black and thick, his goatee is an extension

of the head of hair he used to style in glossy waves, a style a friend said could hide a crow." Or, of 12-year-old Philip in *The Kite Trick*: "He hated it when people said *ying-yang*. He hated people who used phenomena as the singular even more."

West Coast settings occur both in passing and as principle components in stories such as *The Night Window* and *Point No Point*, where Gaston is superbly evocative without ever being gimmicky. A rare false note in the collection occurs with *Freedom*, one of the few stories that doesn't occur in B.C. The main character "Wa" is simply too naive to be believable, even considering his problems with both English and French.

Another small point is the volume's division into three subsections: *Wrathful*, *Beneficent* and *Mercurial*. One would expect the stories in these sections to reflect their categories, but they do not. (If anything, some of the stories in *Beneficent* are the most disturbing.) It appears that the *Gargoyles* theme has been extended as a clever marketing idea without real forethought — again, a rare false note for Gaston, and perhaps reflective of an editorial decision.

Shrugging aside the grouping is easy enough, however, leaving readers with an extremely well-crafted group of stories filled with images that the mind returns to unbidden for days after. Whether the grey Englishman being consumed by the Pacific Ocean, or an unlikely matriarch's transcendent last walk through her neighbourhood, Gaston knows precisely how to fully deliver on character and story within just a few pages.

## Bridge players keep eye on weather for January

By JILL EVANS  
Driftwood Contributor

There was a two-week break over Christmas and New Year's for duplicate bridge players, during which time they might have been found stuck in snow and musing over Ezra Pound's verse:

*Winter is icumen in,  
Lhude sing Goddamm,  
Raineth drop and staineth slop,*

*And how the wind doth ramm!*

*Sing: Goddamm.*

On January 8, however, the weather let up enough to encourage a good turnout at Seniors. Ian Thomas and Zelly Taylor were triumphant, with Blanche Poborska and Sandy Thompson next in line. Coming in third were Tilly Crawley and Lynn Thorburn, leaving the rest

## BRIDGE TRICKS

high and dry.

The weatherman was threatening snow again for the night of January 15, so there was only a small group venturing out for bridge and only two placements for winners. Every so often someone would go and have a look outside to see if the flakes were coming down, but fortunately they held off and the session could be completed. Coming up trumps were Jean Elder and Joan Conlan, with George Laundry and Paul Retallack in second place.

New players are always welcome and for information please call George Laundry at 653-9095 or e-mail to [pas-torale@saltspring.com](mailto:pas-torale@saltspring.com).

## Top bowlers identified

High scores in recent bowling league play were:

- High roller Mary Tanti scored 217 and 200.

- Then on January 8, the lanes saw Ann Fleiger score 231 and Myles Wilson with 221, 238.

## HIGH ROLLERS

- January 15: Brian Radford, 200; Ken Ditlof, 216.

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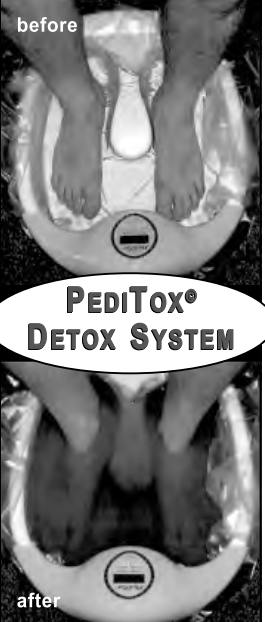
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### 6 DEATHS

### O'BRIEN, BETTY KATHERINE (nee Robertson)

March 22, 1921 - January 12, 2007

Passed away peacefully on Salt Spring Island. Born in Vancouver, B.C., long-time resident of North Delta.

Betty Worked for the Royal Bank for 35 years and was a loans officer when she retired. She will be missed by her children Babs, Dennis (Diane) and Jim (Brenda), and her grandchildren, David, Alwyn, Leila, Amrit, Derek, Erin, and Tod. Lovingly remembered for her individuality, fiery spirit, and indomitable energy. Deepest thanks to the staff at Greenwoods for their loving, compassionate care.

No service by request. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to a charity of choice.

A celebration of Betty's life will be held on March 24, 2007 on Salt Spring Island.

### Aunt, Peggy (nee Strickland)

August 27, 1914 - January 21, 2007

Peggy quickly and peacefully left this world on Sunday morning. She leaves behind to celebrate her life, loving children Bonnie, Mary, Strick and Barb. Predeceased by her son Michael in 1997. Granny also leaves behind her grandchildren Peter, Christy, Andrew, Kevin, Deb, Tammy, J.J., Karen and Mary Jo, and great grandchildren Larissa, Octavia, Callum, Lachlan and Kate, and many other family and friends on Salt Spring and in Victoria.

Mass will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Haultain Street, Victoria, on Friday, January 26 at 12:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Victoria Hospice, 1952 Bay Street, Victoria, where mom was a founding member, or to the Bessie Dane Hospice, P.O. Box 521, Ganges, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2W2.

### Meester, Thelma Lavinia



Born in Calgary, Alberta on March 3, 1915 to John and Lily McCabe, the second of five children. Thelma died January 14, 2007. She was predeceased by her first husband Dan O'Sullivan and her second husband John Meester. Her only daughter, Yvonne, along with Yvonne's husband Tom, their two children Tom Jr. (Cathy) and Colleen Payne (Patrick), and three great grandchildren Emily, Caroline and Andrea, all feel tremendous sadness in announcing the passing of "Grannie".

Thelma's early years were spent in Edmonton, Alberta where she graduated from Garneau High School and completed business courses at Strathcona Commercial. Married to Dan O'Sullivan in 1934, they moved to B.C. in 1936 where she maintained the books for Dan O'Sullivan Construction and managed three apartment blocks. In her spare time she became a skilled seamstress. In 1975 she married John Meester and they enjoyed concerts, cruises and trips to their Santa Barbara home. In 1989 they moved to Salt Spring, but unfortunately John passed away in 1992. Thelma decided to return to Vancouver, where she resided until coming to Greenwoods in 2000; she spent her remaining years there.

During her time on Salt Spring, the diminutive Thelma could frequently be seen driving her bright yellow 1974 Mercedes sedan accompanied by her faithful toy yorkie "Holly". She had a passion for antiques and loved all things beautiful. She was outrageous, fiercely independent and was rather feisty on occasion, but always had an impish sense of humour. Her corn flower big blue eyes and ready dimpled smile will long be remembered by all who knew her.

The thoughtful care so generously given by everyone at Greenwoods played a huge part in making Thelma's last years comfortable and content. The staff considered her to be the ultimate survivor and gave her the nicknames "Energizer Bunny" and "Duracell Dolly". Our family extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in her care.

A small gathering to celebrate her life will be held later this spring. Please send any support through a donation to Greenwoods Foundation.

### 6 DEATHS

### MARILYN COCHRAN 1927-2007

PEACEFULLY, SURROUNDED by her loving family on Sunday, January 21, 2007. Beloved mother of Doug (Carol), Sue (Ron Kellison), Donna (Greg Spendjian) and Dave (Jan). Dear sister of Gwen (Harvey Clarke) and Craig (Beryl Brownlee). Predeceased by her sister Auriel and precious great-granddaughter, Brooke. Loving Grandma to Alison (Vince), David (Savannah), Jodie (Keith), Chris, Matthew, Marni and Steve and Great-Grandma to Chase, Jett, Larissa, Ryan and Ethan. Also survived by daughter-in-law Jennifer Jones and many nieces and nephews. Marilyn was a member of the Richmond General Hospital Auxiliary for many years and an avid supporter of the BC Lions. The family would like to thank Dr. David Woodley, Dr. Bob Crossland and the staff at the Lady Minto Hospital Palliative Care Unit on Salt Spring Island for their wonderful care and kindness to our mother. A service to celebrate her life will be held at the Richmond Presbyterian Church, 7111 No. 2 Road (at Granville Ave.) Richmond BC on Saturday, January 27 at 2:00 pm. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Marilyn's name to the Richmond Presbyterian Memorial Fund or the charity of your choice.

### 20 COMING EVENTS

#### RELAY FOR LIFE!

THE CANADIAN Cancer Society Relay for Life is happening again on Salt Spring Island on June 22nd and 23rd. It was a wonderful, emotional community event last June that really touched the lives of everyone involved. If you would like to captain a team, join a team or become an active volunteer for the event, please call Margo Greggains at 537-8325 or email at mgreggains@bc.cancer.ca. Let's make Cancer History.

DOG OBEEDIENCE classes. Fun classes teaching you to train your dog and problem solve. 8 week course Feb.6th. To reserve call 537-9505.

POETRY WORKSHOP. New inspiration and ways to explore the poem. Saturday, Feb.3rd. 10 - 1:30p.m., \$50. Lorraine Gane, 537-5294.

**Salt Spring FOLK CLUB**  
**Jan 29/07 Anne Feeney**  
opening: Sharon Bailey  
**Fulford Hall Tickets \$15**  
Soups, Suppers & Sweets by Fiddlehead Catering  
On sale now at Acoustic Planet, Salt Spring Books Stuff & Nonsense  
[www.saltspringfolkclub.ca](http://www.saltspringfolkclub.ca)

**WINTER'S BEAUTY @ Jana's Bake Shop.**  
Cool snow photographs by **Theresa Mackey** until Jan. 31.  
Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.  
Inquiries: 537-4913.

### 20 COMING EVENTS

**Imagine SALT SPRING**  
PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE  
**Sebastian Moffatt**  
Topic: Planning for Uncertainty: Design concepts to shape a resilient and sustainable island community.  
**Thurs., January 25, 2007 7:30 - 9:30 pm**  
Community Gospel Chapel  
**FREE**  
sponsored by I-SEA

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

### Salt Spring Concert Band plays Favourites

Vote for your Favourite

1. Mazama
2. Stars and Stripes Forever
3. Copland Tribute
4. James Bond Suite
5. October
6. Pachelbel's Canon
7. Star Wars
8. Witch and the Saint
9. Hootenanny
10. Irish Tune - County Derry
11. Ave Maria
12. Royal Air Force March
13. West Side Story
14. Pirates of the Caribbean
15. March of the Gladiators
16. Suggest a tune \_\_\_\_\_

Email your favourite to dawnhage@saltspring.com or deposit at Acoustic Planet, Raven Street or the library. Deadline - Jan. 31

Name:  
Phone:  
Email:  
(free prize draw)



Always wanted to speak out?

### TOASTMASTERS CAN HELP!

Develop better speaking and presentation skills

Learn to think quickly and clearly on your feet

Build strong leadership abilities

**Mondays, 7 pm at Artspring**  
**Contact Rowan Rowell 537 8400**  
**-or- Bud Bowes 653 9561**

**Good Soil Theatre Company & Seeds International proudly present.....**  
**"Little One"**  
by Reg Parks  
The moving story of one young girl's impoverished struggle to survive in AIDS infested Africa.  
Join us for this African Theatre experience!  
**Community Gospel Chapel**  
Friday, January 26th 7pm.  
By donation.

**BC Schizophrenia Society Meet, Greet & Care**  
Meet our new Executive Director Hazel Meredith  
**For:** Friends & Families of people with Schizophrenia or Psychosis  
**Date:** Saturday, Jan. 27, 2007  
**Time:** 12 noon-2 pm  
Coffee & Tea provided  
**Location:** Morningside Law Conference Room  
105 Tahouney Road, SSI  
**Contact:** BCSS Victoria Branch at (250) 384-4225 or Debbie at Morningside Law (250) 653-9966

**20 COMING EVENTS**

**Love Your Library**

An evening of celebratory reading to benefit the Fulford Elementary School Library

**With readings by:**

- Shirley Graham
- Brian Brett
- Kathy Page
- Nadine Shelly
- Robert Bateman
- Peter Levitt
- Murray Reiss

**Friday February 9th at 7:00 pm in the Fulford Elementary Library.**

Suggested donation of \$10 at the door. Please bring your sweetheart and leave the children at home.

**2007 Registration**



**Saturday, January 27, 2007 1-3 p.m.**

**@ Farmers Institute**

Youth ages 9-21

- Learn about raising and showing sheep in a positive and supportive environment
- 4-H promotes leadership, self-confidence, and personal development
- No farm? No problem! Lease a lamb or pasture

Call leaders

Sharyl @ 538-1900 or Martin @ 537-2920

**26 LEGAL**

Notice that creditors and others having claims against the estate of John Matthew (Jack) DuMoulin of Salt Spring, deceased, who died December 26, 2006 must file particulars thereof with the Executrix, B. DuMoulin, 116 Cairns Place, Salt Spring by February 12, 2007.

**29 LOST AND FOUND**

**LOST/ REWARD.** Firehall curves Fulford, Thurs. Jan 18, 4 pm.; large Rubbermaid plastic blue, white bin. Containing two, 15' tow chains, 2 red block/tackle lifting slings, rope, 10' warn winch electrical connector, red/black. P.S. To the small truck seen stopped, picking this up please call Roger, 537-6058! Consider your Karma!

**32 MEETINGS**

**Islands Trust SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF BUSINESS MEETING**

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will be meeting to consider various matters of general business, such as applications received, bylaw reviews and meeting notes.

**DATE: Thursday, February 1, 2007 TIME: 1:00 P.M.**

**PLACE: ArtSpring 100 Jackson Avenue**

Starting at 1:00 p.m., up to 45 minutes will be available for the public to discuss local land use matters with the Local Trust Committee. Those who wish to present a more formal petition, or make a delegation to the Committee as an Agenda item, must advise Islands Trust staff at least one week in advance of the meeting so that they can be added to the beginning of the Agenda. For information about the Agenda, please call the Islands Trust at 537-9144.

**34 NOTICES**

IF YOUR Driftwood subscription label has the date highlighted, now is the time to renew!

**AQUAFIT AT SUMMERSIDE** If you would like to loosen up stiff joints, relieve stress, or lose some pounds and have some fun, aquafit is for you! Mon., Wed. & Fri. 9 - 10 am. For more information, call Theresa @ 537-1867.

**THRIFTY SMILE** cards now available to support SSI Transition House. Pick yours up at Transitions Thrift Store. Thank you!

**34 NOTICES**

**Are YOU in the book?**



To advertise in the next SSI Directory, call **537-2000**

Leave us your business name, mailing address and phone number, and ask us to mail you an Advertiser Information Package. Last years' advertisers will automatically receive renewal packages in December

**Lions Publications**

**Employment**

**50 BUSINESS OPP**

**WORK AT HOME ONLINE** - Start a real home-based business. Work when you want. Apply online and start today! www.wfhbc.com.

**TURF LOGIC FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITY** - 100% pesticide free lawn care. High-tech system, low investment, protected territory, outdoor lifestyle. Spring is coming soon! Toll-free 1-866-239-4056, www.turflogic.ca.

**PET LOVERS** join Multi Menu franchisee team. Free home delivery of pet food & 6500 accessories. PT/FT. Start-up campaign plus ongoing support & training, no royalties, exclusive territories, more than 125 franchises sold. Call toll-free 1-877-462-0056 or 250-896-6368, www.multimenu.ca.

**MONEY MAKER.** Local route. No selling on your part. For more info call 1-866-821-2569; www.telecardinfo.com.

**THERE IS A CRITICAL SHORTAGE** of medical transcriptionists. Start your on-line career training today! At-home and on-site employment opportunities. Contact us today for a free information package! 1-800-466-1535 or www.canscribe.com.

**50 BUSINESS OPP**

**GO WILD IN OUR CLASSROOMS!** Train to be an adventure guide. Nine-month Outdoor Recreation & Ecotourism Certificate. College of New Caledonia, Valemount, BC. 1-888-690-4422; www.cnc.bc.ca/valemount.

**BECOME A HOME STAGER** with our distance education course. Learn professional skills and how to start your own business. ISPTM certification. Free brochure. 1-800-559-7632. www.qcdesignschool.com.

**TRAIN TO BE** an Apartment/Condominium Manager. New jobs coming in weekly! Online or home-study certified course. Government registered school! Free brochure. 1-800-665-8339, 604-681-5456, www.RMTI.ca.

**55 HELP WANTED**

**FULL TIME** dock manager, boating or aircraft knowledge an asset, drivers license required. Send resume to Box # 7, c/o The Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2V3.

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE** needed for a youth art program, Fridays at Fulford School. For more information call Johanna @ 653-9383.

**JANA'S BAKE SHOP**

**LOOKING FOR** someone with excellent customer relations, strong multi-tasker, and reliable to join small team. Benefits package available. Please drop off resume to 324 Lower Ganges Rd.

**DRIVER WANTED.** Driver's abstract needed with resume. Apply at Salt Spring Garbage. 537-2167.

**FULFORD PUB** now hiring a part-time line cook and a dishwasher/delivery driver. Apply with resume to Jeff. Also, part-time Beer & Wine store clerk and part time waitress required. Apply with resume.

**CHILD CARE** needed for 2 1/2 yr. old girl for Fri. and Sat., days, south end preferably. Call Lisa 653-4432 or email lisareda@shaw.ca.

**WANTED: CARTOONIST** for small pilot project. 537-5873.

**CARPENTER'S HELPER** or apprentice required. Must have hand tools and own trans. Non-smoker only. Please phone Tony. 537-7286.

**TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED** for work with highways maintenance on the Queen Charlotte Islands. Grader experience would be an asset. Fax resume to 250-557-4306, or call 250-557-4282.

**GM DEALERSHIP** requires Automotive Technicians. Excellent wages, benefits, moving allowance, great working and living environment. Check out www.lakecitymotorproducts.com and www.coldlake.com. Fax resume to 780-594-2675. Call 1-800-661-9920.

**PHONE DISCONNECTED?** Super special: only \$10 for first month plus hook up. Everyone welcome. Guaranteed approval. Free long distance package. Call Easy Reconnect now 1-877-446-5877.

**THE PERFECT JOB**

The Driftwood newspaper has an opening for a full-time administrative assistant.

We're looking for someone who enjoys working with the public in a busy office environment.

Duties include reception, classified advertising, and administrative work.

Typing skills, knowledge of MS Office and Macintosh computers essential. Bookkeeping experience an asset.

Send resumes to:

Eva Kuhn c/o the Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2V3.

Or email to:

ekuhn@gulfislands.net



**55 HELP WANTED**

**NOW HIRING** gravel crusher tower operator. Minimum 5 years experience required. Alberta wages, benefits, temporary accommodations. Day and weekend shifts. Fax resume 780-689-2977.

**OLYMEI** is a world class Canadian pork and poultry product producer, with more than 9,000 employees throughout Canada. Our Red Deer location is now hiring food processing workers. Competitive wages, relocation program, employee incentives!!! Send your resume to OLYMEI 7550 - 40th Avenue, Red Deer, Alberta T4N 6R7. Phone 1-866-926-3544. Fax: 1-403-309-7547. apply@olynei.com, www.olynei.ca.

**AIR, WATER CONSULTANTS,** Sales Managers, BC, AB. Training provided. Check www.watcanada.ca. E-mail resume: ron@watercanada.ca, or fax 1-866-765-1508. Call Ron @ 1-888-765-4401, ext. 112.

**SALES PERSON WANTED IN BC:** w/ travel agent, front office / related experience to take bookings for 4 season wilderness Ranch. Relocation required. Accommodations on site. www.chilcotinholidays.com. Fax: 250-238-2241.

**55 HELP WANTED**

**FREE 128 PAGE "Career Opportunities"** Guide. Earn more!! Get promoted!! Train at home for a payraise-new career-top paying job. Call Granton Institute at 1-800-361-1971, ext. 65 for free guide. www.grantoninstitute.com.

**2ND POWER ENGINEERS OLYMEI.** Red Deer, Alberta's largest employer is now hiring 2nd Class Power Engineers. Competitive wages, relocation program, employee incentives, unionized position and much more! Send your resume to OLYMEI 7550-40th Avenue, Red Deer, Alberta T4N-6R7. Phone 1-866 926-3544. Fax: (403) 309-7547. deanhardman@olynei.com, www.olynei.ca.

**CLASSIFIED HOTLINE 537-9933**

**55 HELP WANTED**



**Did you know?**

**Beacon Employment Services**

has special employment and training programs for people between the ages of 15 and 30?

**Want to learn more?**

Phone us at 537-5979 or drop by our offices at #206 - 343 Lower Ganges Rd. Salt Spring Island 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The Government of Canada has Contributed to this initiative



**POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

**In our Kitchen and Restaurant**

Please send resumes to:

• saltspringinn@ssisland.com

• Box 001 Driftwood

• Call Barry Edwards (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.) 537-9339



www.saltspringinn.com

**PART TIME SECRETARIAL POSITION ANGLICAN PARISH OF SALT SPRING**

The position is that of Office Secretary, being responsible to the Rector for the administration of the parish office.

The parish functions through the combined activities of volunteers co-ordinated through the office.

**Essential Qualifications include:**

- computer competence in word processing and basic desktop publishing techniques
- knowledge of office procedures
- strong interpersonal skills
- ability to change focus readily
- willingness and ability to be flexible

**Working Conditions:**

- a basic work week of 15 hours with daily hours to be agreed between the Rector and the incumbent
- employment will be offered on a contract basis
- hourly rate of pay to be determined commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applications, including a resume plus two references, must reach the Office by Monday, February 5th. The successful applicant must be willing to submit to a criminal record check.

**Applications to be sent to:**

Rev. Canon Dr. Murray, Anglican Parish of Salt Spring, 110 Park Drive, Salt Spring, V8K 2R7. Marked "Personal".

**60 WORK WANTED**

**FOR ALL** your renovation and repair needs, phone the Jobman at 537-2262. No job is too small!

**TRUCK, TOOLS, TIME & TALENT**

Call me about your home projects. Chris 537-3552.

**ALL SEASONS GARDENING OVERWHELMED** By garden work? I love to garden...spring planting, seasonal maintenance, organic composting, etcetera. \$20/ hr. 537-1648.

**IN NEED** of some renovations? Call K & R Reno's! Decks, siding, soffits, and interiors. Ken, 537-1316, or Reg, 537-4279.

**BELLE TILE** now available, fully experienced professional crew. All forms, masonry, slate, stone, tile, culture stone, baths, showers. Knowledgeable, references. Michael 537-5340; Leigh 537-0362.

**CERTIFIED TREE** worker. Storm damage and debris clean-up. Tree pruning, planting, transplants, and removals. Experienced with Fire Smart landscapes. Jeff, 537-9732.

**CONSCIENTIOUS CARPENTRY,** quality custom work including design and estimating, renovations, painting, tiles and finishing carpentry. Call Fox at 653-9075.

**CARPENTER WITH** over 30 years experience. Renovations, new construction, construction management. Blue Planet Construction. Call John Savage. Home 537-0012, cell 537-6723.

**CHAINSAW WORK FOR HIRE!**

**FALLING TREES,** clearing wind-fall, cutting firewood and related work. Experienced, knowledgeable, and reasonable rates. Call Gabriel at 537-7596.

**JOB SQUAD**

\* NOW BOOKING FOR FALL PAINTING AND RENOS! \*

"Serving the Island Since 1989"

**537-5703**

**THE CHEERFUL CARPENTER**

Martin McKee

Quality Renovations and New Construction Tel. 538-8206

**Services**

**114 CHILD CARE**

**CHILD CARE** available in my home. E.C.E certified, infants and toddlers welcome. Call Heidi, 653-9228.

**116 CLEANING**

**NO SURPRISES** Housecleaning, insured & bonded, 12 years on island experience has openings for 2007. 537-2186.

**EXPERIENCED AND** thorough housecleaner available to help you through the winter doldrums. \$17.50/ hr. 653-9957.

**118 COMPUTERS**

**Mac Service & Workshops**

**Giclé Workshop \$10** Sat Jan 27: 10 am - noon

**OS X Basic 2** Filing and Connecting Wed Jan 31: 9 am - 11 am

**\$45 for MacClub members**

**MacClub memberships \$45/yr** MacClub meetings, phone support, workshop discounts, be part of the club!

Phone for more information and to pre-register call

**537-5931**

www.tarrisinnovations.ca

**Letter to the editor? Press release?**

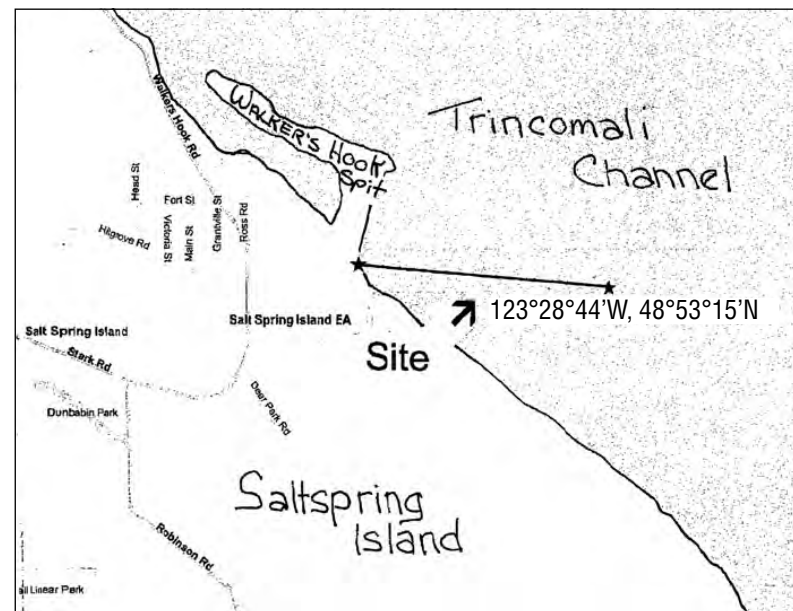
**What's On calendar event? Send it to news@gulfislands.net.**

**Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land**

Take notice that **Sablefin Hatcheries Ltd. of Salt Spring Island, BC,** intends to make application to Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB), Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Coast Region office for a **Utility - Outfall** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Trincomali Channel, Salt Spring Island, BC.**

The Land File Number that has been established for this application is **1412910.** Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Section Head, Integrated Land Management Bureau at 142 - 2080 Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC V9T 6J9. Comments will be received by ILMB until **February 28, 2007.** ILMB may not be able to consider comment after this date. Please visit our website at: <http://www.sgf.gov.bc.ca/clad/index.html> under **Tenure Overview and Program Information** for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor at Integrated Land Management Bureau's regional Office.



**127.1 GARBAGE**

**STRONG WOMAN HAULING**

- reno cleanup
- appliance removal & recycling
- tenant left over clean-ups
- junk & garbage removal & recycling
- brush removal & windfall

**VANESSA (250) 858-1311**

**130 HEALTH**

**HEALER PAUL** Leonard from London, England. Will take appointments from Wednesday January 24th to Sunday January 28th. Call Yogesha 537-0081.

**138 MISC. SERVICES**

**DEBT STRESS?** Consolidate & lower payments by 30-40%. End those phone calls & the worry. Avoid bankruptcy. Contact us for a No-Cost Consultation. Online: [www.mydebtsolution.com](http://www.mydebtsolution.com) or toll-free 1-877-556-3500.

**CLEAR YOUR CRIMINAL RECORD.** Free pardon and US entry waiver assessment. A record affects employment, traveling, and other necessities. Apply online [www.canadianpardons.ca](http://www.canadianpardons.ca). Call 1-800-298-5520.

**DENIED CANADA PENSION PLAN** disability benefits? The Disability Claims Advocacy Clinic can help. Call Allison Schmidt at 1-877-793-3222. [www.saskadvocate.com](http://www.saskadvocate.com).

**CLEAR CRIMINAL RECORDS** with the National Pardon Centre. Your peace of mind guaranteed. Remove barriers to employment, travel, more. Free consultations. 1-866-242-2411. Apply online: [www.nationalpardon.org](http://www.nationalpardon.org). Member: Better Business Bureau.

**156 RENTALS**

**PARTY TIME RENTALS**  
From **TENTS** to **UTENSILS**

- NO GST • LOWEST PRICES
- BEST SERVICE

**\*\*Now available\*\***  
Extendable tent-sits 100-500  
Pick ups at Love My Kitchen  
**537-5882**  
Susan or Joy **537-4577**  
[partytimerentals@telus.net](mailto:partytimerentals@telus.net)

**Merchandise**

**310 BUILDING SUPPLIES**

**SEE US FOR A FAST QUOTE ON ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS!**

- Flooring
- Heating
- Eaves
- Plumbing
- Roofing

For all your building requirements, large or small!

**SLEGG LUMBER LTD.**  
**804 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 537-4978**

**322 COMPUTERS**

CALL BOB McIvor for hardware, software and networking support. We do housecalls. 537-2827 or (cell) 250-538-7017. Please go and back-up your important data now!

LOCAL COMPUTER service & repairs, hardware & software. Sales, home networking. Comparable rates. Visit our online catalogue [technowcomputers.com](http://technowcomputers.com) Call John Savage 537-4805.

**330 FOOD PRODUCTS**

**CALDWELL'S OAKSPRING FARM**  
Since 1882

Currently available:

- FREE RANGE
- GRAIN-FED PORK
- FRESH CUT LUMBER

**537-5380 or 537-2152**

**335 FURNITURE**

PORTABLE SUPER blowup bed, on legs, queen size. Electric motor, carrying case. A-1 condition \$115. 537-5176.

**335 FURNITURE**

DOUBLE FUTON and wood frame. Covered older mattress. 2 bolsters, \$50. 537-9265.

**340 GARAGE SALES**

LIONS GARAGE Sale: Fridays & Saturdays only 10 am - 12 pm. Many household items. Note: We no longer offer pick-ups. We do not accept appliances. Drop-offs accepted only on Fri. & Sat. morning. Please, no garbage!! 103 Bonnet Ave.

**SATURDAY, JAN. 27TH 8:30 - 11:30**

MOVING SALE at 169 South Ridge: Sofabed, Ikea wardrobe, queen bed, twin mattress, 1-mac, new telescope, kit. chairs, trunk, household items, previews at 653-9892.

**MOVING SALE/HOUSE CLEARANCE**

Everything must go, 10 - 6, Sat. Jan 27, 169 Demetri Way, (off Beaver Point Rd.) Bargains for good quality furniture & home-ware, etc. etc.

**350 MISC. FOR SALE**

EXPERT CLOCK repair and restoration - antiques my specialty. Free estimates, reasonable rates. Free home calls for shut-ins and heavy clocks. Mark's Clockworks, 537-5061.

**EXPERT WATCH** repairs by certified watchmaker. We buy scrap gold. Located between Crofton and Duncan. Serving the Cowichan Valley over 25 years. Call L.D. Frank - Jeweller and Watchmaker, 250-748-6058 (Duncan).

**TRANSFER HOME** movies to DVD: 16 mm, Super-8, Regular 8 films. We do video transfers too: Hi-8, 8mm, digital 8, mini-DV or dvcam to DVD or VHS tape. Foreign conversions. Salt-SpringSound, 131 McPhillips Ave. 653-0046.

**STORAGE TANKS:** water, septic, sewage-holding (polyethylene). Ecological Systems: sewage-treatment plants, effluent filters. Visa, Mastercard, American Express accepted. GIS Sales & Rentals, call 653-4013.

PLAN NOW for summer water shortages. Tanks and roof top collection planning. Isles West Water Services. 653-4513.

**DUVETS!**  
COZY AND warm alpaca and wool duvets and pillows. Local fibres, locally made. Call the Spinning Mill at 537-4342. [www.gulfislandsspiningmill.com](http://www.gulfislandsspiningmill.com)

**GREAT SOUND!**  
Pair of Boston Acoustic T830 - 100 watt stereo speakers for sale. Black - 3 way speakers w 8" woofers. Excellent condition, \$150 delivered on SSI. 538-0052.

VISIT THE new "Paw Boutique" featuring quality second hand and new items. Located upstairs at Rainbow Road Trading Co., 133 Hereford Ave. All proceeds to local SPCA shelter.

**WHOLESALE BLOWOUT**  
Generators. Pressure washers. Air compressors. Water Pumps. Danny (403) 703-2557.

ADDRESS POSTS with reflective numbers, visible from both directions, made locally to CRD standards from recycled wood. Dawn at et cetera 537-5115.

**GREAT CROSS-Country** bike. 2006 Kona Fire mountain, \$350. Disk brakes, Mazocchi shocks. 537-5130, email [sexydexy\\_6@hotmail.com](mailto:sexydexy_6@hotmail.com) for pictures.

1/2 LAMB \$4/ LB. Tires 265/65R17 \$50 ea. Oak gate leg table opens to 42" x 60". 653-4386.

**WALL OVEN:** a built-in, 4 year old, 27" GE black, convection oven. Kitchen being renovated. Available mid February. Offers 537-9225.

**NEW SCRAPBOOKS**  
FABLES COTTAGE has a new shipment of scrapbooking supplies in, alphabet stickers, paper kits, fun embellishments! Open 10 - 5 Mon-Sat.

**LAMINATE FLOORING**, 175 sq. ft. Brand new, click together easily. 537-1010.

**VERMONT CASTINGS** electric fireplace. Nearly new, 36". \$750. Call 537-9872 to view.

**TRUCK CANOPY** - 5' x 7'. Good condition, \$50 obo. 537-2288.

**MEMORY FOAM** orthopedic mattresses, NASA technology, very limited quantities, new in plastic. Queen \$389. King \$499. Same day delivery. Call Healthrest 1-888-420-7378.

**350 MISC. FOR SALE**

NEW LOADED COMPUTER only 99 cents/day! Everyone's approved\* Get a loaded MDG computer with an Intel Core2 Duo only 99 cents/day. Includes everything you need: 1 GB RAM, 250 GB HD, 19" LCD Flat Panel, Windows XP and a free\* printer/scanner/copier (\*call for conditions). 1-800-236-2504.

**SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$3,495.00** - Convert your logs to valuable lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. [www.norwoodindustries.com](http://www.norwoodindustries.com).

AT LAST! An iron filter that works. IronEater! Fully patented Canada/U.S.A. Removes iron, hardness, sulfur, smell, manganese from well water. Since 1957. Phone 1-800-BIG IRON; [www.bigirondrilling.com](http://www.bigirondrilling.com).

**FUTURE STEEL BUILDINGS** durable, dependable, pre-engineered, all-steel structures. Custom-made to suit your needs and requirements. Factory-direct affordable prices. Call 1-800-668-8653 ext. 536 for free brochure.

**BUILDING SALE...** Feb/March delivery or deposit holds till spring. 25'x40'x12' \$5,490. 40'x60'x16' \$14,800. Front end optional. Rear end included. Many others. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422, or [www.pioneersteel.com](http://www.pioneersteel.com).

**SALT SPRING Mini Storage**  
347 Upper Ganges Road  
"When convenience and security matter"  
**537-5888**

**351 MISC. WANTED**

13 INCH T.V. Cable ready, with remote, in good condition. 653-4475.

**Salt Spring Island Community Services**  
is collecting "new" items to be distributed at the

**2ND ANNUAL HOMELESS COUNT**

**February 6, 7, & 8**

We need:

- Shampoo • Soap
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Hats • Gloves
- Scarves
- Ferry Tickets

Info: Ranghild Flakstad **537-9176**

**Drop off at Salt Spring Island Community Services**  
268 Fulford Ganges Rd  
[familyplace@ssics.ca](mailto:familyplace@ssics.ca)

**360 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

PIANO & KEYBOARD overstock sale. Casio CTK900 \$399. Roland EP760, 76 weighted keys, w/stand Reg \$899 now \$499. Korg Concert EC150 \$1595. Newcombe upright \$1695. Many more up to 40% off while stock lasts SidneyMusicworks.com. Free keyboard delivery to Saltspring. Rentals & financing available. 656-1900.

**370 PETS/LIVESTOCK**

COMING SOON! Purebred Chihuahua puppies out of CKC registered male and gorgeous apricot female. Litter due Jan.25, 2007. Reserve your puppy now! \$950. 538-0277, 523-0277.

**YEAR OLD** laying chickens. 653-9396.

**SWEET & TALENTED** 13.2 pony for sale or lease. 14.2 Arab - jumping & dressage for 1/2 or full lease @ boarding facility with ring & trails nearby. 653-9898.

**379 FREE/RECYCLABLES**

2 LIKE-NEW American Standard toilets, beige. 538-1601.

**QUEEN SIZE** mattress and box spring. 537-1514.

**WHITE 1 & 5 GAL.** plastic buckets with lids free. 653-4282.

**379 FREE/RECYCLABLES**

THIS COLUMN is designed for free recyclable items only (no animals). There is no charge to place items in this column. Ads can be submitted in person at the Driftwood office (328 Lower Ganges Road) by normal deadline (Monday 4 pm.) or by phone 537-9933, fax 537-2613 or email [driftwood@gulfislands.net](mailto:driftwood@gulfislands.net).

**SALT SPRING Island Recycle Depot** is located at 349 Rainbow Rd. We are open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm. This service is operated by Salt Spring Island Community Services. Please call The Recycle Depot at 537-1200, or Community Services at 537-9971 for information on materials accepted for recycling.

**ELECTRIC HEDGE** trimmer, six sided, 2 level, aluminum birds nest. Has steel poles to elevate. 537-0092.

**FREE FOR the taking:** American Standard toilet, harvest gold colour, working condition. 537-9985.

**390 WEBSITES**

SALT SPRING Music is on the Internet at [www.saltspringmusic.com](http://www.saltspringmusic.com). Hear song samples before you buy. Pay by cheque or credit card. More than 40 CDs available.

**Real Estate**

**410 REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

CHOICE LOT in Arizona City, AZ (south of Phoenix). Lake and 18 hole golf course only blocks away. 537-9826.

**BEAUTIFUL RANCHER**  
Well maintained, wood stove, spring water, .2 acre near Ganges Village in desirable rural location near hiking. \$259,000. 250-653-9898.

**490 WEBSITES**

REAL ESTATE listings for the Gulf Islands are viewable anywhere in the world with Internet access. [www.gulfislands.net](http://www.gulfislands.net).

**520 HOUSES FOR RENT**

**ROYAL Property Management Ltd.**

**Mid Island 93049**  
Furn 1 bdrm  
Cise to twn  
Ocean view  
Now to end June  
1 bthrm 4 appl  
NS NP  
\$1500 + util

**Mid Island 92056**  
Studio/Cottage for an Artist/office  
Shared property  
\$500 +shrd util

**South End 92056**  
1.5 bdrm 1 bath  
cottage near main bldg  
4 appl NS NP  
\$925 + shrd util

**Mid Island 86329**  
New 2 bdrm home  
2 bthrm 4 appl  
NS NP  
\$1500 + util

**Mid Island 91863**  
New 2 bdrm home  
Close to town  
1 bthrm 4 appl  
Heat pump NS NP  
\$1300 + util

**Mid Island 91648**  
3 bdrm small home  
4 appl, avail 1 Dec  
Close to town  
NS NP  
\$1050 + util

**Suite in home 91594**  
1bdrm 1 bthrm + w/d  
4 appl, avail 1 Dec  
NS NP  
\$750. + % util

**Mid island 90959**  
lower studio apt  
bdg share with fam 4  
4 appl ocean view  
NS NP  
\$750 + util

**South End 90852**  
2 bdrm 1.5 bath  
Elect & wood stove  
4 appl NS NP  
\$1200 +util

**North End 90797**  
3 bdrm 2 bthrm  
Orn fireplace  
Elec heat  
3 appl NS NP  
\$1550 +util

**Mid Island 82708**  
4 bdrm 5 appl  
Elect/wood heat  
Walk to beach NS NP  
\$1600 + util

**South End 89908**  
Upper 2 bdrm Suite  
Elect heat only  
Upstairs/downstairs  
4 appl NS NP  
\$900 + util

**South end 88611**  
Rustic oceanfront  
Secluded cottage  
Now to 30 July 07  
2 bdrm 1bthrm  
NS NP  
\$1000 + util

**See these Homes at**  
[www.royalproperty.ca](http://www.royalproperty.ca)

**537-5577**

**Rentals**

**500 APT/SUITES FOR RENT**

BRAND NEW ocean view studio suite near Beddis Beach, \$595 + util. 818-642-5526.

1 BDRM SUITE short term 2-3 months available Feb 1st. North-End, \$750.00+utilities NS,NP. Please call 537-1986 leave msg.

BEAUTIFUL, LARGE apartment near Ganges. Own entry, ADSL, WD, garden. Long term, references, NS, \$875 all inclusive. 653-9898.

**510 COMMERCIAL SPACE**

OFFICE SPACES. Central location in Ganges available immediately. Modern, ground floor with ADSL-ready wiring. \$225 & \$285 plus exp. 537-7666.

190 SQ. FT. COMMERCIAL space, was massage clinic. Also, 198 sq. ft store space. Call Ingvar 537-1210, could be used as bedrooms.

**UPPER GANGES CENTRE 1 - 2nd Floor OFFICE**

- 289 sq. ft.
- 2 pc. washroom
- Chair lift

For more information or to view, please call **537-9220 or 537-2239**

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We clean homes  
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**CALL THESE PROFESSIONALS TODAY!**

**510 COMMERCIAL SPACE**

**Upper Ganges Village Shopping Centre**  
368 Lower Ganges Road

**Space Available**  
**1051 sq. ft.**

Contact: Ferd Kallstrom  
(250) 701-3591

**520 HOUSES FOR RENT**

LONG-TERM HOUSE rental; February '07 to June '07. Beautiful home in Channel Ridge overlooking Stuart Channel. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, fully furnished and complete with appliances. 1.75 acres adjacent to 500 acres of protected land complete w/ hiking trails. Contact Andrew 510-579-3555.

AVAIL. VERY soon, 1150 sq. ft. suites, upper \$1250, lower \$1050, plus shared utilities. Sunny Vesuvius 2 bdrm., NS, cat OK, ref., long term. 537-2809

**520 HOUSES FOR RENT**

NEWLY RENOVATED two bedroom townhouse. Very sunny area close to Ganges, new washer, dryer, fridge, stove, two bathrooms, two decks, new hardwood floor in living area, new carpet in bedrooms, high speed internet available in this area \$1050 per month, available February 1/07. Call 537-6860.

WALK TO town/schools- Large 4 bdrm, sunroom, 2 bath, ADSL, deck and garden with ocean views, fire place. Furnished. Suit family, Feb.1 - Jun.30. Refs. \$1400 plus utilities. Call 537-9197.

**ISLAND EXPLORER**  
Property Management Ltd. & Real Estate Services

3 BDRM HOME ..... \$1500  
Available Feb. 1, Long Term, Vesuvius Area

3 BDRM HIGHEND TOWNHOUSE .... \$1850  
Fully Furnished, Available Now Until June 30

**537-4722**  
**1-800-800-9492**

Island Explorer is a fully licensed, bonded management company under the laws of the B.C. Govt.

**520 HOUSES FOR RENT**

NEWLY RENOVATED one bedroom townhouse. Very sunny area close to Ganges, new washer, dryer, fridge, stove, private patio, new hardwood floor in living area, new carpet in bedroom, high speed internet available in this area, \$825 per month, available February 1/07. Call 537-6860.

OCEAN VIEW upstairs and down. 2 bed/2 bath home, close to Ganges, deck, sunny lawns, fruit trees, wood and carpet flooring, high ceilings, wood stove, new appliances. \$1350 NS/NP. View at 144 Douglas Rd. 360-303-6860 or 538-8597.

LUXURY HARBOUR VIEW; new, 2150 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom with double garage, all appliances, and large deck. Loaded with character; 2 fireplaces, Shaker kitchen, maple floors, high ceilings, clear fir doors and trims. Ideal layout for home-based business or in-law accommodation. Available March 1 or April 1 for long-term at \$2300/month, call 537-8796.

LARGE 2 bedroom trailer, fireplace, private deck, yard, washer, dryer, \$850 per month. Available Feb. 1. Call 537-6860.

AVAILABLE MARCH 1. Three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath duplex, W & D, large yard, close to Fernwood School, NS, \$925. Call 537-4413.

1 BEDROOM MOBILE with cozy additions, small deck in Cedar View Park. \$550/mo. Avail. Feb. 1. 537-0612 evenings.

2 BDRM COTTAGE w/ studio on 4 acres close to Ganges; 5 appliances, great well water, high-speed internet available. \$900/ month+utilities. 1-800-242-9570.

3 BDRM. FULFORD Village, \$1250 + util. Year lease. Refs. Cabin used by owners. Avail. Feb.15, NS, no cats. 250-595-6002.

MARCH 1, beautiful log home near Ruckle Park. 1-1/2 bedroom, wood/elec. heat, W/D, no dogs, N/S, \$900 mo. 653-4319.

AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 1st, three bedroom house, wood stove, hardwood floors, large yard, washer, dryer, N/S, N/P. Long Term \$925/month, 537-4319.

SUBLET NOW till April.15th. 1 bedroom, ocean view, 1/2 acre, fully furnished, comes with cat. \$650/ month + utilities. 537-1503.

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY. New 2 bedroom house for rent, close to town, NS, \$1000 includes utilities, references required. 537-1748.

CONVERTED WORKSHOP apartment. 400 sq. ft., skylights, wood stove, large double doors. Good shop/studio/ accommodation for one. Long term rental for the right person. NS. References required. Avail. Mar. 1. \$550/mo., all included. 537-8733.

**530 SHARED ACCOMMODATION**

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY - looking for 1 person to join two 25 year-old girls in a new 3 bedroom house. No dogs, no smoking, references required. \$500 per month includes utilities. Washer & dryer in house. 537-1748.

AVAIL. IMMEDIATELY, clean, quiet room, \$325/ mo. Heat & hydro included, Vesuvius area. 538-8173.

SSI GRAD looking for a roommate in Vancouver. \$465.00/month. Not incl util. d/w, n/p, Indry. (Coquitlam), 5 min bus to Lougheed sky train. 778-840-0299.

LARGE ROOM, shared kitchen & bathrooms. Quiet house. No pets. Walk to Ganges. Furnished or not, \$380 includes hydro. 653-4573.

ONE BEDROOM of two bedroom house, private bath, share kitchen, ocean view w/d dishwasher, big deck. \$600 plus 1/2 hydro. Call 537-8816, cell 537-6807.

FERNWOOD AREA- Avail. immediately one bedroom and own bathroom of furnished home to share with responsible female. Seaview. Beach access nearby. Share utilities, gardening, housework. Quiet area. Rent \$500. 537-4941.

**540 WANTED/RENTALS**

LONG-TIME island resident, looking for a new home 1 - 2 bedroom, cabin or suite, long-term. I'm employed full time and have excellent references, Alan 653-9440.

1 BEDROOM SUITE or cabin with own washroom and kitchen for a quiet B.C. Ferry employee. For long-term rent. 604-785-5475.

**540 WANTED/RENTALS**

RETIRED COUPLE looking for furnished house to rent or house sit for 2 to 3 months. prefer close to Ganges. Excellent references. 537-4308.

DESIRABLE TENANTS with impeccable references looking with landlord with same. 537-9612.

WANTED: PASTURE lease or farm lease (with house). Must be suitable for horses and 4-H sheep. 538-1900.

**Accommodation**

**615 HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION**

TIMESHARE RESALES - 60-80% off retail! Best resorts & seasons! Call for free Timeshare Magazine! Open 7 days a week! 1-800-597-9347. Browse online for over 400 worldwide properties—www.holidaygroup.com/bcn.

**690 WEBSITES**

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION for the Gulf Islands is a mouse-click away. www.gulfislands.net.

**Transportation**

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We are qualified to do your job fully guaranteed

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We Value the Island™

**COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS**  
Unleaded Fuels • Diesel Tires • Batteries • Accessories

**537-4554 or 537-9300**

Monday-Saturday 8 am - 7 pm  
Sunday 9 am - 6 pm

Corner of Rainbow Rd. and Jackson Ave.

**820 BOATS & MARINE, SALES**

8' INFLATABLE BOAT, Haplyon, wood floor, \$350. Call 537-2887.

**Lease Returns**

**Yamaha Outboards**  
8,40,50, 90,150 H.P.  
Four Strokes.

**Factory warranty 'til spring '08**  
**Save \$\$\$**

**SGpower**  
730 Hillside Ave., Victoria  
250-382-8291  
www.sgpower.com

**825 CARS, SALES**

1985 TOYOTA CELICA GTS. White, 5 speed manual, tinted windows, CD player, \$1800 obo. 537-5268 (day), 537-1906 (evenings).

1985 TOYOTA TERCEL, 4 dr., 5 sp., new muffler, runs well. Ready to go. \$795. 538-6209.

1992 NISSAN NX hatchback, 1.6 litre, glass t-roof, 5 spd, pf, pb. 155,000 kms and very good on gas. \$3000 obo. 653-4526.

1999 FORD ESCORT wagon, white, 4 cyl., great gas economy, good condition, \$4995 obo. 538-0965.

**GREAT DAILY DRIVER!**  
2000 FORD FOCUS ZTS (top of the line model). Great car for long trips, great on gas, only 119,000 kms. Loaded (power everything), new tires, CD player, A/C, nice rims, alarm system (not that you need it on Saltspring), 4-door, silver exterior, no accidents. Battery still on warranty! Priced for quick sale at \$6,500 obo. 538-5543.

APPROVED AUTO FINANCING www.credit-queen.ca. All makes, cars, trucks, vans & SUVs. Turned down by bank? Needing a vehicle today? 200 vehicles online to choose from. Same day approval. Apply online or call Joanne at 1-866-602-3743 DL 5231.

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**835 MOTORCYCLE/SCOOTER, SALES**

1999 KAWASAKI NINJA 600. Very low kilometres, great shape, no accidents, one owner. Upgraded Hndle exhaust, Sub-Zero windscreen, comes with 2 helmets (size large and med). First \$4,500 takes it. Call Brett, 538-5543.

2003 SUZUKI BERGMAN 650 scooter. 23,000 kms, navy, \$6700. 537-1408.

**ISLAND'S LARGEST AND BEST SELECTION**  
Yamaha • Honda • Vespa  
Piaggio • Derbi

**GREAT WINTER SPECIALS**

**SGpower**  
730 Hillside Ave., Victoria  
250-382-8291  
www.sgpower.com

**850 TIRES**

CAR TIRES for sale: P185-70R14 4 all-season radicals with rims, 2 next to new, 2 used. \$150/ set obo. 653-2025.

FOUR WINTER tires, good condition. Two BFG winter Slalom and two Nordic Wintertrac 235/75 R15 \$50 each. (250) 537-9292.

WINTER TIRES, set of 4 on rims. Directional Pirelli, used slightly, 215/65-R15 not needed as my van was stolen. \$225 obo. 537-9230.

**855 TRUCKS/4X4S**

1999 TOYOTA TACOMA, 4 x 4. 140,000 km, black, TRD package, 4 cyl., 5 speed \$22,000. 537-1163.



**FOR SALE**  
**Black 2000 Dodge Dakota RT**  
(road & track)  
5.9L V8 Club Cab  
with Canopy  
Good Condition:  
Price \$17,900  
**537-1475**

**900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY**

PLEASE NOTE: Too Late to Classify ads are accepted until 10:00 am Tuesday at the rate of \$12.75 for 20 words or less and 50 cents for each additional word. The Driftwood cannot be responsible for errors or omissions as these ads may not be proof read because of time constraint.

SAM ANDERSON Appliance Repair. Hot water tank and appliance installation. Authorized warranty technician for all makes. 537-5268.

**900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY**

GULF ISLANDS Optical. 50% refund on the cost of your eye test when you purchase a full set of frames and lenses. Lancer Bldg. 537-2648.

OPENING SOON!...Salt Spring Inn Restaurant & lounge. Across from the Visitor's Center. www.salt-springinn.com

RIDING LESSONS. Your horse or ours, English or Western, certified coaches. Blennerhassett Equestrian Centre, ph. 250-537-2089.

ADULT POOL Memberships at Summerside. Limited memberships available for \$100./month. includes daily access to our indoor pool and exercise area. For more information call Theresa @ 537-1867.

**WEB HOSTING**

Only \$9.99 per mo. Dial-up from \$11.95. Accelerated dial-up from \$14.95. ADSL from \$32.95. Local & Dependable Internet www.saltspringinternet.com. Call Barb 538-0052.

FREE DINNER at the Rock Salt Restaurant & Cafe on the day of your birthday when you eat with 2 other adults.

BEAUTIFUL OLD piano \$500. 653-9977.

GONE FISHIN' Cathy & Sam of Family Jewels will be closing the store for winter vacation from Thurs. Jan. 18 and reopening Tues. Feb. 6. Look forward to seeing you then.

**Travelling South this Season??**

Island Escapades has an excellent selection of clothing and footwear for tropical adventures - swim suits, shorts, capris, quick dry tops, style shirts, sandals...also travel luggage and accessories, backpacks, snorkeling gear, swim goggles... 163 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 537-2553.

WANTING TO buy wooden bunkbed, wooden kids kitchen furniture, good quality juicer, potter's wheel & kiln. 537-2922.

ADIOS AMIGOS! Family Jewels is closed until Tuesday, Feb. 6. We look forward to serving you again then. Cathy and Sam.

SUPERBOWL SUNDAY is ladies night out at Rock Salt Restaurant, Sunday, Feb. 4th. We will be featuring a variety of small plate specials & pitchers of sangria from 3p.m. - 9p.m. New kids menus! Men are welcome but warning no T.V. here! Reservations, 653-4833.

HERITAGE PLACE Seniors Residence would be grateful for volunteers who would like to share their talents, knowledge and experiences with the residents. We welcome story tellers; travelogues; bird watchers; musicians; historians; any interesting topic. Are you a singer, pianist, music group or small choir wanting to practice with an audience? Yoga instruction? Children's groups very welcome. Call office at 537-8340.

PRAWNS OR cash reward. Bucket of yellow and white rope last seen at Centennial dock. Russ Murcheson. 537-9475.

**MARK'S WORK WEARHOUSE**

WINTER JACKET blowout! Mens and ladies up to 80% off.

WANTED TO buy: firewood logs. Konig & Son Firewood. 793-2592.

BUNK BEDS needed! Someone called but I wrote your number down wrong. Please call again, I would like them or any others that may be out there. Also needed a good, working refrigerator. Thank you. Jamil and Luke. 653-9112.

CLASSICAL GUITAR by Alan Miceli - Valentine's Eve 6p.m. - 9p.m. - Rock Salt Restaurant - no cover, no hat!

SOUTH SALT Spring Island Property Owners and Residents Association meeting. Wednesday January 31st, 7.30 p.m. at the OAP at Fulford Hall.

**SALE! THE GREEN ROOM**  
CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT Store selected Fall/ Winter stock 20% off! New consignment clothing: 0-18 months. Fresh stock weekly!

**SALT SPRING COMMUNITY SERVICES &**

Victoria Coolaid Society are conducting The 2007 Homeless Needs Survey. Local service producers and community volunteers will be surveying homeless and inadequately housed people from February 6 to 8 to find out what people need to get proper housing. The survey is a short (15-20 min.) interview, and it will be completely anonymous (you will not be asked for your name). Private tables will be set up and some basic supplies will be handed out. It's a chance for you to tell helping agencies in what would really help you in your current situation and an opportunity to share some of your story with us. Feb. 6, Tuesday, Food Bank, 11 - 4. Feb. 7, Wednesday, Mrs. Clean Laundromat 9 - 5. Feb. 8, Thursday, Fulford Inn, 9 - 5. Info: www.coolaid.org. The Government of Canada has contributed funds to this initiative. More info: Salt Spring Island Community Services, Ragnhild Flakstad, 537-9176.

**900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY**

1993 CHEVY BLAZER. Well maintained, all records, \$2900. Evenings. 653-2019.

TREAT YOUR true love or best friend to a luxurious candle lit 3 course dinner for two on Valentine's Day at Rock Salt Restaurant for \$69.95 - see our Driftwood ad for details. Reservations recommended, 653-4833.

**900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY**

1984 DODGE RAM Charger, 2 wheel drive, 318, Auto., ps, pb, 196,000 Km., good condition. Asking \$1500. Bob. 537-4017.

**BABY TO BIG KID**

THE GREEN Room consignment store has clothing, shoes and accessories for all! Call 537-4340 to consign.

**900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY**

FULL-TIME employed couple with mature, well-behaved dog looking for a place to rent soon. Call 537-4111, leave a message.

HAVE COMPUTER problems, that just don't go away? Frustrated, not knowing where to turn! If this is you? Call Tech Now Computers. Professional, friendly computer service. 537-4805)

**This Week's Horoscope**

by Michael O'Connor

**Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**

Your revolutionary spirit is awakening. Your wisdom mind reminds you that all truly authentic revolutions begin within. Progressively reviewing and changing any perceptions, attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns that are fearful, narrow and selfish. This is the mark of a true spiritual warrior; making necessary changes within then taking action without according to a clear vision and sense of purpose. Learning and/or instructing others 'how to' is a reflection of your ambition now. You are open and willing to aim for a new sense of truth, justice and fair deal. This includes inner and outer correspondences. Do you recognize and acknowledge your mission in accordance with your current reality?

**Taurus (Apr 21 - May 20)**

You are ready to make some real waves in your public and/or professional life. Your focus is strategic and innovative. Perhaps you have tried everything you could think of and now are open to advice. Are there perhaps inner fears that are blocking your way in the outer world? Yes, it is an esoteric question but that is the way it is. Exoteric, esoteric, outer, inner, conscious, subconscious and so on ever mirroring one another - a virtual no brainer! Break through inner blocks and the outer ones will dissolve, like magic. Not only will you realize dreams and achieve your goals by this method, you will spare yourself the grief of injury because you are ready to break through walls with your fists if you must.

**Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)**

Something new and exciting is happening in your life. Events and movements are drawing your attention. People, perhaps even crowds or an audience are eager to celebrate with you. You want to go big and will delegate to others to fulfill your vision as necessary. Your love and your dream vision are large and you want everyone to know about it. In one way or another to want to awaken others and perhaps to be shaken awake yourself. The status quo and even the comfort zone can get awfully boring and it as part of your destiny to create opportunities and mischief if necessary to stir some excitement. The world is a stage and this is your cue to assume the role of director... again.

**Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)**

Seeing the deeper picture and perhaps the bigger one too continues to inspire your visions. It is likely that you are entering new territory somehow or perhaps other new key players are approaching you. You may be interested in making investments of some kind. This is a good time to think carefully about what constitutes your priorities. In a world where the blind and the devious are leading the masses it is good to think carefully about what is important and about what you want. Perhaps you are better off investing time and energy into clearing the old stuff or the unfinished business before launching into new commitments. Discernment!

**Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23)**

O.K. now that you have your health goals and actions on track... right... it is time to more fully entertain what you can do for the sake of your relationship life. Whether personal, romantic, professional or otherwise it is time to initiate new connections. Do not wait for others to do it for you, you must take the lead. Before you do however, look to the bigger picture

and do your research as well. This is a carpenter call to measure twice and call (cut) once to avoid wasted time or disappointments. To begin, get clear on what you want and especially what you feel you need - the two are not the same. Meditate, contemplate and strategize as necessary to determine your course and then delegate as needed.

**Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 22)**

What does achieving more in your life actually mean to you? This is an ever important question that is probably not asked enough as people teeter and totter in mounds of debt and restrictive responsibilities. Sometimes more is less and vice versa. What would you like to be free from and free to do? In both cases it will require some measure of discipline to achieve your goals. With your confidence on the rise, you are in a good position to more clearly decipher your priorities. Avoid mind games but do play with the prospects of liberating yourself from the limiting realities of the following: inherited self-concepts; habitual attitudes, pleasure associations and behaviour patterns; subconscious blocks. Sound ambitious? Give yourself a year and get going!

**Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)**

Your focus now is engaged with creative expressions and activities. Doing these with a little help from your friends is the call now. Be willing to share and be aware of undue pride or hard attitudes. Imagination power is ever the key to magic and the one that will open new doors especially this week. On the other hand, be careful of an overactive imagination that conjures fear about the future or unwarranted suspicions - these will backfire now, as always. Getting to the bottom of things and making some key changes and perhaps renovations is timely. Look at your own patterns and attitudes in this regard before externalizing your focus. Co-create cooperatively for success!

**Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**

The focus now is centering upon the home front. While this may well include your family and perhaps your house(s) too, it may also include re-connecting with your core. This may imply your body needs and becoming more aware about your basic constitution, its particularities and how it differs from that of others, dietary needs for example. At deeper levels this can include your core nature. Who are you beyond your likes, dislikes and routine behaviour patterns? This mode or enquiry can bring you into a closer embrace of your actual mission and purpose in life for the short and the long term as well as that of your family. Bore the core to discover what makes you and others unique and special.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**

Acknowledging your full responsibility in whatever is going on in your life continues. This is a call to more fully awaken in consciousness and perception. Feeling victimized may be valid yet playing the

victim is a sure way of giving away your power. This is a reminder that the universe is more energetic/economical than it is righteous/ethical. In other words, what attitudes and actions are truly worth your time? The cosmic stage is set for you to expand your psychological and spiritual vision. At more practical levels this is a good time to network and increase the quality and scope of your connections, contacts and associations. Create a deeper and more realistic vision.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**

The time has come to design a more effective plan and create a more innovative platform for your expressions and ambitions. This includes conducting an inventory of your resources, assets and talents or those you can access. Strategic networking is part of the plan as is creative brainstorming with others. It is likely that you already have a lot of insight in this regard but perhaps there are some angles you have either not considered or actually implemented. Breaking into new territory is likely and ideal yet to be successful you may have to take the road less traveled. What can this mean in practical terms that relate to your actual reality? Meet at headquarters.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19)**

The Sun is now in your sign and this will activate your pioneering spirit. A new sense of freedom is inspiring your momentum. While this includes outer expressions and the risks they require, it also includes working behind the scenes and doing inner work. Inner work can imply an administrative focus and it can also mean spiritual work. Emotional clearing especially in terms of subconscious fears is a good basic example. Meditation and intention are the two basic, effective and natural tools in this regard. In other words, set your intention to clear fears via a meditative process and you will gain both insights about what they are and courage and wisdom guidance to overcome them. Don't be a believer, be a good scientist and actually experiment.

**Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**

Working the angles behind the scenes is probably your best approach while the Sun is in Aquarius. The outer world is calling and it is wise to answer yet also do what you can to proceed according to your intuition regarding the timing. You stand to be more effective and achieve more in the long run by attending to unfinished business before venturing into new territory. New ideas and contacts may emerge and it is good to work with them yet from the standpoint of actual contacts set aside until later in February at least. Now is the time to push through creative blocks and procrastinations surrounding realistic actions and duties in the office or within your own mind! Be the director of your own play and choose your own timing that intuition dictates as much as possible.

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# Islander takes couch surfing for a spin

By **STACY CARDIGAN SMITH**  
Driftwood Staff

Looking to escape the winter weather but need to do it on the cheap? For those who enjoy meeting new people and skipping straight to the freeloading friend stage, Couchsurfing.com might be just the thing you're looking for.

A website linking those with couches to those needing a place to crash, Couchsurfing.com claims to have over 154,000 members, with approximately 180 members joining daily.

But it's not just a place to find a couch to sleep on, it's a great way to meet people from all over the world. According to the website, 214 countries, 19,699 cities and 978 languages are represented by surfers.

Salt Spring resident Aaron Singbeil signed up as a surfer on December 6, 2006. He sings the program's praises.

"It's a really beautiful way for people to meet people and share your space and help people travel," he said of the site.

Singbeil first heard about the program from an airplane seat mate on a flight to Hawaii.

He signed up while in Hawaii and e-mailed a number of users in the area. Although he did not need a couch to crash on, he did meet up with a man who showed him around the island.

"That's a big part of the site: it's a cultural exchange," said Singbeil.

According to the website: "Couch-Surfing is about participating in change. We make a better world by

opening our homes, our hearts, and our lives. We open our minds and welcome the knowledge cultural exchange makes available . . . The friendships made through Couch-Surfing enhance members' lives and contribute greatly to making the world a better, safer, more peaceful place."

The service works as follows: you sign up and create a profile. You can enter as much or as little info about yourself as you want, including your interests, personal philosophy, and where you've travelled, to name just a few.

However, the more information you enter, the more likely you are to have success using the site.

"I really like the feature that it has when you look at people's profiles and it shows their mission statement. I like choosing people based on their mission statement," said Singbeil.

You can also choose whether you would like to host someone on your couch, or whether you would prefer to just meet for coffee.

Then, you can surf the surfers. If you're travelling somewhere, you can contact a person from the area and see if they'd like to meet.

Alternately, you can sit back and hope someone sends you a message. But there's no obligation on anyone's part.

Couchsurfing.com is very clear that it is not to be used as a dating site. It also takes numerous steps to ensure the safety of surfers. For example, you can have others vouch for you (the more, the better) or, for \$25, you can have site administrators send a piece of mail to your home which



**COZY QUARTERS:** Singbeil, along with his cat, shows off one of the beds available to couch surfers in his home.

Photo by Stacy Cardigan Smith

includes a verification code. When you enter this code on the site, you receive full verification (and are more likely to find a couch to sleep on). The money goes towards keeping the site alive.

Although Singbeil said he believes most people who travel today are still generally good people, the built-in security features of the site are helpful.

But he said the nature of the site means that not everyone will be anxious to participate.

"Not everyone is open to letting people live in their place. It attracts a certain type of people," he said.

Singbeil has not yet been contacted by someone to stay at his place, which is a converted school bus, but looks forward to when he does. He

estimates he would allow someone to stay with him for a week, but adds it all has to do with the specific situation.

Although he does not have any major travel plans in the near future, Singbeil says he looks forward to using the site for smaller trips, for example, to nearby cities for concerts and sporting events.

# Has Prime Minister Stephen Harper gone green?

Well, it took Stephen Harper a while, but he finally put Rona Ambrose out of her misery, shuffling her out of the limelight of the environment ministry and replacing her with the smiling face of John Baird.

Some have argued that the move is long overdue, as Ms. Ambrose was often faulted for her poor performance on the environment file. Of course, poor performance in this context doesn't mean insufficiently protecting the environment. It means she was unable to assuage concerns held by the public, the opposition, and the media, that Stephen Harper's government is completely uninterested, even hostile, towards the environment.

Ms. Ambrose indeed may not have been the best spokesperson, often coming across as somewhat cold and prickly on a file that is considered

more warm and fuzzy. Mr. Baird, on the other hand, is outgoing and well liked. He's also influential and politically savvy. Within a couple of hours of the announcement of his appointment, he telephoned me to say that he was committed to working with environment groups because climate change was a serious problem that, if anything, was being underestimated by scientists.

He also assured me that he was "not a member of the flat-Earth society." I don't know if he was comparing himself to his predecessor, the rest of the Conservative cabinet, the prime minister or just making an offhand joke, but the comment is an important one.

That's because whether or not Ms. Ambrose cared a whit about the environment was irrelevant, as will be the case with Mr. Baird. The reality is

that government policy under the Harper administration is dictated by one person – Stephen Harper. John Baird could be a card-carrying member of Greenpeace and he still wouldn't be able to change a thing without Mr. Harper's blessings.

So, is Mr. Harper changing his stripes? It certainly didn't hurt that former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney recently made public statements, urging Mr. Harper to go green. As Mr. Mulroney pointed out, it helped him to do so back

in 1988 when he embraced the rising tide of environmentalism. In fact, Mr. Mulroney was recently hailed as Canada's greenest prime minister.

Of course, Mr. Mulroney may not have had a green bone in his body. He was ultimately responding to public concern. Mr. Harper is now in that same position, though he seems reluctant to admit it. Public concern over environmental problems, especially global warming, has reached an all-time high. It would be politically foolish to ignore

those concerns.

Yet Mr. Harper has done a remarkable job of ignoring them thus far in his stint as prime minister. For a long time it seemed like he hadn't realized that he actually won the last election, appearing content to simply blast the Liberals' environment record as though he was still in opposition. However, behind the scenes, there was no doubt about who was in charge, as Mr. Harper abandoned Canada's Kyoto commitment and systematically dismantled all the environmental projects and policies the previous government had developed.

In their place, Mr. Harper left promissory notes for a comprehensive "made in Canada" solution to Canada's growing environmental woes. Eventually, that laughable language was purged and replaced with the equally disingenuous

"Clean Air Act." When Ms. Ambrose was savaged by the international community at a U.N.-sponsored climate meeting about the obvious weaknesses and insufficiencies of the Act, and her government's abandonment of Kyoto, she simply reverted to bashing the Liberals.

It's been a rocky ride for Mr. Harper's government on the environment file. Given his history on the issue, the most likely scenario is that Mr. Harper will do the bare minimum he must to quell rising public concerns over the environment. What that bare minimum is will be determined by the Canadian public, who will decide if he's green enough or really just another member of the flat-Earth society.

Take the Nature Challenge and learn more at [www.david-suzuki.com](http://www.david-suzuki.com).

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BY DAVID SUZUKI



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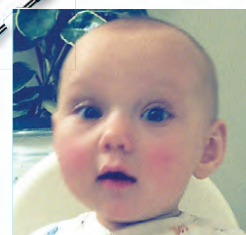
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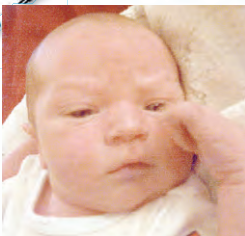
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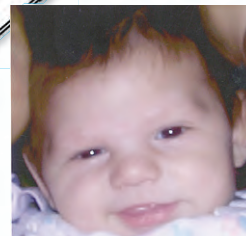
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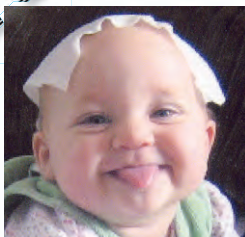
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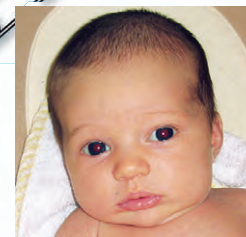
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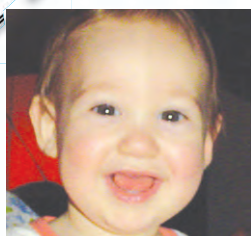
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