

Have a Grand Christmas\$! **HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE**

SEE PAGES A13 to A15

2008 CALENDAR  
Driftwood  
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

INSIDE

Be Responsible this Holiday Season  
**DON'T DRINK & DRIVE!**  
SEE PAGE B16

# GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, December 19, 2007 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 47TH YEAR — ISSUE 51 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

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# NEWSBEAT

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS

# Public support credited for man's release

Canadian set free after eight months in Dubai jail

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring woman who took an active role campaigning for the release of Bert Tatham from a Dubai jail is relieved to know he's arrived home in time for Christmas.

Tatham, 36, arrived in Toronto on Tuesday night, two days after authorities released him and 377 other prisoners as part of an amnesty held in conjunction with the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha. Two other Canadian citizens were among those released.

"It's a good news story," said Salt Spring resident Amanda Spottiswoode, the mother of Bert Tatham's partner Sarah Gilmer, 28, of Victoria. "There are so many bad news stories out there and this is a nice change."

Tatham was arrested at the Dubai airport last summer while on his way home

from Afghanistan, where he worked with a U.S.-based non-governmental organization teaching farmers about alternatives to poppy production.

Dubai authorities sentenced Tatham to four years in prison after customs agents found trace amounts of Hashish and a pair of two-year-old poppies in his possession. Tatham, his family and supporters maintain the hashish became attached to him because of the nature of his work in rural areas around Kandahar.

The two "inert poppy husks" were intended as props to educate Canadians about the Afghan poppy supply and associated heroine trade, Spottiswoode said.

"You could probably get more poppies from a poppy seed muffin," she added.

Within days of sending out a mass e-mail, Spottiswoode was overwhelmed by the response from other Salt Springers offering moral and practical support.

"Dozens of the responses were from people I'd even forgotten were on the list,"

she said.

Spottiswoode last saw Tatham two summers ago while sailing with her daughter in the waters surrounding Salt Spring Island.

"He has a genuine desire to help people living in the most desperate conditions," she said.

In a statement released Monday evening, Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier said the amnesty marked a positive step in relations between Canada and the United Arab Emirates.

"We welcome this act of goodwill by the government of Dubai. Canada highly values its friendship with the U.A.E.," he said. "Growing commercial ties and an expanding political dialogue give the relationship important depth."

Despite the government's best efforts, Spottiswoode said, she and many others believe the federal government could have done a lot more much sooner to secure Tatham's release.

"I think that we have a rather naive trust in the

Canadian government, but they really didn't do everything they could do," Spottiswoode said.

Notes of congratulations on www.freebert.ca, a website designed to raise awareness about Tatham's plight, came rushing in once news of his release was confirmed by the government on Monday.

Some echoed Spottiswoode's frustration with Canada's response.

"This freedom comes solely because of the intervention of Dubai's head of state and under no circumstances should anyone have any delusions that his freedom was a result of Canada's so-called 'new government' or its members," reads a comment posted on December 17. "If that were the case, Bert would still be imprisoned."

Precisely how Tatham reacts upon his return and his plans for the future are uncertain, according to Spottiswoode.

"He's angry," she said. "We can't expect it to be plain sailing, but at least he's here."

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11:00 pm (Carols at 10:00 pm) St. Paul's (Fulford)  
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10:00 am Our Lady of Grace  
NEW YEAR'S EVE - DEC. 31  
10:00 pm (Adoration) Our Lady of Grace  
11:00 pm (Candlelight Mass) Our Lady of Grace  
NEW YEAR'S DAY - JAN. 1  
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19	01:48	2.4	7.9	SU	10:05 3.3 10.8
WE	04:54	2.3	7.5		13:56 3.5 11.5
	11:35	3.5	11.5		22:10 -0.2 -0.7
	19:21	0.8	2.6		
20	03:29	2.8	9.2	24	06:49 3.7 12.1
TH	06:11	2.7	8.9	MO	11:14 3.2 10.5
	11:59	3.5	11.5		14:49 3.4 11.2
	19:59	0.4	1.3		22:56 -0.1 -0.3
21	04:32	3.2	10.5	25	07:28 3.7 12.1
FR	07:32	3.0	9.8	TU	12:20 3.1 10.2
	12:29	3.5	11.5		15:43 3.3 10.8
	20:41	0.1	0.3		23:41 0.0 0.0
22	05:22	3.4	11.2		
SA	08:51	3.2	10.5		
	13:08	3.5	11.5		
	21:24	-0.1	-0.3		

## SALT SPRING LIBRARY

# Library offers partial service for now

Repairs to finish in January

Library doors reopened to the public Monday morning, two weeks after a severe winter storm damaged the building's roof and main floor.

"Everyone coming in seems really happy that we're open again," said librarian Marilyn Ming Tuesday.

The list of services offered at the

library includes most non-fiction titles, computer access, DVDs, magazine and newspapers, and some fiction titles. All new books and reference materials remain available.

Ming said she is hopeful the children's section may be reopened by December 21.

Repairs will not be finished until roofers arrive in early January, Ming said.

She said total costs paid by the library's insurance company have not yet been released but noted the library is responsible for a \$2,500 deductible.

Overdue items returned between now and the end of the year will incur no fines. The library closes at 1 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve days. No service will be available on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

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**Happy Holidays to all from Richard and Wendy**

# Newsbeat

## Heads up!

**Gary's Christmas Dinner**

December 25

Meaden Hall, noon

### ENVIRONMENT

# Regional district folds on plastic bag ban proposal

Salt Spring needs alternatives

BY CHRIS STEPHENSON  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

One woman's campaign to ban plastic bags in the Capital Regional District (CRD) was shot down last week by the CRD's Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) in Victoria, which doesn't have the jurisdiction to prohibit the product in retail stores.

Anke Bergner, solid waste planner for the Environmental Services department, said while the CRD has no jurisdiction over banning bags at retail stores, the CRD's SWAC will support education to reduce the use of bags in the district.

"We're leaning towards reductions and to provide alternatives," she said.

Some of those CRD alternatives include creating a separate web page on the district's website listing options to plastic-bag use and adding information to the new recycling guide for the CRD, states a SWAC report.

Despite the CRD's step to reduce the use of plastic bags, Lana Popham, who is lobbying for the ban from her home in Sannich, said the CRD is simply not taking ownership of the issue.

She said many municipalities in the CRD informed

her a decision to ban plastic bags could only be made by the district. However, when she met with SWAC members last Thursday in Victoria they told her the issue was up to individual municipalities.

"It's so silly no one is in charge of random litter," she said.

Popham said she's now more determined than ever to get her message out that plastic bags are a huge and unnecessary detriment to the environment.

In Popham's presentation to SWAC, she said a large amount of oil is wasted in the production of plastic bags.

"A statistic from the U.S. is that it takes 12 million barrels of oil to make the bags that the U.S. consumes annually. Here in Canada an average family of four uses 1,000 plastic bags per year," states a copy of her presentation to SWAC members.

She also pointed out that plastic bags are harmful to marine life.

"Floating plastic bags look like jellyfish to sea turtles. Dolphins, seals and whales will also eat plastic and, with a false sense of fullness, often die of starvation. When plastic breaks down into smaller pieces, smaller birds and fish eat it."

Popham said an alternative action like using a cloth bag when shopping is a simple way to reduce the use of plastic.

"It's such an easy target."

On Salt Spring, Clare Cullen, business account manager at the Island Savings Credit Union, is all for a plastic bag ban. Cullen has thought about how to implement a plan on the island, but has yet to start an active campaign.

"I intend to put together a proposal for Salt Spring Island, but have yet to do so," she said via e-mail.

She said consultation with businesses such as grocery stores and larger retail outlets is essential to achieve a significant reduction in the use of plastic bags.

"The key is offering options to shoppers, such as affordable and attractive cloth bags, boxes, home or office delivery options."

Stores such as Thrifty Foods and Ganges Village Market (GVM) have already taken a step in the right direction, she said.

"Thrifitys and GVM offer the re-usable shopping bags at a reasonable price, which is great."

She said now what she needs is support from the community to get the ball rolling.

Those interested in implementing alternatives to plastic bags on Salt Spring can contact Cullen at c\_cullen@telus.net.

In March 2007, San Francisco became the first U.S. city to adopt a plastic bag ban, followed by the Canadian town of Leaf Rapids, Manitoba.



PHOTO BY CHRIS STEPHENSON

Christy Cook carries a full load of groceries outside of GVM in cloth bags. She's surprised more people don't opt for an alternative to plastic bags.

## News briefs

### Holiday deadlines

Driftwood readers who rely on the paper to spread the word about events they want to publicize should be aware of early deadlines affecting the next two issues of the Driftwood.

Rather than press releases, letters, Rants & Roses or What's On Calendar items being accepted as late as the Monday before Wednesday publication dates, they must be received by the Driftwood office no later than 10 a.m.

on Friday, December 21 for the December 26 paper, and by the same time on Friday, December 28 for the January 2 issue.

The Weekender will be published on its usual schedule, i.e. going to press on Thursday afternoons.

Advertising deadlines for both the Driftwood and Weekender are also changed for the next two weeks. See the ad in this issue for details, or call the Driftwood office at 537-9933.

If a major news event occurs, visit the Driftwood's website at [www.gulfislands.net](http://www.gulfislands.net).

### \$10 million for repairs

The Capital Regional District (CRD) aims to spend \$10.6 million repairing the emergency communications service in the region, which will vastly improve the system, says Salt Spring's fire chief.

In 2003, the Capital Region Emergency Service Telecommunications (CREST) came online, providing radio communication for police, fire, ambulance, military and transit crews in the CRD.

However, users complained the service often cut out or transmitted weak signals in certain areas.

Salt Spring Fire Chief Dave Enfield said parts of the island are also affected with no service available through CREST. Enfield said the department currently uses a back-up system in case the service fails.

With the anomalies in radio transmission, Enfield is looking forward to the improvements in the CREST service.

"I've been a proponent from the start," he said.

Approximately 36 organizations and 1,800 users rely on the CREST system. Improvements to the service include installing 16 new transmitters throughout the region by June 2008 to boost the signal to 97 per cent reliability in the radio coverage area.

The contact for making the improvements is with Motorola, the original system provider. To ensure the system will meet public safety standards, the contact includes performance standards, remedies for non-compliance and third-

party testing, states a recent press release.

CREST board chairman Hy Freedman said the improvements will affect all user areas.

"We want to provide the best radio coverage possible," he said. "As long as I'm voted as chair I will certainly continue going in that direction."

The CREST system upgrade will be partly funded by a levy on telephone landlines in the CRD.

Municipal representatives in the CRD plan to vote on the CREST system upgrade contract January 10.

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## NEWSBEAT

### BUDIMCIC CASE

# Witness recalls Croatian war

Recounts day in question with Josip Budimcic

BY MITCHELL SHERRIN  
Driftwood Contributor

Testimony from the final witness in an Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) hearing for Josip Budimcic added complexity to both sides of an argument that will decide whether the island man remains in Canada or returns to Croatia following a war-crimes trial in absentia that convicted him with a 15-year jail sentence.

Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) counsel contends that Budimcic withheld information or misrepresented himself as a refugee to Canada.

But fellow Croatian refugee Nedeljko Bosanac offered translated testimony to the IRB hearing that had mixed value for Budimcic.

On the one hand, Bosanac painted a very similar picture to that described by Budimcic of escalating hostilities in Croatia in 1990-1991.

Like Budimcic, Bosanac described problems with mixed marriages between the two ethnic sides of the conflict in former Yugoslavia, since Bosanac's family was Serbian and his wife's family was Croatian.

"[Extremist Croatians] were talking against Serbs and [Croatian president] Franjo Tudjman himself said he was happy his wife was not a Jew or a Serbian. I saw it on TV."

And Bosanac, a retired prison guard, escaped from the developing war in Croatia with his family to Belgrade, just as Budimcic had done in July 1991.

But unlike Budimcic's testimony, Bosanac described how he volunteered to return to the war zone at Tenja, near the Battle of Vukovar in September 1991.

"I can't live in Serbia and have my house in Tenja and not be in the war and help where my house was. Nobody liked us in Belgrade either."

Unlike Budimcic, who claimed he didn't want to fight for either the Croatians or the Yugoslavian Nationalist Army, Bosanac had no qualms telling the hearing that he took sides during the war.

CBSA counsel Ron Yamauchi prompted Bosanac, "You must have hated [the Croatian extremists]."

He replied, "The same as they hated us. It was war."

Bosanac testified that both he and Budimcic carried weapons during guard duty in a farm house near a Croatian position, contrary to Budimcic's earlier testimony that he never had a weapon.

"Sometimes [Croatian soldiers] would sneak up in the day, but mostly at night. They would shoot at us and we would shoot at them," Bosanac said.

But in favour of Budimcic, Bosanac placed himself at an incident where Budimcic was later accused of torturing and executing Croatian prisoners of war (POWs).

Corroborating Budimcic's testimony, Bosanac described how the two men stopped to chat with a dozen POWs during an unarmed drive between two towns near the front line in a Renault passenger car in October 1991.

According to Bosanac, they each recognized two men from their own village, they talked with the men politely and then drove away.

"I do not feel guilty of anything and neither is Josip. If there is a God in justice, there is nothing they can do."

Observers at the IRB hearing learned that the Croatian POWs later alleged they were tortured, several men from

the group were executed and the remainder spent 60 days in a "concentration camp" after their meeting with Budimcic and Bosanac that day.

In addition to events described dur-

**"There was shooting; you**

**didn't know if a [mortar**

**shell] was going to drop on**

**your car; seeing people cap-**

**tured. You don't forget this."**

NEDELJKO BASANAC  
Former Croatian

ing Budimcic's testimony, Bosanac added that he witnessed one of the Croatians being sprayed by "nerve gas."

"At first, I thought they were crying because they were afraid. When I saw the last man in the row get sprayed, I thought they were all sprayed."

Bosanac's testimony was so vivid that IRB presiding member Ross Pattee marvelled at his remarkable recall of events from 16 years ago.

"One does not forget such things. You remember this for all your life. There was shooting; you didn't know if a [mortar shell] was going to drop on your car; seeing people captured. You don't forget this."

Pattee will accept written submissions from counsel until the end of December and intends to make a decision about Budimcic's refugee status sometime in the new year.

## IRB won't rush for Budimcic outcome

Don't hold your breath if you're waiting for the outcome of the Josip Budimcic hearing.

New controversial issues were still being introduced late in the public portion of Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) proceedings on December 11 and IRB presiding member Ross Pattee announced he would accept additional written submissions until the end of December.

Consequently, Budimcic might have to wait weeks,

months or even years before he learns whether he must return to Croatia to face a 15-year sentence issued in absentia for war crimes.

Concluding remarks at the IRB hearing, originally scheduled for December 10, were put off indefinitely as more and more evidence swelled several phone-book-sized files during the hearing.

"We can't make closing remarks until all the evidence is in," said Budimcic counsel Dennis McCrea.

Pattee doesn't expect to decide on whether Budimcic can maintain his refugee protection and remain in Canada until some time in the new year.

"I will provide a written submission in due course. It won't happen overnight."

But once a decision has been offered, the matter will likely be appealed by opposing counsel, postulated IRB tribunal officer Mumtaz Rama.

One issue adding complexity to the case is that

the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) wishes to investigate the Australian immigration forms of Budimcic's witness Nedeljko Bosanac, who left Croatia as a refugee in 1998.

The CBSA wants to examine Bosanac's papers to see if they corroborate testimony that he accompanied Budimcic with the Yugoslavian Territorial Defense Force in September and October 1991 during the Croatian War for Independence.



**Advertising Deadlines**

Please note the Driftwood office will be closed  
Saturday December 22nd to Wednesday December 26th

The Driftwood office will be open  
Thursday December 27th from 8:30am - 4:30pm

**Deadlines for the Driftwood Wednesday December 26th**  
Display deadline: Thursday, December 20th, 10am  
Classified deadline: Thursday, December 20th, 4pm  
Too late too classify: Friday, December 21st, 10am

**Deadlines for the Driftwood Wednesday January 2nd**  
Display deadline: Thursday, December 27th, 10am  
Classified deadline: Thursday, December 27th, 4pm  
Too late too classify: Friday, December 28, 10am

**Deadlines for the Weekender Friday December 28th**  
Display deadline: Thursday, December 27th, 10am  
Classified deadline: Thursday, December 27th, 10am

**Deadlines for the Weekender Friday January 4th**  
Display deadline: Wednesday, January 2nd, 10am  
Classified deadline: Wednesday, January 2nd, 2pm

**Our office will be closed Tuesday January 1st.**  
537-9933 driftwood@gulfislands.net

# NEWSBEAT

## BUDIMCIC CASE

# IRB hearing reveals secretive CBSA acts

Australian witness' immigration papers requested by government

BY MITCHELL SHERRIN  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) presiding member Ross Pattee has struggled with irregularities during a hearing to determine the refugee status and citizenship of islander Josip Budimcic.

Within the first day of the hearing, Pattee voiced displeasure that counsel from the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) withheld files from the IRB that could have a direct impact on Budimcic's case.

"The issue is that I don't have the full file in front of me and that's been an issue for five months now. It's [the CBSA who is] determining what is disclosable and it should be the IRB member who makes that determination by looking at the file in camera."

But CBSA counsel Jesse Davidson and Ron Yamauchi would not submit a rationale of why the Budimcic file was not culled as per standard procedure, they would not divulge items from the Budimcic file subsequent to their investigation and they would not share with IRB some RCMP testimony that was utilized by defence counsel.

But when retired RCMP officer Lee McColl (of Salt Spring) used RCMP reports from 2001 (withheld from the IRB) to comment on shoddy investigation procedures in Croatia as an expert witness for Budimcic, the



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Back at work on Salt Spring after his hearing last week, Joe "Somebody" Budimcic was seen hanging up Christmas lights in Ganges.

CBSA took objection.

"A foot of material was in front of me and you didn't produce it," Pattee said to CBSA counsel.

"Everything that needs to be heard will be heard."

Pattee recommended that either party enter the RCMP documents as evidence. But the CBSA was not interested in submitting the documents as part of their case and defence counsel Dennis McCrea was reluctant to foot the \$5,000 translation bill.

On the last day of public submissions in the hearing, Pattee was challenged by a CBSA request for the Australian immigration papers of Budimcic's star witness Nedeljko Bosanac.

"Is there an obligation for the tribunal to at least provide the witness with the opportunity to have counsel?" Pattee asked.

Bosanac appeared ready to give consent to the CBSA to access the forms, but Pat-

tee expressed concern about protecting the Australian citizen's rights.

"One thing I'm a bit worried about is that if this inquiry goes ahead, it can only be regarding his testimony and not for anything else. And if it were found to be used for something else, it would be pretty ugly," Pattee said.

But then, based on Davidson's comments, Pattee asked if the CBSA already possessed Bosanac's file, without his consent.

"We can't divulge that," Davidson said.

Pattee appeared alarmed. "I'm calling a break and I think you'd better call a lawyer," Pattee said to Davidson.

By the end of the public hearing, Pattee requested written submissions from both the CBSA and Budimcic's lawyer Dennis McCrea regarding Bosanac's rights to fair counsel in Canada.

## FIRE DISTRICT

# Fire district mum on incorporation

Fire trustees will respond but provide no concrete answers to an Islanders for Self-Government (ISG) request the department support incorporation.

"This is inappropriate and not our business," said Michael Schubart, chair of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District, during the board's monthly meeting Monday evening. "If the powers that be decide to move towards incorporation, that's their decision."

Discussion was based on a letter addressed to trustees from ISG president Ken Marr. At

the fire district's November meeting, Marr said trustees could help the department fulfill its mandate more effectively if they passed a motion acknowledging formal support of incorporation.

Fire trustee Tony Kennedy suggested the board take a "wait and see" attitude on the matter.

"I do think it is a fundamental issue that the [fire] chief is not allowed to enforce many of the bylaws passed by trustees," he said. "I think this is a safety issue on the island."

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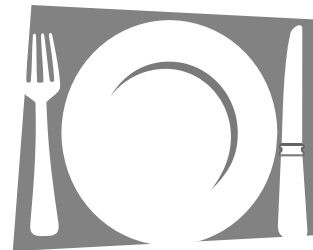
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## NEWSBEAT

### COURT DOCKET

# Road maintenance defence part of Ganges court day

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A 26-year-old Salt Spring man is prohibited from driving for 12 months and must pay a \$600 fine after pleading guilty in Ganges Provincial Court last week to impaired driving.

The charge against David Cooper stems from a September 16 incident when RCMP officers noticed a vehicle trying to evade a police roadblock near the corner of Fulford-Ganges Road and Seaview Avenue.

When police caught up with and pulled over the vehicle at 1:15 a.m., Cooper was "slow to respond" and "unwilling to make eye contact" with officers, Crown counsel Barb Penty told the court.

After police detected a "strong odour of alcohol" and Cooper failed a roadside screening device, he was taken to the Salt Spring RCMP detachment and provided blood-alcohol samples of 0.130 and 0.120.

Cooper told police he was in the process of driving his girlfriend home from a Ganges bar after they failed to obtain a taxi.

"There's no public transit and it's hard to get a cab at that time of night," he said.

Though Cooper had no criminal history, Penty indicated he had received five prior 24-hour driving prohibitions.

### Jail time served for fire-stick feud

A Salt Spring Island man was sentenced to four

months in jail after pleading guilty to an aggravated assault which sent a young man to Lady Minto Hospital in August.

Despite the sentence, Adrian Good, 20, will not have to serve any more jail time as the presiding judge awarded him double credit for the two months Good spent incarcerated at the Wilkinson Road facility immediately following his arrest on August 7, 2007.

"That was one of the hardest parts of my life," Good told the judge. "It gave me a lot of time to think about what I'm doing and how I can avoid getting into that situation again. I have a bright future ahead of me and any more jail time would not be useful."

Court heard an argument broke out after Good stepped on a set of the victim's fire sticks during a party at Beaver Point Hall on August 5.

The victim was taken to hospital with nose and eye injuries after Good punched him in the face.

Justice Mike Hubbard credited Good for time served in view of the young man's plans to complete high school, attend Malaspina College and "get on with life."

"You're a strong young man and you have to be careful about how you behave yourself," Justice Hubbard said.

Good received an additional 12 months of proba-

tion and must perform 35 hours of community service after police found him in violation of conditions of a court-imposed curfew on Saturday, December 9.

### Ticket appeal highlights bad roads

A Salt Spring man successfully contested a traffic violation on a technicality despite a half-hour defence centred on the poor state of the island's roads.

Lawyer John Davies was issued a ticket for crossing the double-yellow centre line along Fulford-Ganges Road after he lost control of his vehicle and crashed into a ditch near the Cusheon Lake turnoff early on the morning of November 17, 2006.

Davies contested the ticket on the grounds that poor lighting, a lack of road markings and poor weather conditions caused the accident.

"I feel I was the victim of a lack of road maintenance," Davies told the court. "I became disoriented. There was nothing to clue me in to where I was on the roadway."

In spite of Davies' attempt to pin the blame on the road conditions, further review of the ticket led Justice Mike Hubbard to declare the ticket void on account of a typographical error committed by the ticketing officer.

"It appears you win on a technicality," Justice Hubbard told Davies.

### VICTORIA COURT

## Man sentenced to 90 days for theft

Salt Spring matters heard in Victoria

A former Salt Spring resident was sentenced to 90 days in jail and is forbidden from setting foot on the island for three years after he pleaded guilty last week to possession of stolen property.

Part of the way through his trial in Victoria on November 30, Fabian Cousineau confessed to illegally possessing a \$90,000 sailboat.

According to Crown counsel Barb Penty, Cousineau reportedly stole the vessel from a marina in Anacortes, Washington after telling a former girlfriend he owned such a boat.

When the woman asked Cousineau to take up residence on his luxury sailboat instead of her home, Cousineau proceeded to steal the boat, Penty said.

The 32-foot vessel in Anacortes was the closest match to the boat he had described, Penty added.

"There's no indication he'd ever met the owner or been on that boat before," she said, adding that Cousineau located the vessel over the internet.

Cousineau was found in possession of the boat in Fulford Harbour by the Salt Spring harbour master nearly two weeks after it was reported stolen.

Cousineau, who now resides on Vancouver Island, will serve his sentence on weekends. He must also pay \$4,000 in restitution to the sailboat's owner.

Also in Victoria court:

A provincial court judge sentenced Ethan Marciano to three days in jail in connection with four charges picked up between July 30 and October 21.

Marciano pleaded guilty to assaulting a peace officer, multiple breaches of his probation and mischief in a Victoria court sitting on December 7.

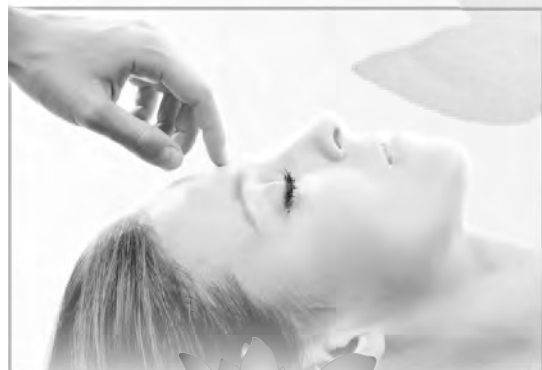
All incidents were alcohol related.

Court took into account the six weeks Marciano served in jail after he was denied bail on October 21.

Justice Mike Hubbard cancelled all outstanding probation orders, including one banning him from the island, and did not impose any further conditions.

According to Crown counsel Barb Penty, Marciano argued the stress caused by so many probation orders was driving him to drink, violate his conditions and further compound his problems. Marciano finished serving his sentence last week.

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# NEWSBEAT



**PERFECT TREE:** Mark and Carlie Aston pick out a Christmas tree from the Boy Scouts' annual sale at Windsor Plywood.

PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

## FIRE DISTRICT Island jeep lights up Langford

Volunteers bring home top spot

Salt Spring Island volunteer firefighters are celebrating the department's third consecutive first-place finish at the Festival of Lights Truck Parade in Langford Sunday afternoon.

"We had it all lit up like a Christmas tree," said volunteer firefighter Laurence Spencer. "We put in four days worth of work on it."

The Salt Spring contingent, comprising Spencer and fellow volunteers Mario Tello and Mike Bartle, took first place out of the 20 entries from fire departments across Vancouver Island.

Top-spot winners receive an engraved trophy.

This year marked the first appearance of the department's 1962 Willys Jeep. Previous Salt Spring entries in the antique truck category featured the Bickle pumper, which is on display at the fire hall in Ganges.

Spencer said the department is considering registering both trucks next year.

"This has become our annual event," he said.

### COURT DOCKET

## Sentencing delayed for 'machete bandit'

Crown wants objective pre-sentence report

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A provincial court judge has agreed to postpone sentencing of a Salt Spring Island bank robber following the Crown's demand for an independent pre-sentence report.

Koby Trociuk, 21, held up the Islands Savings Credit Union branch in Ganges on October 20, 2006.

He made off with an unspecified amount of money and was arrested after he tried to spend a marked bill at a local video store.

Trociuk pleaded guilty to robbery and wearing a disguise with an intent to commit an indictable offence on November 6, 2007.

Crown counsel Barb Penty asked for the report upon learning that doc-

umentation submitted by Trociuk's lawyer was incomplete. According to Penty, it omitted "serious allegations" of theft which Trociuk may have committed while on bail during the summer.

"Circumstances indicate he appears to have no impulse control and appears to be a person for whom consequences are never to be thought of or considered," Penty said during Salt Spring's monthly court session on Tuesday, December 11.

"He tends to act with an impulsiveness that astonishes when you consider his activity impacts people who are strangers to him. It causes me serious concern."

Trociuk's friends and family dominated the courthouse audience as defence lawyer Chris Massey argued against the delay on grounds his client pleaded guilty to the crime more than one month ago.

"This is at best an allegation that has nothing to do with the matter at hand. It is largely irrelevant," he added. "Your Honour has all the significant facts."

Considering the robbery occurred more than one year ago, Justice Mike Hubbard said he found nothing wrong with delaying the matter further in order to collect the facts.

"We should have an objective report and that should contain details about how Trociuk behaved whilst out on bail."

Trociuk remains under house arrest at his mother's Salt Spring home. He is not permitted to leave the property unless accompanied by his mother or another adult approved of by Trociuk's bail supervisor.

Penty indicated she would be seeking a federal jail sentence of three years. Trociuk's lawyer will be asking for a conditional sentence. A sentencing hearing is expected in February.

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# Opinion

Special Section Award, *Aqua*, GOLD  
 Best Tourism and Recreation Guide Award, *The Gulf Islander*, SILVER  
 Best Website Design Award, *www.gulfislands.net*, SILVER  
 Ma Murray Community Service Award, *Breaking the Family Violence Circle*, BRONZE  
**2007 British Columbia Yukon Community Newspaper Association Awards**  
 Best Special Section, *Aqua*, GOLD • Best Christmas Edition, *Aqua*, GOLD • Best Ad Design, *Pegasus Gallery*, GOLD  
 Best In-house Ad Campaign, *TGIF Launch*, GOLD • Best Business Writing Award, *Aqua*, SILVER  
 Best All Round Newspaper, *Gulf Islands Driftwood*, BRONZE • Best Feature Series, *Galliano Fire*, BRONZE  
**2007 Canadian Community Newspaper Association Awards**



EDITORIAL

## Saving a rainforest

Unfortunately for Creekside Rainforest Appeal campaigners, the object of their desire doesn't have the visibility of a Mount Erskine or the threat caused by logging trucks running around it like the Texada lands did several years ago.

And it's only 19.46 acres, not the 100 acres of Erskine or the thousands owned by the Texada Land Corporation.

But it's still a rare piece of endangered ecosystem and a beautiful sanctuary for plants, animals, spawning salmon and humans on this island.

Sure, a million bucks is a big schwack of money, but it's starting to sound not so outrageous for any substantial chunk of the Gulf Islands and the associated transfer costs.

And the only sure way to protect green space on Salt Spring is to buy it at the asking price, or covenant it. Salt Spring Island is a long way from build-out. Even if future local Trust committees never allowed another rezoning on the island, lands will be sold, subdivided and houses will be built on them as long

**THE ISSUE:**  
Creekside Rainforest Appeal

**WE SAY:**  
Major donors needed now

as there's profit to be made and people want to live here.

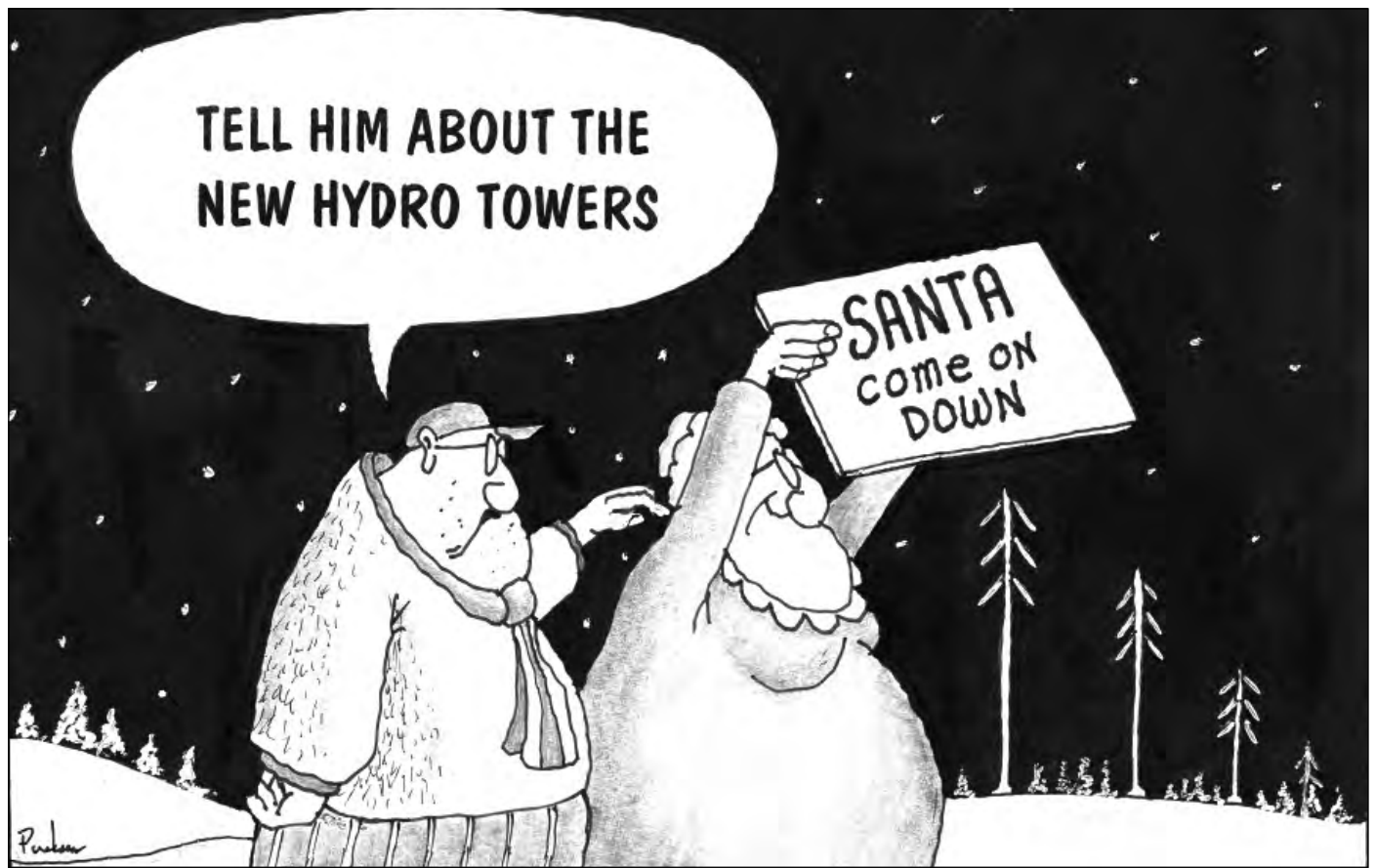
In the case of the Creekside parcel, its owners plan to subdivide the property into three acreages, says their representative Eric Booth. If the purchase deal negotiated by The Land Conservancy of B.C. (TLC) falls through, "the owners intend to proceed with their plans early in the new year," says Booth.

While people can be assured TLC would not have gotten involved if its board did not feel the land was worth saving, they should see it for themselves. Guided walks run the next two Saturdays at 10 a.m. and on Sundays at 1 p.m.

Fundraisers have used special events like the Art for the Rainforest exhibit and silent auction on at ArtSpring until December 21 to raise funds and awareness of the campaign, but this effort now needs big money — the kind that ends with the land becoming a park bearing a major donor's name.

If there's individuals or families out there who'd like to make the ultimate and most permanent kind of investment in Salt Spring Island, now is the time to contact the campaign. Its website is [www.savesaltspringrainforest.net](http://www.savesaltspringrainforest.net).

It's also the right time of year for a miracle.



## ISG vision prompts questions

BY HAROLD BROCHMANN

There seems to be a lot of uninformed talk around the island about the activities of a "cabal" calling themselves Islands for Self-Government (ISG), who want to make Salt Spring into a municipality.

What follows is my understanding of what the issues are.

But first . . . about the Islands Trust, a local governing body that seems to be ISG's main target — its authority is pretty well limited to zoning matters.

All the other things, like parking regulations, fire protection, road construction and maintenance, social housing, certain welfare services, water and sewage systems, issuing of dog licences, restaurant sanitation inspection, pollution control, building inspection, policing, noise pollution, liquor licensing, gambling, building licensing and inspection, etc. are the concern of various provincial and Capital Regional District (CRD) agencies.

If the ISG gets its way, all these things in addition to zoning decisions would be the responsibility of an island-based municipal council supported by a number of departments such as engineering, administrative, legal, financial, environmental and so on.

Why should we want to do this? I suspect the answer is something along these lines:

"Local people should make the decisions about local matters because they know best about local needs. For example, we could use local funds to promote tourism and encourage large firms to establish their corporate offices and maybe even production facilities here. As a result, retail sales would soar, businesses would prosper, housing construction rates would increase. This in turn would provide all sorts of local employment in addition to the political and supportive staffing requirements of the municipality and the number of real estate sales people could increase."

"Maybe we could even have a casino at Central." (Well, that last one may be laying it on a bit thick, but you get the idea.)

### VIEWPOINT

"All of these things would result in a more substantial tax base which would give us money for a municipal ice skating rink and a swimming pool in the south end."

"Further, we would expect to receive government startup grants and we could build an impressive new municipal hall with local artwork on display. More local employment."

For some people this is a motherhood type of approach which will be supported by a chorus from the masses of "yeah — we know best what's good for us — not those bureaucrats in the gommint" or words to that effect.

The opposing viewpoint, as I understand it, runs something to the effect that "Salt Springers are an argumentative bunch and if we had a municipality with a mayor and aldermen and all the special interest civic groups and unofficial lobbyists that would go with them, there might be more energy devoted to local infighting and promotion of personal agendas than getting anything done. Better to have decisions made elsewhere by disinterested bureaucrats who are less likely to be subject to local kinship and economic persuasion — and not add another layer of politicians who are inexperienced in real public-service administration and who may initially be well meaning, selfless and conscientious, but will inevitably figure out how to gain access to whatever pork barrel Salt Spring has to offer. The real downside is that extensive real estate development is in the interests of business and would be unavoidable and permanently change the face of Salt Spring.

On top of that there is such a thing as economy of scale. All those services mentioned above are going to cost.

Ask yourself, "Who are the members of the ISG? What are their motives? What is their vision for the future of the island? What would Salt Spring look like in 20 years if they had their way?"

I don't have the answers to these questions, but maybe we need to know.

*The writer is at Salt Spring resident.*

**"All those services mentioned above are going to cost."**

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:**

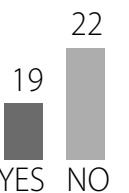
### Has Christmas become too commercial?

Yes  No

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**LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:**

### Should ISG run candidates in next year's local election?



## Driftwood

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# IslandVoices

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**
**"I feel I was the victim of a lack of road maintenance."**

JOHN DAVIES

SALT SPRING RESIDENT

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:** What's one gift you would like to receive this Christmas season?

**BARB TODD**
*I wish for peace on earth, but if that fails, pave Dukes Road.*

**MIKE VALCOURT**
*Peace to everyone in the world.*

**SABINE GEORGY**
*A healthy long life for everyone.*

**PER SVENDSEN**
*To have my whole family here for Christmas.*

**ART FALARDEAU**
*Just friendship.*

## Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name. Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication. Read and reply to Driftwood letters online at [www.gulfislands.net/blogs/blog\\_letters](http://www.gulfislands.net/blogs/blog_letters)

### Awed by rainforest

On Sunday, December 9, I decided to take the walking tour of Salt Spring Creekside Rainforest for which there is a current campaign, organized by Maureen Moore, to raise enough money to purchase the property and preserve it from development.

Although I live on Creekside Drive I have never explored the property before and I was awed to walk this beautiful rainforest with Briony Penn as a guide and educator. This small portion of land is a perfect example of coastal rainforest with tall, stately Douglas firs, and many varieties of plants and wildlife living together in harmony. The trees reminded me immediately of Cathedral Grove on Vancouver Island.

To sacrifice this forest would indeed be a dreadful thing, depriving our children of the chance to appreciate the beauty of nature. I urge all who have not visited

this area to take the tour and enjoy this small jewel on Salt Spring Island.

**DON STEVENS,**  
CREEKSIDE DRIVE

### Shadowy scene

I'd like to remind pedestrians that it is not only at night that it is wise to wear white or reflective clothing.

On these dusky mornings and evenings there are plenty of shadows on the roads and if you are walking in the shade it is hard for motorists to see you.

Also, drivers, please always dim your lights when approaching or closely following another car; the full glare of your headlights is dazzling and dangerous.

Thank you!  
**MARGARET HODGES,**  
SALT SPRING

### Meddlers

I read the "Frosty reception for ISG at Trust Council" article in last week's edition.

Did anyone see what I saw? I saw Kim Benson, Tony

Law and Sheila Malcolmson, all off-islanders, meddling in local affairs. As off-islanders they realize that the cash tax cow (read Salt Spring) is starting to tire from the nursing of a 30-year-old calf (read the Trust).

These three should better spend their time dealing with preserving and protecting the Trust area and not selfishly trying to preserve and protect the Salt Spring-supported tax base on their home island.

**BLAIR HOWARD,**  
SALT SPRING

### Pondering plastics

It's Christmas time, and the plastic bags are flying out of the stores.

They take about 400 years to biodegrade, and meanwhile they choke the oceans and the creatures that live there.

We feel good about recycling them into more plastic products, yet this is energy intensive, and plastic persists in the environment.

I note that the Irish gov-

ernment has introduced a small tax on plastic bags resulting in a 90 per cent reduction in their use. Could Salt Spring decide to be plastic-bag-free?

There are a few things to think about: would this measure result in retailers heavily pre-packaging food items, resulting in more weight and waste? Are paper bags really any better, especially if they're coated in polypropylene for water resistance?

When you think of container shipments of paper, cotton, or jute bags (on a global scale), the bulk and weight signifies more transport carbon than shipping plastic bags.

So what are we to do? First, I think of the myriad reusable fabric bags that we or creative folk on the island could come up with.

Then I think of my mother, who never saw a plastic bag till she was in mid-life. Groceries were delivered to her kitchen every Saturday by a high school kid working for the store.

(Yeah, he drove a truck,

but bags were nowhere in sight.)

Now put that together with news from France. In the fight against global warming, more than 70 French towns have introduced horse-drawn carriages to collect garbage and take children to school, and 30 more are set to follow suit next year.

Does this suggest anything to anyone? P.S. the roadside roses would love it.

**WENDY HILLIARD,**  
MEYER ROAD

### Successful first

The Bag-a-Book Sale has come and gone under somewhat snowy circumstances.

We have stored the remaining books for transport to Victoria for distribution, we have completed our final administrative tasks, and we have paid recognition to 37 hard-working volunteers, many sponsors, and our partners: the Driftwood and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92.

In wrapping up this event we wish to extend our final thanks to Salt Spring Island community members, who were asked to show their generous support by donating and buying lots of wonderful books.

My goodness, the books arrived by the car load, to the tune of 9,000-plus volumes!

Equally rewarding were the carloads of buyers the following two Saturdays, who came with a constant message, "This is a splendid idea, we hope you do it again next year!"

All of the money raised at the Bag-a-Book Sale will help make possible our continued commitment to provide quality "life-long learning" experiences on-island by dedicated island instructors.

The book donors and book buyers helped us make this "community first" a great success and for this we say thank-you.

**JUDI FRANCIS,**  
CHAIR, SSI COMMUNITY ED

**MORE LETTERS** continued on A10

## Rising real estate and loonie mean good-bye to Americans

Recently I got an e-mail from my friend George. George owns a beautiful home on a stunning piece of waterfront in the south end.

George and his wife wile away the summers in this beautiful house, shooing away emboldened deer, spying on the family of otters, drinking summer drinks. In the winter they do what any sane couple would do with the opportunity and the bank account: they go back home to a more temperate Florida.

Recently I got an e-mail from my friend George.

"Her ladyship and I are putting the house on the market — trying to take advantage of a strong real estate market, the exchange rate, etc."

Sad news indeed. Not only do George and Susan contribute substantially to the local economy (their home is full of local art) but it cuts deeply into my summer social life.

Really, can you blame him? Bear with me for a moment while I do the math. Let's role play. Say you are an American citizen, house hunting in 2001. You buy a waterfront property for \$500,000, the approximate average selling price six years ago. Fast forward to 2007. Although all the numbers aren't in yet, it looks like the average selling price for Salt Spring waterfront this year will be \$1.4 million

dollars. That's almost triple what you paid for it.

But wait, there's more. The U.S. exchange rate in 2001 was at a low of 62 cents. As we all are gleefully aware, the two currencies are now at par. The eagle and the beaver, hand in hand. That \$500,000 (Cdn) house cost \$310,000 (US) in 2001. If the house didn't appreciate an inch, you would have made almost \$200,000 on the exchange rate alone.

So let's review. Between the heart-stopping rise in real estate and the soaring Canadian dollar, you would have made \$1.1 million. And with a creative accountant, that's likely tax free. Nice work if you can get it.

In my opinion, most (but not all) Americans who have moved up to Salt Spring since 2000 have done so for economic reasons. Unlike the Vietnam influx, politics is a distant second to economics this time around. The demographics are also polar opposites. We are not talking about Woodstock refugees with crumpled-up draft papers in their Levis scratching out a living collecting mushrooms in the rain forest. This time around, we are talking about smart money.

After all, our Americans could have set up


**Peter Vincent**

### HEAD TO HEAD

housekeeping very nicely in the San Juan Islands, just a stone's throw from our shores, where the gas is cheap and the beer is in supermarkets. But they would have paid double for the house. So move north. Same climate, half price. Smart money.

Again, fast forward to 2007.

The American housing market has tanked. New housing permits are at a 14-year low. There are more "For Sale" signs on front yards than at any time since 1985. The median price of a house fell 13 per cent in October alone. Let's not use the "R" word (recession) but let's just say there is a bit of a slump south of the border. There are bargains to be had.

So let's go back to our fictional American homeowner here on Salt Spring. He can now fold up his table and go home with a \$1.1-million profit and cherry pick a great deal in his home town, without the nuisance of border crossings, immigration departments and French language instructions on everything. Smart money.

George goes on in his e-mail: "The ideal game plan is to buy a piece of waterfront property north of San Francisco or Seattle

and build another house."

Is this a trend? I think so. In George's strata enclave of waterfront properties, four out of the nine were owned by Americans. He and "his ladyship" are the last. All the rest have cashed in and moved home. At the far north end of the island, another American friend has "unofficially" put his Sunset Drive place on the market. Sometimes profit margins trump the idyllic Salt Spring lifestyle (particularly in February).

Some say this is a good thing. Some say that it will let out some of the pressure of an overpriced local market. More houses on the market and fewer buyers should mean lower prices. Not so, grasshopper. The vacuum seems to be filled by frazzled execs from Vancouver looking for weekend getaways and shivering Albertans who have grown tired of the boomtown oilpatch, the mud and mosquitoes in the summer, the forty below frostbitten winters. Expect more of the same stratospheric Salt Spring house prices, just different licence plates in the driveways.

George goes on in his e-mail: "It'll be a longer drive for you but there'll still be organic ostrich and tasty wines."

I'm really going to miss George and Susan. And I shudder at the prospect of having to learn a new language — Albertan.

# OPINION

## MORE LETTERS

continued from A9

### Oneness blessing

As my last letter to the Driftwood indicated, the retreat experience in India was truly remarkable.

I participated in a 10-day "deepening" course, then served on staff during the 21-day intensive that followed.

We live at the dawning of the golden age. This mass spiritual awakening is singularly the most significant event to occur on Earth in many thousands of years. We are divine in origin and we, now, are re-awakening to this already present but long forgotten reality.

As AmmaBhagavan, the Indian avatar at [www.onenessuniversity.org](http://www.onenessuniversity.org) says,

"Awakening human consciousness is akin to cooking a pot of rice. The rice simmers, seemingly forever, and when you want to see if the rice is done, you don't check the whole pot, you just check a few grains."

Based on several years experience at their school of awakening just north of Chennai, India, they declare decisively, speaking of human consciousness, "You are cooked. You are done. You are awakening now!"

I would be happy to speak with anyone interested in this emerging phenomenon, and more importantly to share "oneness blessing" with you. This remarkable energy transfer, which I spoke of in my earlier letter as "ego/mind solvent," invites spirit to step more fully into your life. This in no way conflicts with exist-

ing spiritual or religious belief. Rather, it enhances and helps fulfill it. This is a gift from the divine to help us awaken quickly, and avert further disaster.

If you'd like to contact me I can be reached via email at [davidthatcher@shaw.ca](mailto:davidthatcher@shaw.ca). Please leave your phone number and I'll call you back. Have a wonderful holiday season, a very Merry Christmas, Namaste.

**DAVID THATCHER,**  
SALT SPRING

### Duck-like

Tom Toynbee objects to my criticism of Islanders for Self(ish) Government (December 12 "Gary's over the top" letter), but with respect, misses the point.

I have no problem with differing opinions, but I do object to ISG's deliberate misinformation campaign.

I am disappointed that Mr. Toynbee — who complains about rhetoric but did not address any of my specific examples of ISG nonsense — seems to be fine with it.

Mr. Toynbee incorrectly states that my article refers to the 2002 referendum, a 70 per cent no vote on incorporation. I actually cited the 2005 election in which only the candidates opposing the incorporation option were elected, all with strong majorities. With this unequivocal result, why does Mr. Toynbee or ISG expect the trustees and I to renege on our promise of improving our unique, rural system of governance?

And how can he countenance ISG lobbying the province to reject more local trustees for Salt Spring, even though this addresses a number of historical com-

plaints by incorporationists?

Mr. Toynbee objects to me pointing out the alliance between ISG and the development industry. But ISG's own press release on their meeting with Minister Ida Chong states clearly it was attended by "representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, the Contractors Association and the real estate community."

Read the ISG ads, pamphlets and website, that present a litany of complaints about many issues having little to do with governance structure and more with their opposition to the policies and priorities of currently elected officials and our OCP.

As for the selfish part, this is more than tongue in cheek. ISG complains that Salt Spring subsidizes

planning in the rest of the Trust area, but what about our responsibility to these special areas? ISG is also silent on the fact that the southern Gulf Islands contribute millions of dollars annually in property taxes to schools and hospitals, yet Salt Spring has the hospital, the high school and all of the employment that goes with it. In other words, ISG is fine with subsidies, as long as Salt Spring is the beneficiary. Sounds kind of selfish to me.

The real debate on governance alternatives will occur during the next local election. In the meantime, if ISG continues to look, walk and quack like a duck, please don't be surprised or insulted that some may feel compelled to point this out.

**GARY HOLMAN,**  
CRD DIRECTOR

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## OPINION

# More Kanaka flood discourse needed

BY ERIC BOOTH

The article in last week's Driftwood, entitled "Residents blame dam for flooding woes," contained a number of allegations, and created a general perception of the situation which we would like to publicly correct.

To start with, the reference to a "dam" being built by Salt Spring Ventures is misleading in that a dam was not built. Instead, a manmade drainage ditch, on our private property, was filled in to prevent the flooding of our property.

It is a fact that the flooding which occurred in the area was primarily due to the five inches of combined rainfall and melting snow within 24 hours, an amount which totalled over 10 million gallons running through our neighbourhood. To put it into perspective, that's the equivalent of about 12 per cent of Salt Spring's total annual rainfall in one day.

It is also worthwhile to note that the culverting system below our property was evidently inadequate to handle the flow, as evidenced by the reported one-inch overflow of water at 175 Kanaka and the flooding over of the two-inch culvert under the school field, just downstream. The importance of this information is that the restriction of water flow at those culverts would have the effect of slowing down the velocity of the stormwater and consequently causing the backing up of water in the Ministry of Transportation (MOT) drainage ditches above the culverts, which, in combination, may actually have resulted in the flooding, if not merely contributing to its intensity.

While Mr. Grange is reported to agree that "Swanson's Pond is part of a traditional water course," I would respectfully point out that he does not work for the Ministry of Environment, Water Management Branch (MoE, WMB), which happens to disagree with Mr. Grange's opinion. In September, MoE, WMB, ruled the drainage ditches on our property were not a "natural" watercourse but rather a manmade one built in the late 1950s.

It is worthy, however, to note that while it was reported Mr. Grange "couldn't

comment on whether or not [our filling of a drainage ditch on our property] caused the flood," he is reported to have said the drainage ditches near the flooded areas were "incapable of carrying the flow . . . for the amount of water that had accumulated." We entirely agree with him on that point and believe anyone can successfully make the argument that numerous MOT ditches on the island, as evidenced by the many reports of extensive flooding, all over the island, were incapable of handling the record volume of water on that day.

We would, however, like to bring to the attention of the public the fact we have requested three times, over the past two months, to have an onsite meeting with MOT to discuss ditch maintenance and easy improvements to the drainage in the area. Unfortunately, to date, those requests have been ignored.

On November 5 we informed the MOT area manager in writing, "We would like to do a few improvements to the existing drainage, and, before proceeding, we need to know what we may require formal permission for and what we may be able to do without formal permission. We want to ensure the existing ditching system will take water away from the road infrastructure as quickly as possible and be free of any ponding. There has been little or no maintenance done for over 20 years on some of the ditches in question, and we believe a little maintenance will go a long way to improving and providing adequate drainage in the area." We also asked whether he had, as we had suggested three weeks earlier, contacted MoE, WMB, on the matter.

The short reply we received on November 6 stated the following, "I did not contact MoE. Do not do anything on Ministry property without prior permission. I am seeking guidance on our next course of action."

If MOT had bothered to spend the half hour it would have taken to meet with us to discuss the situation, and agreed to the simple ditch maintenance we were requesting, we believe much, or all, of the flooding in the area may have been prevented.

On December 5, in an effort to prevent further flooding of our property, we submitted a formal application to perform ditch maintenance, including the cleaning and clearing of MOT ditches fronting our property, offering to do it ourselves, at our own expense, if there is no money in MOT's budget to do so. Last Friday we were notified by MOT it will likely be "a couple of more weeks" before they can process the application.

**To date there has been no offer of repair to the damage caused on our property by the residents involved.**

We would also like to comment on the Driftwood's report that some of the residents "pulled the dam apart to allow some of the storm water to flow through the pond." If we are to understand this correctly, residents trespassed onto our property, and in an apparent act of criminal mischief, dug a drainage ditch on our property, which consequently flooded our property with about two feet of water. Regrettably this is the third incidence of trespass and mischief on our property in the past few months and once again we have been forced to request RCMP involvement to protect our interests. To date there has been no offer of repair to the damage caused on our property by the residents involved.

Finally, in cooperation with one of the area residents, we have initiated a request for a "without prejudice meeting" with all of the residents who were flooded in the area in the hope costly and unnecessary legal actions may be avoided by both sides and that a mutually acceptable, long-term approach to avoiding the impacts of any significant future storm events may, as a result, be achieved.

*The writer is a representative of Salt Spring Ventures Inc.*

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## OPINION

# Regional director misleads constituents over Trust in post-incorporation world

BY TOM NAVRATIL

Gary Holman's recent View Point in the Driftwood ("Democracy is not ISC's real agenda") is deeply troubling.

Here is an elected representative in a supposed position of leadership, authority and trust. Instead of a meaningful dialogue, Mr. Holman is not only publicly slandering and ridiculing a legitimate organization — Islanders for Self-Government (ISG) — but also makes untrue and misleading statements to the public.

Mr. Holman's statement that with incorporation "the Trust would have virtually no presence on Salt Spring" is totally false.

In 1990 the Trust Act was amended to allow for municipalities within the Trust area.

An island municipality, its OCP, bylaws and all of its pertinent policies are required to conform to the Islands Trust Policy Statement and legislatively to the Trust Act, and are subject to Trust Council Executive Committee approval. Each island municipal council is required to appoint two of its members to the Trust Council. This is the law.

Mr. Holman equates the ISG organization to a group of "real estate developers and vacation rental practitioners," and maliciously polarizes the initiative of incorporation against the concept of the Trust.

I challenge Mr. Holman to publicly apologize. ISG (www.islandgov.org) is a voluntary, purposeful and a non-partisan organization of substantial membership comprised of a wide cross-section of the island's population that sees and understands the need for a democratically, professionally, efficiently and accountably run Salt Spring Island government within the Trust mandate.

Mr. Holman boasts how well the current governance is working. How about a brilliant example: the tennis bubble fiasco in which Mr. Holman is directly involved

## INDEPTH

and which to date lost more than \$300,000 of taxpayers' money (including legal fees but not counting wages) without an eye's blink from the PARC or Mr. Holman.

The reality is that the current governance structure does not work well. It is expensive, cumbersome and fragmented, to say the least, often overlapping and with duplications.

We have the two trustees, then we have a CRD representative (Mr. Holman), then various CRD-administered entities such as the Ganges and Maliview sewage plants, Burgoyne Bay liquid waste facility, Parks & Rec and building inspection, provincially governed highway maintenance, individual waterworks districts, the harbour authority, the ambulance, fire department, the government agent's office and the list goes on. There is no one place where one can go to contact the "local government."

Mr. Holman further states that the burden of the roads would be on Salt Spring taxpayers' shoulders. He conveniently neglects to mention the generous grants available to municipalities by the province that help with all kinds of expenses such as the roads.

Mr. Holman accuses ISG of hidden agendas, including that of opposing the introduction of additional two trustees.

Well, would the addition of two trustees solve our problems?

No, it is becoming very clear that it would not. On the positive side it would alleviate the workload of the current two trustees and it would help to improve the quorum dilemma, but on the minus side it would do nothing for the Trust's limited mandate of land-use and planning, it would perpetuate the current fragmentation and inefficiency, it would require a monumental legislative change and, according to the Neilson-

Welsh Report, it is clearly inconsistent with the key equal area representation concept of the Islands Trust mandate to preserve and protect.

What is the Neilson-Welsh Report? Earlier this year the Islands Trust commissioned Neilson-Welch Consultants to produce the Islands Trust Governance Review Report. It seems that this well-researched document dated April 2007 was simply dismissed by Trust Council as it looked like it did not reveal findings that the current Trust was looking for.

**"How I wish that somewhere there existed an island for those who are wise and of good will. In such a place even I would be an ardent patriot."**

ALBERT EINSTEIN

The report (available on the Trust website) affirms that the Trust was never designed or intended as governance for the Trust area, but rather as "a provincial 'trust' with a legislated provincial mandate to preserve and protect, on behalf of the people of the province, an area of provincial significance" and "is concerned primarily with protecting places as opposed to providing services to people."

The report continues, "while the Trust was given certain characteristics of a local government, it was not created to be a local government."

While the report was not to consider the alternative of incorporation, it clearly

states with respect to incorporation: "Using its existing authority over the Policy Statement, and its authority to direct resources to Trust Area-wide services, Trust Council has the ability to ensure that measures to preserve and protect the entire Trust Area are firmly entrenched in all local jurisdictions, including island municipalities."

The report recognizes that the current governance structure is inadequate in many ways and in conclusion it tabulates the potential effect of various combinations of improving the Trust on the local level and as a whole.

The option of adding two more trustees to the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC), according to the report, would be largely of symbolic value and would be legislatively problematic while providing minimum "improvement to all" (stakeholders).

Subsequent to the report the Trust conducted a Trust Area-wide public input campaign on the issue. The total participation was astoundingly miniscule: less than two per cent of all Trust area population (total of 446 participants from population of 23,000; of the 446, only 264 persons participated in the 11 various meetings!)

Even with this flawed sample the input was not overwhelmingly in favour of adding two extra trustees to the Salt Spring LTC!

Incredibly, without seeking further solution, the current Trust proceeded with the application to the Minister of Community Services to approve the acquisition of two more trustees for Salt Spring. Really, how much more un-democratic and self-serving can one get?

"How I wish that somewhere there existed an island for those who are wise and of good will. In such a place even I would be an ardent patriot." (Albert Einstein)

*The writer is a Salt Spring realtor and member of the Advisory Planning Commission.*



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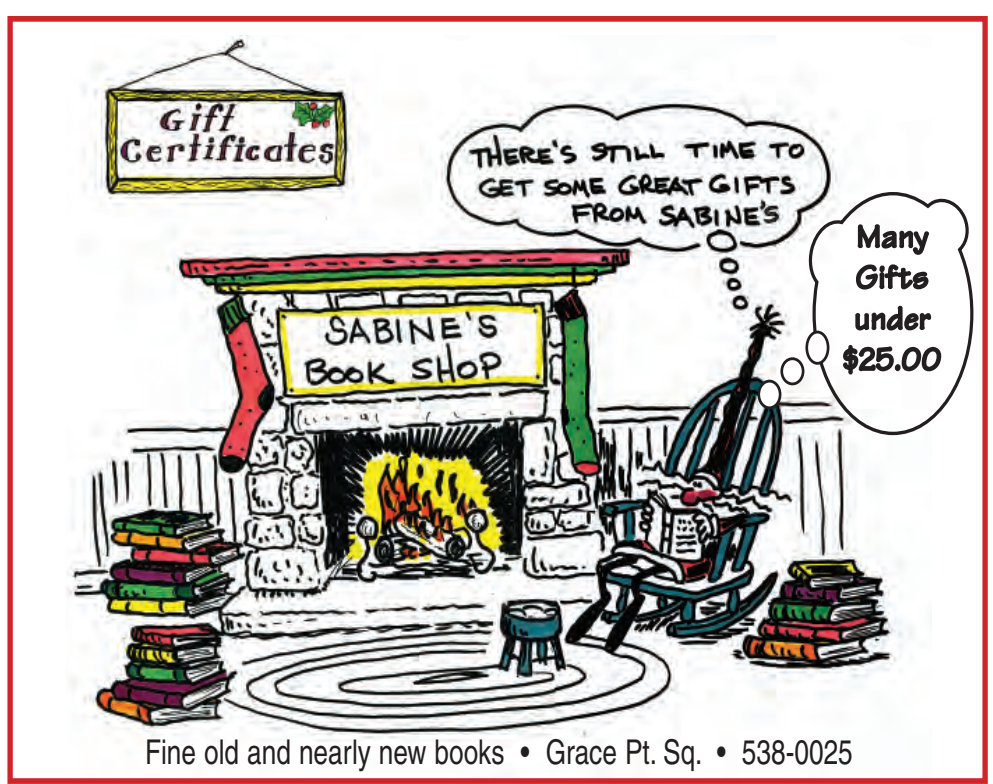
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# NEWSBEAT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**SANTA'S HELPERS:** Helping with the delivery of Christmas hampers at the Community Services Society food bank Tuesday were, from left, Angela Anderson, Penny Grossman and Elizabeth and Christine Anderson.

**MORE LETTERS**

continued from A10

## Hope

A few weeks ago, the film Finding Dawn was presented by SWOVA. It was also an

opportunity to learn more about the very successful Respectful Relationships program for students.

Perhaps the next generation of letters to the Driftwood will be less opinionated and thus more productive.

Of course, as respectful adults we can now start communicating about how we can work together to make our island a better place for all of us.

**MARG SIMONS,**  
HILLTOP PLACE

**PATHWAYS**

# Path hits fundraising goal

PARC and New Horizons grants complete picture

Good news continues to roll in for the Partners Creating Pathways committee, formed by members of Island Pathways and the Salt Spring Island Trail and Nature Club.

Last week the group received word that its final grant application had been accepted and that the Partners Creating Pathways project would receive \$20,000 from the New Horizon Seniors program.

Those approving the grant, with funds from the Government of Canada for Seniors Initiatives, agreed that the Pathways project was a perfect fit since most of its organizers are seniors, it is near five seniors residences and many local seniors will travel on the pathway.

With the addition of the grant, the project was a mere

\$3,500 from its \$90,000 goal.

"Then last Monday evening, the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) voted unanimously to top up the fund to the tune of \$3,500. So they have done it!" explains a recent press release.

On top of that good news, the committee also learned Tuesday that Allteck Line Contractors Inc. would donate gravel to the project to ensure its completion.

"This will ensure we will have the materials we need to construct the pathway we want," said Jean Gelwicks of Island Pathways in recent press material. "What a lovely Christmas present to us and to the community."

During Island Pathways' November 23 AGM, the Salt Spring Island Lions Club presented Gelwicks and Zeke Blazeka from the Trail and Nature Club with a generous donation that increased the number of partners into a "very respectable list."

Financial partners to date include: Salt Spring Island Community Transit and Transportation Commission/CRD director Gary Holman, Salt Spring Island Foundation, Victoria Foundation, B.C. Transmission Corporation, PARC, Salt Spring Lions Club, The Royal Canadian Legion, Allteck Line Contractors and many individual community members.

"This has been a lucky cou-

ple of weeks for this project," said Blazeka. "It has all come together in time for the new year. We are very pleased."

The project would not be possible without the Community Transit and Transportation Commission (CTTC), which will take on the liability and maintenance of the pathway and Gary Holman, who Gelwicks said has been one of their best supporters.

Because the off-road trail is being created with almost no government funding, said Holman, "It's a great deal for taxpayers and it's a great addition to the pedestrian and cycling aspect of the transportation commission."

The pathway itself will run parallel to Lower Ganges Road from Wildwood Crescent to Blain Road.

Four work parties have already cleared the entire length of the pathway in the hopes that "people with sturdy shoes can start walking it now."

More work bees will take place in the spring and the group hopes that anyone who has native plants to donate to the project will hold onto them until May when construction will begin. The group is also looking for donations of split-rail fencing and large boulders.

"We owe a big thank you to the community and all our partners," said Gelwicks and Blazeka.

*We hope your holiday is filled with comfort and joy  
and the warmth of good friends.*

*We look forward to serving you  
in the new year.*



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John Cade  
537-1866



Gord Ellis  
537-5515



Carol Fowles  
537-5515



David Knight  
537-6850



Sandra Smith  
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David Giddy  
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Gil Mouat  
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Tom Navratil  
537-5515



Henri Procter  
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Simone Lamers  
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Felicity Robinson  
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Patti Speed  
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# NEWSBEAT

## RANTS and Roses

### Roses

A big bouquet of beautiful-scented, agenda-free roses to manager Mike at Thrifty Foods for politely asking the Islanders for Self-Government to stop soliciting at the entrance of Thrifty Foods on Friday. Much appreciation from your customers who don't want the ISG in their faces while doing errands. SB

A big litter of rainbow roses for all the people who helped Scout . . . for Maria who lent me her cage, for Cathy and Jean for their generous funding, for Shelly, who will provide a home for the Kitty and Dr. Dave and staff at the vet clinic. Thank-you all. Penny

An ocean of marine roses to Katherine, Sandy, Geoff, Doug, Laurie, Karen, Derek and other crew members of the Queen of Tsawwassen on the morning of December 9 for giving my grandson Kieran a great experience

that he'll remember always. Thanks so much for making his day, and mine. JH

All-year-round roses to Ann behind the counter at Ganges Post Office for all her cheerful friendly help and advice to those of us who arrive at the other side of the counter all year round — you are very much appreciated!

A big bush of "Francis Dubrevil" in full fragrant bloom to all the courageous Salt Spring Spanish teachers who, with vim and vigour, strive to educate the masses. A rose is a rose unless it's in Spanish, in which case it is una rosa. XO — Habla!

Roses to Janet from VIHA for sharing your secrets to survival with parents of picky and not-so-picky eaters. Roses to our Janet from Elf for sharing your great space. Thank you!

Roses to Bill at GVM for

your generous donation of organic foods for our snack at the healthy eating workshop. Roses to Craig and Cathryn at Natureworks for helping keep our snack completely GMO-free. Many families enjoyed the variety of good foods.

A bus full of fragrant roses to Cecelia and Barbara for another fun day in Chemainus. Your efforts to include me in all of the varied events is much appreciated. Happy Holidays!

A car full of snow-coloured roses for the home care ladies who go the extra mile when driving conditions are terrible. Happy Holidays to one and all!

A big warm hug to Julie at Solace Space for her awesome massage and acupuncture work. Organic liniments, oils, salves and much more can be bought at her spa in Fulford. Vicki Miller



Sam & Wendy Anderson wish all their valued clients & friends a very Happy Christmas Season and Prosperous New Year.

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### HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

- All light set cords should be fully insulated and carry an approved testing label. Ensure all cords & lights are in good working order before putting them up. If in doubt replace them.
- Don't overload electrical circuits or extension cords.
- Only cords and lights approved for outdoor use should be used in your yard or outside your home.
- Keep lights away from tinsel, paper, draperies and other flammable materials.
- Turn off all lights and extinguish all candles before leaving home or going to bed.
- Before placing tree in stand, cut slice off of butt end. Be sure to water the tree daily. Place tree away from all heat sources, such as fireplace, radiators and candles.
- Dispose of tree when needles start to fall off.
- Keep candles away from children, pets and flammable materials.
- Keep poinsettias and holiday potpourri away from children and pets, as these items may be hazardous if ingested.
- Christmas wrapping and decorations can be highly combustible and should be kept away from all heat sources.
- Discard gift wrap & boxes with the garbage or recycle where appropriate; **do not burn them in the fireplace.**
- Now is a good time to review your home fire safety escape plan with all of the family members.

If you don't own one, purchase a smoke detector and a reliable fire extinguisher and know how to use it. Remember, safety is the most important gift you can give your family and yourself.

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Indoor Pool - General Admission Fees ("Everyone Welcome", Lap Swim) (including GST)				
Class of Person	Individual	1 Month Pass	3 Month Pass	Annual Pass
Adult (19 yrs and older)	5.00	55.00	156.00	550.00
Youth (13-18 yrs or valid student card)	4.00	44.00	125.00	440.00
Child (4-12 yrs)	3.00	33.00	94.00	330.00
Tot ( 3 yrs and under)	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Family (max 5 people)	12.00	132.00	375.00	1325.00

Single Admission rates will apply for use of whirlpool or showers only.  
Single admission rates apply to each entry per day.

Indoor Pool - Lesson Fees (including GST, where applicable)		
	Individual	Session (Set of 10)
½ hour Lesson		50.00
¾ hour Lesson		60.00
½ hour Private Lesson	20.00	
½ hour Semi-Private Lesson (2 people)	30.00	

Indoor Pool - Aquatic Fitness		
	Drop-In	1 Month Pass
Participant	7.00	65.00

Indoor Pool - Rental Rates		
Class of Organization	Per hour plus GST	
	Per Lane	Entire Facility
Commercial Organizations		300.00
Non-Profit Organizations		200.00
Youth Aquatic Sport Organizations	12.50	75.00
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School Organizations	12.50	75.00
Birthday Party (youth)		150.00

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This is an example. There are no standard commissions. All real estate companies are free to set their own rate. If an agent charges 7% on the first \$100,000 and 3% on the balance for selling a \$500,000 home the commission would be \$19,000 +gst = \$20,140. If you listed with One Percent Realty the commission would be \$5,800 + gst = \$6,148. **The savings would be \$13,992.** Think of the savings like this. If you earn \$25 per hour it would take a staggering 559.68 hours - more than 3 months of work to make that much.

**The big myth** "If I list with One Percent the other agents won't show my house". **The reality** is other REALTORS® on Salt Spring do show my listings. Overall 70% of One Percent listings are sold by other agents. The first listing sold by One Percent on Salt Spring was sold through another agent working for another brokerage. The buyers see what they want to see. Buyers have access to all the MLS® listings.

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## NEWSBEAT

### SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

# Land swap home unsuitable for Phoenix

School board searches for facility

BY CHRIS STEPHENSON  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Phoenix high school program is without a home next year after School District 64 learned a potential location acquired in a land swap was unsuitable for the school.

District 64 recently swapped a piece of Rainbow Road agriculture land for a parcel next to Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) owned by Richard Murakami.

District superintendent Jeff Hopkins said during the early stages of the deal approximately three years ago, the school board thought the house on the new property would suit the Phoenix program.

"It became an urban legend that the house would be acceptable."

Hopkins said after the swap was finalized, the district assessed the house and found it was not in proper condition for students.

He said GISS decided to use the property for their carpentry class. However, Hopkins is unsure what to do with the house in the future.

Despite the fact the district has no facility for the Phoenix program next year, Phoenix teacher Linda Underwood said she is talking with students, parents and the school board to find a proper location.

The lease on the Jackson Avenue building that now houses the Phoenix program expires at the end of this school year.

Phoenix has 34 students who are cross-enrolled from GISS.

Murakami, who now owns the former district property across from GISS at 229 Rainbow Road, said he has no plans to develop the agricultural land.

### ISLANDS TRUST

# Three Point proposal delayed by questions

Trustees request rezoning details

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island trustees delayed giving first reading to a draft bylaw for the construction of three homes overlooking Fulford Harbour in exchange for 63 acres of community farmland.

"In going through the community plan again, I have come across 11 clauses which do not appear to be addressed by this staff report," Jonathan Yardley told trustees at a Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting last Thursday.

Yardley's concerns focussed on the restricted activities dictated by the Trust's Development Permit Area (DPA) 6 boundaries. According to the island's official community plan, the clearing of larger trees and removal of dirt may be restricted in steep areas with a high risk of landslides and soil erosion.

Yardley said determining which areas on the 203 Musgrave Road property fall under DPA 6 is essential before proceeding with a draft bylaw and subsequent public hearing.

"When we get a redrafted bylaw, I hope we can be very clear on where the DPA 6 applies and whether the proposed new plan, the revised plan, avoids those areas which it has to avoid,"

said trustee Peter Lamb.

Lamb further suggested formal confirmation be obtained from the Farmers' Institute regarding its intention to assume control over the Fulford farmland property, often referred to as the former Hughes farm property.

Mark Wyatt, Three Point Properties' project manager for the Fulford Farms proposal, said the Farmers Institute has submitted written confirmation its members are willing to assume control over the farmland, but said more is needed to finalize a formal agreement.

"This is obviously not only a new process for the Islands Trust, but also for us and the Farmers Institute, so we understand there is some legwork yet to be done," Wyatt said.

Speaking during the meeting's town hall session, south-end resident Harry Warner asked trustees to take into account the land's agricultural potential before making a decision which will impact the Fulford Harbour shoreline.

"The [donated property] is the only area that still has snow on it," Warner said during the meeting's town hall session. "That land is good for nothing except for growing hay."

Staff anticipate a new draft bylaw will be ready for consideration of first reading at January's LTC meeting.

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# NEWS BEAT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**CHRISTMAS KISS:** Moms Molly Murphy and Tiffany Wightman hang out at a craft fair on Salt Spring, while their backpack babies get to know each other a little better.

## LOCAL CURRENCY

# Monetary fund aims to sharpen marketing plan

Salt Spring Dollars ATM now open

BY CHRIS STEPHENSON  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring Dollars ATM is up and running in the visitor info centre for tourists and residents alike to withdraw funds to circulate on the island.

Bob McGinn, one of the directors for the Salt Spring Island Monetary Fund (SSIMF), hopes the ATM will help market the bills to a wider audience.

"The time is right for locals to support us," he said during the IMF annual general meeting last Wednesday.

SSIMF, a non-profit society, started circulating its bills in 2001 to promote local commerce and help fund community projects.

The ATM was installed in early December and dispenses \$20 Salt Spring bills using debit or credit cards.

This is the second time the group has installed an ATM on Salt Spring. Approximately three years ago the foundation placed a cash machine in Thrifty Foods,

but it had limited success. The machine was removed a few months later.

"It was probably ahead of its time," McGinn said.

He's hopeful the new central location will draw on a wider group of people and help get their bills into circulation.

While Salt Spring dollars are accepted in many businesses on the island, marketing is one issue the foundation needs help with, McGinn said.

"We need a good marketing plan."

He said SSIMF hopes to recruit marketing students either from the University of Victoria or Camosun College to help develop a strong plan.

Eric Booth, another SSIMF director, agrees the students could help with the foundation's marketing. He said SSIMF hasn't spent any energy on promoting its website, which accounts for a large portion of their currency sales.

"We've had limited exposure with good success. This could be exciting especially now that we have a new coin," he said during the

meeting.

SSIMF issued a \$50 silver coin in 2006 and has sold 40 per cent of the 199 minted.

The foundation makes a large portion of its revenue by either selling currency to collectors or through tourists who take the money home as souvenirs.

The SSIMF's 2007 financial report states that 145,551 Salt Spring dollars are in the hands of the public, including collectors and tourists.

Foundation revenue is being used to offer micro-loans with low-interest rates to community organizations and organic farmers.

McGinn said the group is working with a farmers' cooperative to help purchase a walk-in cooler to store produce for longer periods, with an overall aim of promoting local food production.

SSIMF has issued bills in one, two, five, 10, 20, 50 and 100-dollar denominations. All Salt Spring Dollars currency features local artists and historical figures.

For more information about SSIMF, contact www.saltspingdollars.com.

## PARKS AND REC

# Toilet facility dubbed 'architect's fantasy'

Commissioners await new loo design

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Commissioners unanimously rejected a proposed plan for the new Centennial Park public washroom facility during their monthly board meeting at Portlock Park last week.

"It looks like it's about to take off for the moon," said Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) chair Rosemary Trump. "It doesn't look like [the architects] tried to fit it in with anything else on the island."

The 905-square-foot structure would be in approximately the same space next to the playground, but is about 400-square-feet larger than the existing building. The facility is estimated to cost \$200,000.

"We are getting one extra toilet for 400 feet of playground space," said commissioner Robert Brewer. "That's an expensive toilet."

Commissioner Peter Lake suggested architects be directed to consider designing a two-storey structure that could be partially closed off in winter.

"I don't know why we are spreading out when we can move up," Lake said.

"This is an architect's fantasy," he added. "We need something far more practical."

Preparation is underway to provide a temporary modular washroom unit for the beginning of the 2008 market season, as it is unlikely the new building will be completed by that time, states a staff report.

"The building itself is deteriorating to the point where it needs to be replaced," he said. A revised proposal is expected by early 2008.

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## Capital Regional District



## NOTICE TO ELECTORS WITHIN THE SALT SPRING ISLAND ELECTORAL AREA OF THE CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

**ELECTOR APPROVAL PROCESS FOR CRD BYLAW NO. 3494 – A Bylaw to Establish a Contribution to a Search and Rescue Service in the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of Directors of the Capital Regional District (“CRD”) proposes to adopt Bylaw No. 3494, “Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue Service Establishment Bylaw, 2007” to establish a service for the purpose of contributing to the overhead costs (rent/lease, telephone, utilities, administrative allocations) for a search and rescue service in the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area.

The taxation impact for the contribution service, per average residential assessment at the \$15,000 requisition, is approximately \$2.40 per annum.

The Salt Spring Island Electoral Area is the participating area for this service.

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the CRD may proceed with Bylaw No. 3494, unless at least **832 electors** within the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of 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. 3494.

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 the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of the CRD.

**The deadline for delivering the original signed elector response forms to the CRD, in relation to Bylaw No. 3494, is 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, the 31st day of January, 2008. Forms must be received by the deadline to be counted.**

**The CRD has estimated that the total number of electors within the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of the CRD is 8,328 and that 10% of that number or 832 electors must submit elector response forms to prevent the CRD from enacting Bylaw No. 3494 without the assent of the electors by referendum.**

Further technical information concerning Bylaw No. 3494, may be obtained from Mr. Travis Whiting, CRD Offices, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6 (Telephone 360-3186) during regular office hours Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) from the date of this notice until the 31st day of January, 2008.

**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 Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of 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 Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of 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 about the elector approval process, please contact CRD Administration Department, P. O. Box 1000, 625 Fisgard Street, 5th Floor, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6, or telephone (toll free) 1-800-663-4425 extension 3129 from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.**

Elector response forms may also be obtained at the CRD Salt Spring Island 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)

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

A copy of Bylaw No. 3494 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 31st day of January, 2008 at the following locations:

- public notice board in the lobby of CRD headquarters @ 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC;
- Building Inspection Office, #206-118 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC and
- on the CRD website:  
for Bylaw 3494: [http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/bylawssubjecttorefer\\_/](http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/bylawssubjecttorefer_/)  
for this Notice: <http://www.crd.bc.ca/about/elections>

Given under my hand at Victoria, B.C. this 7th day of December, 2007.

Carmen Thiel  
Corporate Secretary  
Capital Regional District

## NEWSBEAT

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

# Police set up random holiday road checks

Salt Spring detachment ready for overtime

**BY CHRIS STEPHENSON**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Partygoers who want to get behind the wheel this Christmas season should think twice before taking the risk.

Const. Jason Jewkes of the Salt Spring RCMP detachment says if islanders drink and drive over the holidays, they will get caught.

He said from approximately December 1 to January 7 roadside checks will be set up around Salt Spring.

“We’ll have road blocks from early evening to late evening,” he said.

Jewkes asks islanders to plan ahead this holiday season and find a designated driver if they wish to drink.

Salt Spring RCMP officer Cpl. Kerry Howse said the detachment has an overtime budget in place for the holidays, which means the police will be out in full force for the Christmas season.

Howse said the island’s RCMP hopes to set up two to three road blocks each

night to check vehicles for impaired drivers.

“The checks will be at random locations,” he said.

While there is no formal safe ride service on the island, Kimberly Lineger of Salt Spring Victim Services said drinking and driving is easily preventable if people decide ahead of time when they want to consume alcohol.

“Think about how you want to get home,” she said.

She said many informal ride programs have started at businesses on Salt Spring island to ensure employees and customers get home safely after Christmas parties.

According to Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) statistics, in 2005 there were 121 fatalities and almost 3,400 injuries in approximately 5,300 alcohol-related crashes on B.C. roads.

If vehicle operators are caught drinking and driving over the legal limit of the 0.08 blood-alcohol ratio, the RCMP may charge the driver under the Criminal Code of Canada. If the vehicle operator is convicted, he or she will lose driving privileges for at least a year and have a permanent criminal record.

## NEW TICKET SALES & LOADING CUT-OFF TIMES

Effective Monday, January 7, 2008  
All Minor & Intermediate Terminals

Dear Valued Customer;

In order to allow sufficient time for safe, consistent and clear Shore Closure Procedures, BC Ferries will be implementing new ticket sales and loading cut-off times effective Monday, January 7, 2008 at our minor and intermediate terminals. Similar procedures are already in effect at our major terminals.

This policy will allow for an accurate passenger count prior to departure, allow safe on-time vessel departures resulting in more efficient fuel consumption and show respect to our customers who arrive on time.

The new cut-off times for minor and intermediate routes are as follows:

**VEHICLES**

- 5 Minutes prior to scheduled sailing time at the following terminals: *Little River, Westview, Saltery Bay, Earls Cove and Snug Cove*
- 3 Minutes prior to scheduled sailing time at all other minor terminals

**FOOT PASSENGERS**

- 5 Minutes prior to scheduled sailing time at all minor terminals

All traffic that is ticketed or in line at the pre-ticket area prior to the cut-off time will be loaded if there is deck space available. If the vessel’s arrival is delayed, the cut-off time will be the vessel’s arrival time.

Complete schedule information is available at [www.bcferries.com](http://www.bcferries.com) or by calling 1 888 BCFERRY (888 223 3779) between 7:00 am and 10:00 pm daily.

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## CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Audrey Reynolds plays the piano as Ivy Waltho listens. Reynolds is one of the volunteers who cheers Lady Minto residents.

## Christmas comes home to EC unit

Volunteers bring festivities to Lady Minto residents

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Christmas season is a time to be home with family; but what if your home is a hospital ward? For the patients at Lady Minto's Extended Care Unit, that's precisely the case.

Seniors who can no longer live without medical care or assistance are resident patients of the unit, making holiday celebrations more difficult to accomplish. Fortunately, a caring group of people has made Christmas in the unit a reason to celebrate.

Hospital staff and volunteers from the Lady Minto Auxiliary are very aware of the importance of making the ward welcoming.

The auxiliary, which is funded entirely through the proceeds of Lady Minto Thrift Store, brings in volunteers every day of the year to visit and serve tea, both in the morning and afternoon.

Musical entertainment such as piano playing happens on a weekly basis, and every resident's birthday is remembered with a card and a gift.

Margaret Mackenzie, a long-time auxiliary volunteer and the group's coordinator, explains: "The Extended Care Unit is more like a residence than a hospital, so we try to make it as much

like home as possible."

As Mackenzie points out, nothing makes you feel more at home than a home-cooked meal. The auxiliary therefore works with the Extended Care activities planners to prepare several meals a year in the unit kitchen: a summer barbecue, special breakfasts and, of course, Christmas dinner. This year's celebration takes place on December 21.

"The event starts with a glass of sherry or a glass of wine and an hors d'oeuvre, to get everyone in the spirit," said Mackenzie. "It's very festive, and Valdy brings it all together, of course." The folk legend leads a sing-along performance using the Driftwood carol book at 11 a.m., followed by a visit from Santa, with dinner served at midday. Each resident gets to invite one or two family members, allowing them to have the family occasion that would otherwise be impossible or at least very difficult.

The entire meal is planned, shopped for and prepared by the auxiliary volunteers. Hospital night staff put the turkey in the oven to ensure its midday service, while the veggies and sides are cooked that day.

Santa's duties are performed by Ted Aves. Now in his 80s, Aves has been in care his entire life; it's both a tradition and a treat for him to take his part. As for the musical guest, Mackenzie says

the party has become as important for Valdy as it is for the people he sings for.

Mackenzie recalls that when she first had the idea of getting Valdy in to perform, others scoffed that he'd never be available. However, when she decided to just call him up and ask, "He was delighted.

"And of course, he wouldn't miss it now. Kathleen, his wife, comes with him. It's part of his Christmas now."

Christmas at the Extended Care Unit has become a must for Mackenzie as well. She first began volunteering to give something back to the community, but has found the rewards are much greater than the demands. Accordingly, she has several holiday messages to send.

"I'd like to personally send a special thanks to all the volunteers working in the Extended Care Unit, and a Merry Christmas to the whole community," Mackenzie said, adding: "None of this would be possible without the thrift shop. We thank them very much and the community for supporting them."

However, Mackenzie's Christmas wish is for more volunteers to fill the auxiliary's desperate need for helpers, especially for the daily tea service.

"They will get back much more than they give," she promises.

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www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca

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- \* **Dad 'n' Me:** Saturdays 8:30am-11:00am.
- \* **Parent Child:** Drop-in Wednesday 10am-1pm.
- \* **Food Bank:** Open Tuesday, 11am - 4pm
- \* **The Wall:** Indoor Rock Climbing Gym, Contact jalexander@sscis.ca
- \* **Recycle Depot:** Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 537-1200.
- \* **Seniors Wellness Programs:** Call Sharon Glover at 537-4607.
- \* **Emergency Mental Health Services:** Available 4pm to midnight through Emergency Room at Lady Minto Hospital. Call 538-4840
- \* **24 HR. Crisis Line:** Toll free: 1-866-386-6323. Caller is connected with the Need Crisis Centre in Victoria.

### Dr. Crichton's office is moving!

The clinic is moving to  
111 Corbett Road  
(close to the hospital)

We will therefore be closed  
on Friday, December 28  
in order to get everything in place

We will re-open  
in our new office on  
**MONDAY**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2007**


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Make 2008 a Happy Year  
Rita Dods



# PEOPLE & COMMUNITY

## FUNDRAISING FOR THAILAND

# Local 'runs away with the circus' to bring smiles to refugees

As the annual Christmas Market in the Park opens on Saturday, December 22, one vendor will be fundraising to help children in Thai refugee camps.

Terri-Ann Dunning of Stunning Dunning Designs will donate 100 per cent of the proceeds of her hand-painted floor art sales at the weekend market in Centennial Park to fund the Laughing for Life Circus group's January 2008 trip to entertain children in Thai refugee

camps and orphanages.

Funds are specifically needed to buy art kits for each child — they cost only \$1 each — and a set of circus toys (\$100) for schools and orphanages the group will visit.

"Laughing for Life is a small, silly, smiley circus of inspired international and Thai performers who have come to Thailand to volunteer, teach and perform," explains press material from Dunning. The circus features professional performers

using poi, staff, hula hoop, juggling, fans, trapeze, break dancing, stunts, clowning, drums and art workshops for the kids. Dunning will contribute fantastic fire spinning and lead art workshops. A team of 10 teachers from six countries is participating, with all members volunteering their time and expertise and covering their own expenses.

Despite the uncertain political climate in Burma at the moment, Laughing for Life members were

able to acquire access permits.

The group will be working with schools and non-governmental organizations in the north of Thailand in the Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Mae Sot regions. "This area of Thailand has many refugee camps in need of fun, creativity, play and distraction — as well as many orphanages, hill tribes and programs for street kids who do not have access to such creative events or activities," said Dunning.

People or companies wanting to support a specific project can be acknowledged in media releases and on the group's web page.

"For example, \$500 could cover the cost of the sound system for the month, a very specific and tangible contribution we would much appreciate."

For more information, call Dunning at 538-0971, e-mail her at tadunning@hotmail.com, or drop by the market on Saturday.

# Ganges Village Market News

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## TURKEY FOR DINNER



### CHRISTMAS HOURS

Dec. 24 8am-6pm  
Dec. 25 closed  
Dec. 26 closed  
Dec. 31 8am-6pm  
Jan. 1 closed

FRESH

### Lilydale A Turkeys

Available Dec. 19  
All Sizes

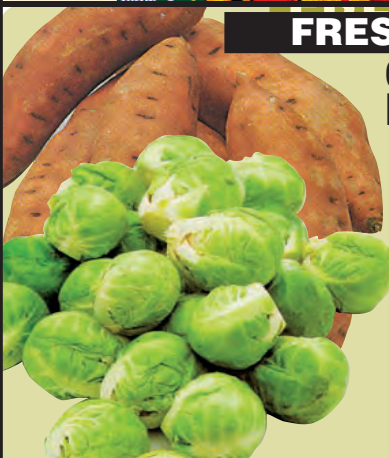
**1.88**  
LB  
4.14Kg

FRESH

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All Sizes

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Limit 1 Per Family Order  
Over Limit 1.58Lb 3.48Kg

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White or White & Dark Meat

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### Butterball Turkeys

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LB  
5.05Kg

Be Responsible this Holiday Season

# DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!

## What's for Dinner?

THE GANGES VILLAGE MARKET

### CRAN-RASPBERRY BALSAMIC GLAZED HAM

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

**Ham:** Traditionally, hams can be either dry-cured or wet-cured. The process of curing pork was elevated to an art form and as time has passed, family recipes became closely guarded secrets handed down from generation to generation, becoming family traditions. Traditional wet curing requires immersing the ham in a brine for an extended period, often followed by light smoking. Smoked hams grace many a table during the holidays & the family tradition is furthered by the way the ham is glazed at home. The vastness of this method & the combinations that can be combined are endless. I hope you enjoy this delightful addition to your recipe collection.

Preheat oven to 325°. Put pan on the lowest rack in the oven. Combine in a small saucepan over low heat, **1/4 cup balsamic cream, 1/4 cup corn syrup 1/4-cup raspberry seedless jam or raspberry syrup, 1/4 cup cranberry sauce, 1/4 cup red wine.** Keep glaze warm while baking ham. Score ham by cutting across the skin lightly forming a diamond pattern, and stud with whole cloves or black pepper. Place ham in foil lined pan. Brush glaze over ham, and baste ham every 10 to 15 minutes with glaze. You will glaze the ham 4 times. Bake for 10 minutes per pound of the ham you use. During the last 4 minutes of baking, turn on the broiler to caramelize the glaze. Remove from oven, and let stand for 2-3 minutes before serving.

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



• This Thursday 1:00pm - 5:30pm  
• This Friday 11:00am - 5:30pm



### Shopping list:

- 1 Ham (Meat Dept.)
- Balsamic cream (Deli Dept.)
- Corn syrup
- Raspberry seedless jam or raspberry syrup
- Cranberry sauce
- Red wine (optional)



Lotto Centre

OPEN DAILY 8am - 9pm



# PEOPLE & COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

**DECADE OF DEALS:** Staff and customers celebrated the Transitions Thrift Store's 10th anniversary with chocolate cake and homemade cookies on Friday afternoon.

## BOOK REVIEW

# Earth explored as 'sacred home'

Transformation revealed in Bob Wild's new book

*Sacred Journey: Gift of Earth and Spirit*, by Robert C. Wild. Trafford Publishing, 2007. Paper, \$19, available at local book stores.

BY PAT BARCLAY

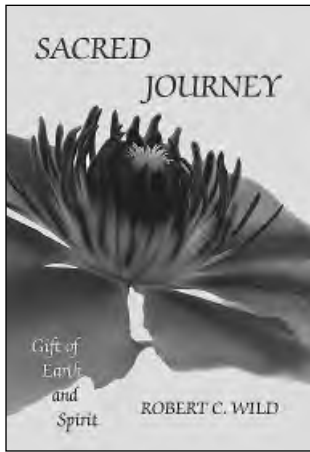
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Bob Wild's new book is a prime example of good things that come in small packages. *Sacred Journey: Gift of Earth and Spirit* is a "slim volume" of 131 pages with a stunning cover photo of a flower that enhances realism, making it a fitting complement to the gift of spiritual encouragement that lies within.

Readers familiar with Wild's earlier book, *Sacred Presence: In Search of the New Story*, will welcome this helpful sequel, but *Sacred Journey* stands comfortably on its own. Stylistically speaking, the author hits his stride with this new book. Philosophical reflection blends easily with personal anecdotes and prayers, while apt quotations and practical instructions create an atmosphere of hope and possibility for the uncertain time of transition in which we live today.

The following excerpt from Wild's preface outlines both the book's purpose and his own credo:

"Traditional religions picture Heaven as our blessed



destiny and Earth as our temporary home. But when we reflect on the new cosmology that is rooted in the discoveries of science, and bring this cosmology into dialogue with our religious inheritance, a new and different story of spiritual meaning and beauty emerges. We learn that Earth is our sacred home. We learn that this home is the gift of the Sacred Presence in whom Earth and all its creatures have an unknown destiny within the Mystery of the unfolding universe. And, for the present, we are content to discover a Sacred Journey given to us so that we may become who we are called to be, by both Earth and Spirit."

However, in our time the accelerating problem of climate change brings a new urgency to the task of spiritual exploration.

"The roots of this threatening calamity are not

environmental — they are spiritual and moral," writes Wild. Living responsibly with Earth and each other has often been beyond our capabilities for the past 6,000 years!

With the pressing need for a fresh start uppermost in Wild's mind, he brings together a multitude of resources for intentional travellers who seek the lost connection between Earth and soul. These include suggestions for daily practice, what to look for in a "soul friend," questions for discussion and a selection of nature poems.

He also adapts some of the great Hebrew psalms to his purpose, explaining: "I cannot exaggerate the debt I owe to them in assisting my spiritual journey."

Wild's own stories in the book are a testament to the truth and power of anecdotal evidence. By including them, he demonstrates that the goal of becoming a "transformed person" is indeed achievable. However, nowhere in *Sacred Journey* does Bob Wild suggest that his own journey is other than a continuing work in progress.

*Sacred Journey* is available in Salt Spring book stores, and let us hope that Bob's readers will decide to follow his example. Because, if we can't get it right on Salt Spring, how much hope is there for anywhere else?

we're online at [www.gulfislands.net](http://www.gulfislands.net)

**Driftwood**  
GULF ISLANDS  
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960



## The Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island Christmas Services for 2007

**Sunday, December 23rd**

9:30 am Holy Eucharist at All Saints  
11:30 am Holy Eucharist at St. Mark's  
4:00 pm Nine Lessons and Carols at All Saints

**Monday, December 24th**

4:00 pm Family Eucharist & Living Manger Tableaux at All Saints  
7:30 pm Holy Eucharist at St. Mary's

**Tuesday, 25th December**

10:00 am Holy Eucharist at St. Mark's

**Sunday, December 30th**

10:00 am Corporate Eucharist at All Saints

**Sunday, January 6**

10:30 am Festal Eucharist at All Saints & Potluck Lunch

*In the event of snow, services will be held at All Saints in Ganges. Please call 537-2171 to confirm*

*For unto us a child is born,  
unto us a son is given:  
and the government shall  
be upon his shoulder:  
and his name shall be  
called Wonderful, Counsellor,  
The mighty God,  
The everlasting Father,  
The Prince of Peace.*

— Isaiah 9:6

# HO HO HO !!!

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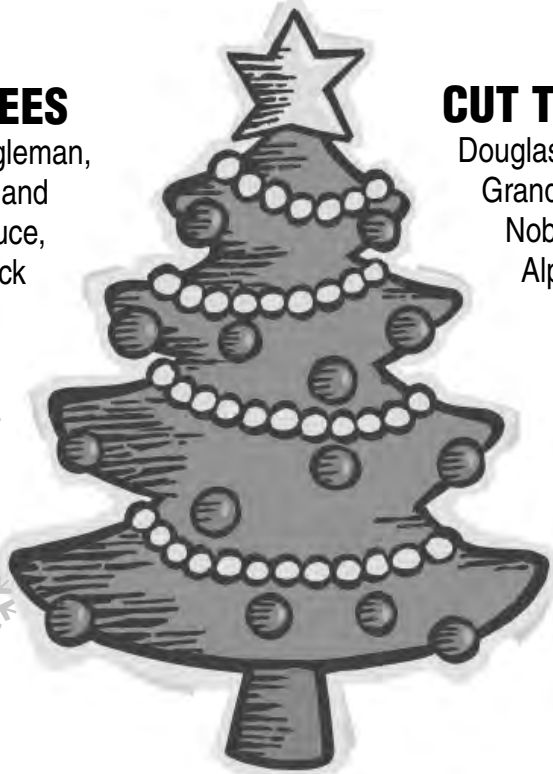
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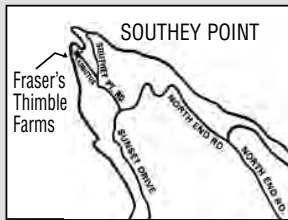
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## PEOPLE & COMMUNITY

# Enjoy ease of 'bad rap' pudding



Linda Koroscil

## LET'S EAT

### Christmas Pudding

Christmas puddings have a bad rap.

But believe it or not, they are one of the easiest holiday desserts to make: just mix everything in one bowl, pour the batter into a pudding mold and then steam the pudding for one and a half hours.

Bob's yer uncle – that's it!

- 1 c. mixed dried fruit (apricots, cranberries, etc.)
- 1 c. sultana raisins
- 1/2 c. currants
- 1/2 c. chopped candied ginger
- 1/2 c. mixed peel
- 1/3 c. chopped nuts
- 185 g. butter
- 3/4 c. brown sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 c. bread crumbs
- 3/4 c. flour
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp. cloves
- 1/3 c. brandy

Mix fruit and nuts together. In a separate bowl, beat butter and sugar.

Add eggs. Stir into fruit and nut mixture, then add bread crumbs and dry ingredients. Add brandy.

You could also add 1/4 c. molasses for flavour.

Pour into greased pudding mold, cover with lid and steam for about one and a half hours.

(Place the steamer in a heavy pot, add boiling water half way up the sides of steamer.)



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**CRAFT CREATION:** Gaye McIvor is spotted knitting a hat at the Fulford Hall Christmas Craft Fair.

### CHRISTMAS SERVICE

## All Saints uses procession in Christmas Eve service

One of several Christian events on island

the celebratory procession for the road to Bethlehem along which we shall travel on Christmas Eve."

If you are hoping to go to Bethlehem this Christmas, then the family service at All Saints church on Christmas Eve will take you there.

In a departure from the usual midnight mass, the service will take a form more reminiscent of the ancient medieval church, in which at great festivals the people themselves carried images in grand procession.

"All Saints has for many years enjoyed a unique set of nativity figures, beautifully crafted by Caroline Hamilton and given to the parish by her," notes an All Saints press release. "The figure of Mary holding aloft the baby Jesus wonderfully illustrates the joy of that eternal moment, while all the familiar figures of the nativity glow in the worship of their tiny King. These are the images to be used in

Within the framework of a simple yet deeply reverent eucharistic liturgy, based on one devised by the Iona Christian community in Scotland, the Christmas story will unfold as a colourful, tactile and visceral experience. Carols and candlelight will all be part of the mystery.

Although the service begins at 4 p.m., everyone is encouraged to come early to enjoy the ambience, the music and the anticipation which are so much a part of the festivities of the season.

For a more traditional service, the Anglican Parish is offering the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at 4 p.m. on December 23 in All Saints, a service on Christmas Eve at St. Mary's using the Book of Alternative Services, and on Christmas morning a service in St. Mark's at 10 a.m. using the Book of Common Praise.

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**GISS BASKETBALL**

## Senior boys hold their own at tourney

Third place finish  
"not great, but not bad"

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
STAFF WRITER

The Gulf Islands Secondary School senior boys basketball team finished a week-end tournament in Campbell River with mixed results but plenty of optimism.

The Scorpions opened the tournament with a convincing 78-50 victory over Timberlands, a triple-A team from northern Vancouver Island.

"We all played hard," said player Bob Byron. "It was a good way to start off the tournament."

Despite the great start and a seven-point lead after the first half, the Scorpions failed to beat the heavily favoured host team from Carihi High, dropping the match 62-46.

"Since they're one of the best teams on the island this year, we knew we had to play hard," Byron said. "We lost, but still took a lot out of that game. It kind of shows what we can do."

In the Scorpions' third and final game, a consolation round match to determine the tournament's third and fourth-place teams, the senior boys barely edged out Sooke's Edward Milne Community School by a score of 51-50.

"We lacked intensity in that game," Byron said. "We were lucky to pull it out with a one-point win."

GISS player Martin Lannan was awarded a first-team all-star award after he finished the tournament with nearly 60 points.

Byron made the second-team all-star with a total of 30 points.

Salt Spring basketball fans are reminded of Saturday's alumni celebration at GISS. The December 22 evening features basketball players from today and yesteryear facing off against each other at the high school gymnasium.

The girls game begins at 5 p.m. and boys is at 7 p.m.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**SOCCER SUNDAY:** Salt Spring U15 girls soccer player Christine Villadsen, left, fights for the ball against a Gorge player. The local squad lost the match — played Sunday in a wicked wind that toppled one of the nets — by a score of 4-1.

**SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL**

## Short-staffed Scorpions still chalking up the wins

Eight of nine games played with seven girls on roster

Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) senior girls basketball team continued its winning ways last week, taking a win over Brentwood at home and then nailing three of four games at the Victoria Christmas Tournament.

Competing with only seven players, the girls took down Brentwood last Tuesday in a close, fast-paced match in front of a supportive home team crowd. Final score was 52-46.

Kayla Gromme led the way with 21 points, with Monique Comeau adding 11 and Amanda Hoy eight.

"It was a slow start for GISS with Brentwood jumping out to a 19-6 lead," said coach Tony Mason.

But by half time, GISS had taken the lead 26-23, holding Brentwood to just four points in the second quarter.

In the fourth quarter, tied at 46 with four minutes to go, Danica Lundy "hit a shot to key the comeback," followed by a successful Meredith Raddysh steal. GISS scored the last four points to seal the victory.

"I was happy with the girls' effort," Mason said.

"It wasn't our best game offensively or defensively, but we still managed to get the win. Considering we have played eight of nine games this year with only seven players, I'm very pleased with how the team is performing."

Last Friday and Saturday, the team took fifth place overall in the Victoria Christmas Tournament, competing against 12 teams in the gold division.

The team kick-started the tourney by beating AAA Belmont 72-46. Gromme scored 25 points, Hoy, 17, and Comeau, 3.

In their second match, the girls played a "young but good" AAA Heritage Park team from Vancouver.

"Despite playing good defence most of the game we lost 63-44," Mason said. "We could not buy a basket, despite getting good opportunities."

Due to injuries, he added, the team ran a young line-up for the third game against Sentinal from West Vancouver, bringing up junior players Erica Rimmer and Adriane Harkema, who played "substantial minutes" and contributed to the 48-45 win.

"Our final game was against Rick Hansen [school] from Abbotsford," Mason said, adding the match would be a test for the team.

"Despite being a bit battered and bruised, we never trailed in the game and at one point led by 22. Good shooting got Hansen back in the game, but we prevailed 49-40 for a fifth place overall finish."

The team was scheduled to play at Cedar Secondary School in Nanaimo as the Driftwood went to press Tuesday.



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# SPORTS & RECREATION

## RECREATION CENTRE

# UV filter system approved

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) has lent its wholehearted support to the installation of a UV filtration system at the new Rainbow Road recreation centre.

"Based on the level of support from the public and the Vancouver Island Health Authority, this commission will as soon as possible and upon receipt of sufficient funds proceed with the installation of a UV system," said PARC board member Peter Lake.

Lake proposed the motion following a formal delegation by the Splash indoor

pool society's Wendy Rosier at PARC's monthly meeting on December 10.

**"We really can't do it until everything is running according to Hoyle."**

PETER LAKE  
PARC commissioner

While Rosier could not provide specific information as to how much money her group has raised for the system, she reassured commis-

sioners that equipment and installation costs are within sight.

Rosier estimated total costs would be at least \$50,000. A UV system will allow the pool to operate with a significantly lower amount of chlorine than a traditional system.

The system will be installed at an unspecified time after the pool opens to the public in February.

"We really can't do it until everything is running according to Hoyle," Lake said.

Commissioner Lake said he did not anticipate installation will result in any change to the pool's operating schedule.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**NEW ARRIVAL:** Christmas arrived early for the Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association and instructor Geri Alton, left, thanks to Salt Spring Island Foundation donors. Liam, an eight-year-old, 15.2-hand, Belgian/Quarterhorse cross arrived from Alberta on November 30. He is filling a gap left when Zeb turned 29 and was retired. Liam brings with him experience in dressage as well as vaulting. His gentle temperament makes him ideal for the group's riders. Anyone wishing to sponsor Liam or any of the horses or riders should contact Liz Anderson at 653-4979.

## YOUTH SOCCER

# Salt Spring U13s and U14s battle to rule the soccer pitch

Blustery winter weather is back

## SOCCERKICKS

Salt Spring's U13 Gelato girls suffered a 2-0 loss at Portlock Park on Saturday against Cowichan Valley, but "oh what a glorious loss!"

Shorn of six regular players, the girls — many playing in new positions and forced to stay on the field the whole game with no breathers — dug deep, matching their opponents.

It was only in the last 15 minutes, as legs got tired,

that the resolute Salt Spring defence was breached with two late goals.

The Gelato had some early chances to take the lead with Brenna McIntyre and Hailey Brown putting some great passing moves together.

Jade Beauvais was a real force, flying down the left wing, and at half time Salt Spring players deserved to have their noses in front.

The tide turned in the second half, but Salt Spring never gave up and played with great courage to the end.

Salt Spring's U14 Spartans were without five regulars Saturday against the Bays United Warriors, registering just their second loss of the season.

At the final whistle, the Spartans were short by one goal, falling 2-1 to a stronger team on a blustery day in Victoria.

First-half play started "scrambly" on a rough downtown field. The Spartans struck early on an unassisted goal by Lukas Wenzel, who capitalized on a sloppy defensive play, stole the ball and lobbed it over the goalie.

Through the first 35 minutes of play, possession finished fairly even, with momentum slowly shifting toward the hometown Warriors.

Bays United notched a goal on a nice shot midway through the second, just beyond the outstretched arms of keeper Byron Mus-sell.

The winning goal came shortly after, as the Spartans were called for a penalty within the box, succumbing to the dreaded 12-metre penalty kick.

With no substitutes and lacking strikers, Salt Spring could not muster a late comeback, despite maintaining the memory of having beat this team 5-0 on home turf.

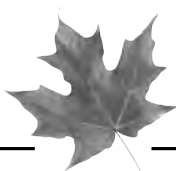
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# SPORTS & RECREATION



PHOTO BY LINDA MATTESON-REYNOLDS

**BRIGHT BOATS:** Salt Spring Sailing Club members went all out decorating their boats for a Friday night "light-up" event at the Douglas Road facility.

## MEN'S SOCCER

# FC Alumni capture island bragging rights

Goodwin extends shutout streak

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring soccer fans were forced to declare their loyalties Sunday morning as FC Alumni faced the Old Boys in the second and last all-island match of the 2007-08 season.

**"Playing alongside a guy whose English is limited to 'hello' was pretty interesting."**

DAVE MCCOLL  
Salt Spring Alumni FC



PHOTO BY DERRICK

Old Boys player Antonio Alonso, right, battles it out with Colin Clark, an FC Alumni player, during an all-island Masters C-division match on Sunday.

give the team a two-goal lead by the half.

The game featured FC Alumni recruit Ivica Budimcic, a former player with the Croatian national team.

While Budimcic didn't score any goals, McColl said he played a very strong and smart game.

"Playing alongside a guy whose English is limited to hello was pretty interesting," McColl added.

Mike Brown and Ken Marr each added a goal in the second half to extinguish any chance of an Old Boys comeback.

Duff Goodwin earned his

second shutout in as many games despite several strong opportunities for the Old Boys' offence.

"When they managed to get the ball out of their own end they did get a couple of chances," McColl said.

The victory improved FC Alumni's record to 10-0-3, while the Old Boys dropped to 4-5-4.

FC Alumni remains five points ahead of second-place Sooke United FC with three regular-season games remaining.

Play for both Alumni FC and the Old Boys resumes on January 20.

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Geoff Hopps  
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# Arts & Entertainment



## ART SHOWS

# Rainforest group mounts world-class exhibit and auction

Show raises land purchase profile

BY DAWN HAGE  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Islanders have an exciting opportunity to view world-class photographs and artwork and also contribute to an urgent fundraising campaign to help save Salt Spring Island's threatened rainforest.

The Art for the Rainforest Exhibit and Silent Auction takes place in the ArtSpring gallery from December 15-21. All artwork displayed is for sale and each artist has offered to donate from 45 to 100 per cent of the purchase price to the cause.

"Islanders are rallying again to meet a tight fundraising goal to save Creekside rainforest, the last available parcel (19.46 acres) of rare temperate rainforest in a riparian (waterside) area on Salt Spring Island," states press material from the Salt Spring Rainforest Appeal.

"This precious area is also home to one of the rarest of eco-systems on Earth. The goal is to raise a million dollars by the end of the year, with the campaign about a fifth of the way there."

The display features artwork and photography by some of the island's most esteemed artists, a display of artwork by the Grade 4-5 class of Stella Weinert and Marie Mullen at Salt Spring Elementary School and a silent auction. Artwork ranges in price from \$45 to \$2,500 and many of the pieces can be purchased with or without the frame.

The gallery feels immediately open and welcoming with ample room to view the carefully placed works. The perimeter walls primarily display the professional artists' work and the centre dividers provide a perfect backdrop for the children's art.

A long table includes descriptions of the silent auction items and sheets to sign your name and hoped-for contribution.

Starting with Shari Macdonald's trio of trees shot



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Adler Rabson with his River of Peace artwork at the Art for the Rainforest Exhibit and Silent Auction currently running at ArtSpring.

**"Islanders are rallying again to meet a tight fundraising goal to save Creekside rainforest, the last available parcel ... of rare temperate rainforest in a riparian ... area on Salt Spring Island."**

through mist and unusual patterns of light and angles,

all the way to a limited edition Robert Bateman print called Sarah E. with Gulls, the tour is breathtaking.

I loved the Old Maple collage by Theresa Mackey, where she juxtaposed four photos to create one unique and full-of-character tree. The unusual gold-toned Sand Willows, Aspens and Ford Cove by Susan Huber also caught my eye.

Three Sunflowers by Janet Dwyer literally pushes out of the frame — it is so realistic and textured that I couldn't believe it was a photograph.

One of the larger works displayed is Forest Rejuvenation by Steven Friedman. Viewers see a forest of burned trunks and sticks nestled in undergrowth that includes both dead growth and the beginnings of new,

green shoots along the forest floor.

Friedman displays his versatility with Mossy Tree Trunks, capturing multiple shades of green and a black, and white Chesterman's Beach that articulates the sand patterns on the famous Tofino beach.

David Borrowman's photographs are always a treat and he doesn't disappoint with Burgoyne Bay Giant, a striking collage of rusts and greens on a peeling arbutus nestled in the forest.

Birgit Bateman's Late Evening Sky provides a familiar view of Fulford Inn from out in the harbour and she manages to capture that brief moment of reflection of light off the water just before the sun sets completely.

I loved Andrea Collins'

Creekside Canopy 1 and 2, giclee prints on canvas that are absolutely gorgeous.

Orange is the dominant colour in a beautifully displayed collection of larger photographs by Osman Phillips and Shari Macdonald, taken from flower and tree trunk subjects that are viewed so closely that they transform into whatever

your imagination chooses to see.

There are many more wonderful pieces on display and I highly recommend that islanders find the time to come and see the exhibit for themselves.

Articles from the silent auction include an organic lamb feast, Bookart Poetry Chapbooks, a Phyllis Webb broadsheet, a cord of firewood, hair styling, massage, green business cards, a helicopter ride, a Robert Bateman art book, hand-carved wooden candles and many more items too numerous to list.

After visiting the Emily Carr exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Salt Spring Elementary students travelled to Mouat Park where they picked a view to sketch, keeping Carr's use of brushstrokes and colour in mind as they worked.

The resulting paintings are beautifully framed and displayed and add a lovely touch of colour and a youthful interpretation of nature to the show.

The Art for the Rainforest Exhibit and Silent Auction can be viewed daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

More information about the rainforest and other fundraising initiatives is available at the show. The Save Salt Spring Rainforest Appeal is supported by The Land Conservancy of B.C., Salt Spring Island Conservancy, Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society, Friends of Salt Spring Parks and Salt Spring Water Council. Visit the website at [www.savesaltspringrainforest.com](http://www.savesaltspringrainforest.com).

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SEE PAGE B6**

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY  
**LIVE NATIVITY:**

From left, Clair, Jo and Molly O'Donnell guide Misty around Centennial Park, promoting the second annual Community Christmas Celebration this Sunday at the Community Gospel Chapel, beginning at 6:30 p.m. One of the highlights includes the acting debut of Misty, a horse who takes the role of a donkey in the live nativity.



**MUSIC REVIEW**

## Perfect Christmas memories made

Invention, musicianship and Hammond B3 organ

BY ANDREA RABINOVITCH  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With chestnuts roasting, bells a-jingling, and CBC recording, We B3 Kings filled the almost full ArtSpring theatre on Sunday afternoon with enough Christmas cheer to last till Old St. Nick squeezes his girth down our chimneys in a few days' time.

Cory Weeds on saxophone, Denzal Sinclair on drums and vocals, Chris Gestrin on Hammond organ and Bill Coon on guitar turned standard and frankly staid Christmas carols into groovy improvised renditions that swung, rocked and always surprised.

A quartet of Vancouver jazz musicians that come together for this Christmas gig only, they recorded an album "A Cellar Live Christmas" in August of 2004 with Cellar Live Records. Cellar Live Records is Weeds' company, as is The Cellar Restaurant and Jazz Club, where We B3 Kings routinely sells out in the holiday season.

There's a good reason why.

They are all fine musicians and their arrangements are so unusual and inventive. Then when solo time arrives, each shows his chops with aplomb.

The most distinctive sound came

from the Hammond organ provided by Gestrin.

A little internet research found an awesome site — www.hammond-organ.com — that explained why that sound was so familiar.

The Hammond organ was patented in 1934, but the B3 model, designed with percussion capabilities, really soared when created in 1955.

Besides my memory of the musician and singer hired to entertain at the revolving restaurant and supper club high atop the Chateau Lacombe in Edmonton — every city had one of these, didn't they? — the sound is associated with both jazz and rock musicians of the '50s and '60s.

Gestrin uses two keyboards with Hammond organ simulators and an original Leslie speaker to recreate the sound. A real Hammond organ weighs around 400 pounds, not exactly an easy touring instrument.

Wittily opening with Jimmy Heath's Gingerbread Man, then sliding into Gordon and Lee's Christmas Dreaming with Sinclair's mellow vocals, and entering the funky groove of a very syncopated Do You Hear What I Hear opened up room for Weeds' tasty-as-shortbread solos and Coon's soulful acoustic guitar renderings.

A very laid back Little Drummer Boy, sung by Sinclair and accompanied by

Gestrin, with Coons providing fill, displayed what the Hammond organ was originally supposed to be: a low-cost pipe organ substitute. Sinclair's vocals made the favourite very personal while the organ offered spiritual support.

Opening the second set, a non-Christmas song, the familiar Bobby Timmins' Moanin, proved just how tight this quartet was.

If you could imagine the Adams Family theme song circa 1964 filtered through Tchaikovsky's Sugar Plum Fairy from the Nutcracker Suite, then the B3 Kings rendition was truly an original and just as creepy.

The concert also contained several chortle-out-loud-funny musical jokes, like Coon's James Bond theme. You can hear Salt Springers enjoying the concert on CBC Radio 2 on Canada Live between 8 and 10 p.m. on December 22.

What Child is This and Greensleeves beautifully melded and opened with a lovely duet with Sinclair on vocals and Coons holding him up with melodic subtlety.

Jingle Bells closed the concert. Mind you, I had to sing the verse under my breath to make sure that it was actually Jingle Bells, as the arrangement was so fresh. Endless invention, serious musicianship and obscure childhood memories: what more could one ask for from a Christmas concert?

**COMMUNITY MUSIC**

## Fiddleworks AGM needs billet homes in January

Part of busy year for group

Islanders are being asked to consider hosting a fiddler or two for a special mid-January Fiddleworks Community Development Society event.

The group is holding its annual general meeting, along with a potluck and dance on Saturday, January 12, at Fulford Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend.

"Bring some food to share

and put on your dancing shoes," said Jaime RT of Fiddleworks, with Anne Glover calling the dances and a fabulous fiddle band playing live music.

Because several fiddlers will be attending from out of town, islanders are needed to billet the players for that evening.

Anyone who can provide accommodation is asked to contact Emilyn Stam at 538-7267 or emilyn.stam@hotmail.com.

According to its website, Fiddleworks Community Development Society is "a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing people together to share in the joy of music, develop life and leadership skills and build community."

Besides teaching music locally, Fiddleworks' main activities have in the past been an annual week-long fiddle camp in August and a program supporting music education for aboriginal

children in Canada's far north, initiated by Fiddleworks founder Jaime Rokeby-Thomas. Barn dances are also held on Salt Spring throughout the year.

This fall Fiddleworks initiated monthly community jams on the second Friday of each month at the United Church, and the Community Fiddle Orchestra led by Stam.

Fiddleworks welcomes new society members, and donations of instruments or dollars.

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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### ISLAND THEATRE

# New Graffiti talent on board

Salt Spring poised to become theatrical force

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Recent changes at Graffiti Theatre have members excited about the group and the future of theatre on Salt Spring Island.

Since the company began performing live theatre on the island 10 years ago, Amanda Spottiswoode always sought to bring high-calibre performances to the island.

Now, thanks to the hiring of two veterans of the performing arts world, the group's performances stand to finally make the leap from good to great.

"Our goal was always to aspire to the professional as opposed to the community," Spottiswoode said. "Here we go. We now have a whole new energy and suddenly it's huge."

Part of that excitement is due to the arrival of David Baughan as the company's associate director and Libby Mason as artistic director.

Since moving to Salt Spring from England via



Amanda Spottiswoode and David Baughan.

Toronto, Baughan has devoted much of his time to working at theatres in Chemainus and Nanaimo.

Baughan's acceptance of the post as Graffiti's associate director gives him the chance to work with a very promising cast of characters in his new adopted hometown.

"I believe with the more professional approach that Graffiti now has, the very impressive kids that are coming through the Gulf Islands School of the Performing Arts curriculum, the new theatre season at ArtSpring and the general extraordinary quality of artistic production already established here that we are moving towards Salt Spring Island becoming a major attraction for the theatre arts," Baughan said.

**"We are moving**

**towards Salt Spring**

**Island becoming a**

**major attraction for**

**the theatre arts."**

DAVID BAUGHAN  
Graffiti Theatre

"I believe it will soon be possible for theatre professionals to both live and work on the island and provide training and mentorship to others from across Canada."

As for the challenges of theatre on the island, Baughan added: "the disadvantages are only there



if we consider them to be a problem."

Baughan and Mason have already begun work on Graffiti's 2008 season, which includes a spring presentation of *Born Again*, directed by noted Salt Spring Island-based director Mort Ransen. The play, a tale of Washington D.C.-style political corruption, has uncanny timeliness to current events, Spottiswoode said.

Because the play will consume so many of the group's resources, Spottiswoode said, the group will host a Shakespeare workshop to help aspiring actors learn the ropes.

"The buzz Shakespeare in the park started was really great, but we never really intended to only do theatre outside in the summer time," Spottiswoode said. "It's great but that's not all we want to do."

Baughan and Mason, she said, will not only help increase the range of Graffiti's performances, but also inspire the group to reach new heights.

For more information on Graffiti Theatre's upcoming season, visit [www.graffititheatre.ca](http://www.graffititheatre.ca).



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## GLASS ART

# All that glitters is at Avanti Studio

From recycled plate glass to fairy queen jewels

The holiday season often brings a burst of colour into the gloomy winter landscape, and there are few places better to enjoy it than at Valla Eiriksson's Avanti Studio. Sparkling creations crafted by Eiriksson and guest artists liven up even the gloomiest day, and have the advantage of being both works of art and fully functional.

A visit to Eiriksson's Vesuvius studio is like stepping into Aladdin's cave. Jewel toned glass beads on sterling silver glitter in pendants, bracelets and necklaces. There is something so pleasing about the rich colours that to see them is like having a visual feast.

Eiriksson has become very advanced in her bead-making through years of practice and studying with a master flame-worker. Simple forms such as round or square lozenge drop earrings, square and diamond shaped pendants are classic yet contemporary in shades of emerald green, toffee orange, cherry red and amethyst.

On the so-good-you-could-eat-them note, glass beads shaped like chocolate truffles are both fun and lovely to look at. A more complicated pendant is made using an Italian technique using silver foil, resulting in rich patterns of iridescent colour.

Eiriksson's pieces contain several elements that make them unique, in addition to the artist's individual style. Her silver findings, in clusters of tiny silver balls, are ordered especially from Bali. She also uses high-grade Swarovski crystal from Austria.

"I like using Italian glass because of the colours,"



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Valla Eiriksson offers a variety of glittering gifts crafted by island artisans at the Avanti Glass Studio in Vesuvius.



Elizabeth Nolan

## ARTBEAT ON THE ROCK

Eiriksson explained, "because there's something quite magical about light and how it interacts with colour, and I've always worked with that."

New work at Avanti includes square dishes made from recycled plate glass, which she shapes and edges with gold or platinum — strong and completely functional, yet original designs. Also new are some fabulous necklaces of glass leaves and crystal beads. One in clear glass looks like it's carved from ice: fit for a fairy queen. Another in smoky blue/grey is equally magical.

Also currently showing at the studio is Hillcroft Designs by Audrey Wight-

man-Sidhick. Eiriksson says these jewellery pieces are "so unusual because she's lived all over the world." Delicate strands of gold-fill wire are twisted with semi-precious gems and crystals. Wightman-Sidhick uses a special technique of crocheting the delicate wire strands, which are then gathered in loops.

Another attractive aspect of Hillcroft Designs is the artist's ethical business practices. For her findings she uses only suppliers that use recycled gold and that belong to the World Workers Cooperative, so no one is exploited to make her jewellery.

Both Wightman-Sidhick and Eiriksson have created items that would make wonderful Christmas presents, and are affordable as well. Many of the Hillcroft Design pieces, which can also be viewed at [www.avantishop.com](http://www.avantishop.com), are on sale for 50 per cent off. Eiriksson's pieces range in style and complexity, but simple items are

amazingly well-priced, such as her single glass leave pendants that go for \$5 each, or \$35 including the sterling silver chain. Her princess rings, featuring bright baubles on sparkly glass bead and wire bands, are just \$15.

Another great gift idea is the jewellery making workshops for six to 12 year olds. For \$15, kids will receive a kit with elastic cord and enough glass beads for three projects, plus instruction. Take-away kits go for \$10. Workshops run on December 15 and again on the 29, so they could be either a place for kids to make gifts or the gift itself. Eiriksson is also teaming up with media artist Cindy Jacobsen to offer Christmas e-cards, which people can create at the studio.

Through the periodic bursts of winter, a visit to Eiriksson's warm and welcoming studio will definitely uplift the spirits. Avanti Glass is open from 11-5 daily at 163 Bayview Road.

## ISLANDS TRUST

# Public relations group gives nod to Trust book

A Place In the Islands has earned another award for the Islands Trust's mantle.

The project designed to provide information and generate awareness of the unique benefits and challenges of living on an island is among three campaigns that have received the first province-wide awards offered by the Canadian Public Relations Society.

The awards are offered by a partnership of the three B.C. chapters of the Canadian Public Relations Society in Vancouver, Victoria (CPRS VI) and Northern Lights in Prince George and

are bestowed on communications professionals who demonstrate the highest ethical and professional standards while performing outstanding work.

"The Vancouver Island award is shared by Laura Stringer, communications specialist for the Islands Trust, and Kathleen Foley, director of education and outreach of the San Juan Preservation Trust in Washington State, who coordinated the project. The public education tool is the result of a cross-border partnership between the two organizations, which share many issues in common."

The publication, which covers topics ranging from water conservation to green building practices, also received an honourable mention award earlier this year in the "best practices" category of the Community Excellence Awards at the Union of B.C. Municipalities convention.

"We have received many positive comments from islanders about A Place in the Islands and to be singled out for a second province-wide award is a wonderful tribute to this initiative," said Kim Benson, chair of Islands Trust Council.

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# What's On This Week

**Wed.**  
Dec 19

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**Open Stage With Stephanie Rhodes.** At Shipstones. 8 p.m.  
**Fulford Community School Christmas Concert.** At Fulford Elementary. 7 p.m.  
**SSE Christmas Concert.** At SS Elementary. 7 p.m.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**  
**Carols for Christmastide.** All Saints. 10:10 a.m.  
**Zen Meditation.** Group meets at 210 Cedar Lane every Wednesday, 7-9 p.m. Info: 537-2831.

**Thurs.**  
Dec 20

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**The Light Returns.** Part ritual/part recital honouring the winter solstice. Lions Hall. 7 p.m.  
**One Night Stand with Matt & Tom.** At Shipstones. 8 p.m.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**  
**Expressive Drawing.** Thursdays at the Core Inn, 3rd floor. Drop-in. 2-4 p.m. Info: Gillian, 537-5833.  
**Bingo.** At Meaden Hall. 7 p.m. Early bird games at 6:30.

**Fri.**  
Dec 21

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**Christmas Dance Party.** With DJ Matt J at Shipstones. 8 p.m.  
**Christmas on Main Street.** Children's musical at Community Gospel Chapel. 6:30 p.m.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**  
**Fulford Carol Singing.** In the Patterson Market parking lot, with warm refreshments and roasted chestnuts. Led by Valdy. 6:30 p.m.  
**Community Christmas Sing-Along.** With choirs and island musicians. Bring a food bank donation. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.

**Sat.**  
Dec 22

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Gift-a-Light.** Lady Minto Hospital tree is lit, with carol singing and hot chocolate. 4:30 p.m.  
**Guided Creekside Rainforest Walks.** See subject of land purchase campaign on guided walks. End of Creekside at 107 Hillview Dr. 10 a.m.  
**Salt Springs Spa Resort.** Open House at 1460 North Beach Road. 3-6 p.m. Info: 537-4111.  
**Sixth Annual Nordic Yule.** Potluck feast, ceremonies & Father Yule visit. Beaver Pt. Hall. 5 p.m. to midnight.

**Sun.**  
Dec 23

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.** All Saints. 4 p.m.  
**Christmas Open House.** At the Cheese Farm, 285 Reynolds Road. Music by Cantus early music choir. Hot apple cider and Christmas spirit. 1-3 p.m.  
**Community Christmas Celebration.** Living Nativity, Christmas crafts, snacks and more. Community Gospel Chapel. 6:30 p.m.  
**Guided Creekside Rainforest Walks.** See subject of land purchase campaign on guided walks. End of Creekside at 107 Hillview Dr. 1 p.m.

**Mon.**  
Dec 24

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.** Of Lessons and Carols. SS United Church. 7 p.m.  
**Christmas Eve Mass.** Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, carols at 6:30 p.m., service at 7 p.m. St. Paul's church in Fulford, carols at 10 p.m., service at 11 p.m.  
**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.** At Community Gospel Chapel. 7 p.m.  
**Christmas Eve Service.** At SSI Baptist Church. 3 p.m.  
**Family Eucharist & Living Manger Tableaux.** All Saints. 4 p.m.  
**Holy Eucharist.** St. Mary's Anglican Church. 7:30 p.m.

**Tues.**  
Dec 25

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Christmas Day Mass.** Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church. 10 a.m.  
**Holy Eucharist.** St. Mark's Anglican Church. 10 a.m.  
**Gary's Christmas Day Community Dinner.** At Meaden Hall. 12 noon. Info: 537-5812.  
**Show & Tell.** At The Local. Bring your favourite gift. Noon to 6 p.m.

**Wed.**  
Dec 26

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**Hey Boy Hey Girl.** Boxing Day Bash at Shipstones. 8 p.m.  
**Boxing Day Party.** Donny Brook & the Haymakers — AKA Matt Steffich, Dave Roland, Doug Rhodes and special guest. Moby's Pub.  
**DJs Cassidy & Virgil.** Spin the tunes at The Local. 7 p.m.



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**CABLE TV**  
• **Attention Shaw Cable TV Channel 11 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. On the evening of Wed., Dec. 19 and during the day on Thurs., Dec. 20, watch a story about the Salt Spring Christmas Bird Count, including interviews with Robert Bateman and Gil Schultz. Also tune in for community messages, weather and news headlines. For further details about community programming, call 537-1335.

**EXHIBITIONS**  
• **Art for the Rainforest.** Exhibit and Silent Auction of world-class art works and more. ArtSpring daily, 10-5, until Fri., Dec. 21. Help purchase the Creekside rainforest property!  
• **Wintercraft** — work by more than 100 artists and guild members runs at Mahon Hall daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Sat., Dec. 22. Daily draw prizes and artist demos.  
• **Christmas Market in the Park** — it's summertime again (sort of!) but with a Christmas theme as vendors set up shop in Centennial Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 22.  
• **Salt Spring Vineyards** hosts a **Christmas craft sale** of island vendors' wares on Sun., Dec. 23 from noon to 5 p.m.  
• **Soul Food & Co.** is holding an art show & sale featuring gourmet breads and baked goods, paintings, photography, jewellery and spirit houses. 705 Beaver Pt. Rd., Sat., Dec. 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
• **"If Wishes Were Horses"** and a **Pony for Christmas.** Paintings by Mira Warrington and photographs by Wendi Gilson are showing at Barb's until the end of the month.  
• **"Party of Four"** — Gerry Scott, Joan Wrigley, Bev Lillyman and Ann Hignell show art in the ArtSpring lobby for the month of December.  
• **Avanti Glass Studio** — open studio and e-Christmas messages with Frog Talk Media. Daily until Mon., Dec. 24. Info: 537-9476.  
• **Salt Spring Coffee Shop** staff member **Christine Russell** is the featured artist for December at the Ro.Co.  
• **New life drawings** by Thomas McPhee are showing at Auntie Pesto's Restaurant.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY ANDREA RABINOVITCH

**IN PROCESS:** Salt Spring dancers get feedback from Danny McCusker, an instructor from Tufts University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, at an Antler Ridge Studio workshop. Part of ArtSpring's Dance Outreach program with Made in B.C. support, dancers will perform the workshoped piece in April 2008.

Happy Holidays Everyone!

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## ISLAND MUSIC SCENE

# Folk club fills for popular acts

Young fiddlers command encore while Todd Butler charms us again

BY MARIT MCBRIDE  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

"Back by popular demand" is an apt summary for the December 10 Salt Spring Folk Club show.

Carolyn Hatch and the Salt Spring Fiddle Troupe, composed of Ryder Bergerud, Robin Bulger, Sean Cunningham, Kaya Hunter, Sonja Kornelsen, Sarah Lundy, Clayton Upex, Emma Woodland, Braden Young, with piano accompaniment provided by Ele Brouard-John, returned to the Folk Club stage to the delight of the assembled Folk Club patrons.

From Scotland's lively Dashing White Sergeant, followed by the lilting Portland Fancy from England, we then embarked on the Road to Boston, which featured both bowing and plucking playing methods.

Makedonsko Devojce was a marvellous, gypsy-like song that reverberated with Europe's magnificent old-world atmosphere. Feet were set to tapping with Dill

Pickle Rag, followed by several creative seasonal offerings, highlighting a quartet from within the troupe. Valdy joined in on his guitar for Irish Washerwoman, where the musicians displayed unusual playing stances, such as over their head, between their knees or two playing each other's fiddles, while intertwined.

Orange Blossom Special was given a playful new twist with bird chirps, turkey in the straw, pig grunts, mule braying and even a funeral dirge. When a standing ovation demanded an encore, the players returned to the stage for an unlikely mix of Bonaparte's Retreat and Jingle Bells. For the most part, the young musicians appeared very serious, perhaps even stunned, as Carolyn remarked, but their obvious concentration did not detract from the talent they displayed.

The capacity crowd at the Fulford Hall was largely due to another repeat performer, Todd Butler. With the Festival Song, Green Steve, Prairie Surfing, Modern Urban Idiot (a play on Gilbert and Sullivan), Old John Deere, Sonic Tomato, A Fine Line and Tapped Out, just to name a few, Butler swept the audi-

ence through the evening with sets of soaring hilarity, punctuated with serious ballads that grounded his performance and exhibited his skills at songwriting and musicianship.

Butler explored many touchy subjects, such as global warming, increasing "green" popularity, Conrad Black, former prime ministers Mulroney and Chretien, elderly Victoria drivers, U.S. President Bush, SUV owners, leaky condos, fast ferries . . . really, the list is too extensive.

Bemoaning that there isn't a category for his style of entertainment at the Juno awards, Butler proved that he is nevertheless a winner. Overcoming the physical discomfort of a cold, and the blow of receiving absolutely no response from one of his jokes (we couldn't hear the punchline), Butler maintained his charm through to the last notes of his encore.

Dressed all in black, a la Leonard Cohen, and displaying a face that greatly resembled Stephen Harper, we can only wonder at the twisted brain that lies within, where auditory input is processed, mangled and churned out as something amusingly unique. A little

bit of Weird Al, a knowledgeable political and social commentator and a gifted singer/songwriter with a flair for comedy — that's Todd Butler.

Another "back by popular demand" evening at the Folk Club takes place on January 28, 2008, with performances from Alan Moberg and Ed Peekeekoot.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## FIDDLE REVIEW

# Fiddle fest decks the hall at Beaver Point

Hatchery kids join the pros

BY GREG MIDDLETON  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

They weren't just fiddling around. Violin students from the Fiddlers Hatchery strutted their stuff at Beaver Point Hall in a well-attended Sunday afternoon concert with some special guests. It was an afternoon of classical, Celtic and Christmas music featuring 24 students from the incredibly cute five and seven-year-old Osha Forman-Clarke and Cyrus Andress to the extremely accomplished

solo performer Sarah Lundy. The big treat of the afternoon was the Haydn Violin Concerto. Sarah Lundy was joined by Carolyn Hatch and professional musicians Jean Knight on violin and Paula Kiffner on cello. "It was just wonderful playing with them," Lundy said afterwards. Knight, on first violin, played in the London Philharmonic and Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and taught on Salt Spring for many years. Kiffner also played in the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and teaches at both the Victoria and

Nanaimo conservatories and plays professionally in the Galiano Ensemble in Victoria. Both are exceptionally accomplished musicians. "I think they did a fantastic job," Kiffner said of the students. Hatch's advanced students, the Salt Spring Fiddle Troupe, are becoming accomplished performers in their own right. They have taken their show on the road twice this year, once to Whistler and once to Bellingham, playing a number of venues in each place, as well as on the B.C. Ferries. They were the opening act at

the December 10 Folk Club concert (which is also reviewed in this issue of the Driftwood). One of the highlights of the afternoon was a Scottish Christmas Duet played by 11-year-old fifth-year student Nevan Young and Hatch, who has a fine arts degree in performance, as well as years of teaching. "It is very lovely the way he plays it," said Hatch. "It is a piece I like very much and he does a very good job." Hatch has played in the Calgary Symphony Orchestra and at least a dozen folk bands over the years. During the concert Hatch said that if she has a student ready to

perform Bach-Gounod's Ave Maria she likes to include it on the program. This year Kaya Hunter worked hard to perfect the piece that people know so well it has to be played very well indeed. "It is a beautiful song and it takes a great deal of skill to play it as beautifully as she did," Hatch said. For the students, getting up there in a group and rocking the house with a half dozen foot-stomping fiddle tunes (where you can get up there and break a few bow hairs) was probably the hit of the evening.

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## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

# ArtSpring's carol blitz runs Friday

Food bank donation part of the tradition

Christmas on Salt Spring without ArtSpring's annual community Carol Sing-Along would be as lacking as Santa without his sleigh, the Wise Men without their star, or a pudding without its holly.

So producer Jill Tarswell has lined up a packed evening of musical cheer featuring local singers, musicians and other performers, as well as lots of opportunities for everyone to sing popular Christmas carols.

The sing-along happens at 7 p.m. on Friday, December 21 in the ArtSpring theatre.

Salt Spring fiddler and recording star Jaime RT will perform, as will Barbara Slater and several island choral groups, including The Scrooge Singers led by Sue Newman, the Salt Spring Vocal Quartet, Tuned Air, Indigo and the early music ensemble Cantus.

Trish Corry, a celebrated lyric coloratura soprano who is scheduled to present a full recital concert at ArtSpring in January together with her Salt Spring-resident sister Leslie Corry, will also join the vocal lineup.

A brass quintet from Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) call Brass Age — which was very popular at last year's sing-along — will be back. Also from GISS, drama teacher Jason Donaldson is bringing a group of students to demonstrate improv and give dramatic readings.

Jan Rabson, producer and director of Live Radio Theatre, which is part of ArtSpring's theatre season on January 19 and 29, will also provide spoken-word variety to the evening.

Interspersed with the display of local talent are lots of opportunities for the audience to join in singing all their old Christmas carol favourites.

Hot cider and cookies will follow in the lobby after the evening's performances. The evening is free of charge, but people are asked to bring along non-perishable food items for the food bank.

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**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19**

5:00 PM	The Simpsons Arrested Development Ocean Walker	Pieds dans la marge (N) L'Union fait la force (N)	Timothy/ (:15) Mama (:35) Babar	(4:30) NHL Hockey - Los Angeles vs. Detroit (Live)	CHEK News	Full House King of the Hill	Early News Global National	CTV News	Punjab Times Phoenix World News	A Channel News at 5	The Ellen Degeneres Show (N)	Wife & Kids [Part 2 of 2] My Wife and Kids	Malcolm [Part 2 of 2] The Simpsons	KOMO 4 News ABC World News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News CBS Evening News	Jimmy Neutron SpongeBob SquarePants	(4:30) Poker After Dark Pratt & Taylor
6:00	News	Le Téléjournal	Kratts' Creatures Popular Mechanics	News	News	The Simpsons Friends	News	News	CTI News	Vancouver Report	CityNews International	That '70s Show The Simpsons	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	A Year Without Santa	NBA Basketball - Phoenix vs. Dallas (Live)
7:00	Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer	La Petite Vie L'Épicerie	Meerkat Manor Noël Noël	SportsCentre	EI News	According to Jim The Simpsons	Entertainment Tonight Ent. Tonight Canada	Degrassi [Part 1 of 2] Eltalk (N)	Hong Kong Express Pure in Heart	Bravo!Fact Presents Friends	Wheel of Fortune Jeopardy	The King of Queens Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men Jeopardy	Wheel of Fortune Jeopardy	Evening Magazine Inside Edition	Rick Steves' Europe Oregon Field Guide	Walt Disney: Once Upon a Time	Entertainment Tonight The Insider	Santa Claus Is Coming to Town	
8:00	Frosty the Snowman Frosty Returns	"Shrek" (Animé, '01) Voix de Mike Myers.	Riddles of the Dead (N)	Off the Record	Clash of the Choirs (N)	Home Improvement Home Improvement	Back to You Til Death	Duel (N)	Vancouver Nights Iranian Pop	Smallville Fierce	Dave Gerry Special	Crowned Momma Needs a New Swimsuit (N)	Back to You Til Death	Duel (N)	Clash of the Choirs (N)	Wired Science (N)	CBC News: The National	Frosty the Snowman Frosty Returns	Prank Patrol Rap Star Fries With That?	
9:00	A George Canyon Cmas (N)	Light Energies of Light	Varsity Inc. (N) ESPN House	Ustat	The Standard	Deal or No Deal Canada	Criminal Minds 3rd Life (N)	Sabor Latino	"The Twelve Days of Christmas Eve" ★★ (Com, '04) Cheryl Ladd.	"Eve's Christmas" ★★ (Dra, '04) Cheryl Ladd.	Gossip Girl Roman Holiday (N)	Kitchen Nightmares Mixing Bowl	Private Practice	Mormon Choir (N)	CBC News: The National	Criminal Minds 3rd Life (N)	Futurama Pinky Brain Snowball	Sportsnet Connected		
10:00	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	Taking Care of Elvis	X Games	FANatical	Cold Case Static	Journeyman Perfidia (N)	CSI: NY Happily Never After (N)	Hola Que Tal (Com, '04) Steven Weber.	"Eve's Christmas" ★★ (Dra, '04) Cheryl Ladd.	Seinfeld The Subway Seinfeld	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	A Holiday Celebration at Ford's Theatre (N)	Journeyman Perfidia (N)	Christmas at St. Olaf (N)	Walt Disney: Once Upon a Time	CSI: NY Happily Never After (N)	Naruto Shadow Raiders	Sportsnet Connected	
11:00	(:05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal	Season Child How Come You Walk Funny?	SportsCentre	News	It's a New Day	News	News	TV Patrol	News	RAW	Frasier	Family Guy	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Mystery Hunters	Sportsnet Connected
12:00 MID	(:05) Arrested (:35) Hour 22 Mins	La zone (:45) "Le Club de la..."	Real Country House Great Artists	Off the Record Hockey	(:05) Chelsea Lately (N) (:35) Late, Late Show	International Laser Clinic PR Maxx	(:05) Ent. Tonight (:35) E.T. Canada	(:05) TMZ (:35) The Daily Show	Jai Fiji	Caribbean Beat (:35) Conan O'Brien	(:05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park South Park	RENO 911! M*A*S*H The Party	(:05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Conan O'Brien	Masterpiece Theatre	The Hour	With David Letterman (:35) Late, Late Show	Futurama Malcolm in the Middle	Pratt & Taylor

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 20**

5:00 PM	The Simpsons Arrested Development	Match! La vie après L'Union fait la force (N)	Timothy/ (:10) Mama (:35) Babar Time Files	NFL Football - Pittsburgh vs. St. Louis (Live)	CHEK News	Full House King of the Hill	Early News Global National	CTV News	Punjab Times Phoenix World News	A Channel News at 5	The Ellen Degeneres Show (N)	My Wife and Kids My Wife and Kids	Malcolm in the Middle The Simpsons	KOMO 4 News ABC World News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News CBS Evening News	Danny Phantom SpongeBob SquarePants	(4:30) Poker After Dark Pratt & Taylor
6:00	News	Le Téléjournal	Mentors Humberg Reach for the Top	News	News	The Simpsons Friends	News	News	CTI News	Vancouver Report	CityNews International	That '70s Show The Simpsons	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Fairy Odd Parents Donner	Sportsnet Connected
7:00	Coronation Street Coronation Street	Martin sur la route L'appel de l'original	Profiles of Nature Specials (N)	EI News	According to Jim The Simpsons	Entertainment Tonight Ent. Tonight Canada	Degrassi Next Gen. Eltalk (N)	Hong Kong Express Pure in Heart	Bravo!Fact Presents Friends	Wheel of Fortune Jeopardy	The King of Queens The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men Jeopardy	Wheel of Fortune Jeopardy	Evening Magazine Inside Edition	Rick Steves' Europe Ask This Old House	Christmas Confidential	Entertainment Tonight The Insider	Charlie Brown Garfield	Pool World Championships
8:00	"Miracle on 34th Street" ★★ (Dra, '94) Lord	Tous pour un	A History of Britain The Two Winstons (N)	SportsCentre	Clash of the Choirs (N)	Home Improvement Home Improvement	"Recipe for a Perfect Christmas" ★★ (Com, '05) Christine Baranski.	Duel (N)	What's in Vancouver? Main Office	30 Rock 30 Rock	Biography Reese Witherspoon	Smallville Fierce	Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader? (N)	Duel (N)	Clash of the Choirs (N)	Walking the Bible	CBC News: The National	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Living Doll	Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer	
9:00	Richard Attenborough	Bons baisers de France	Poking to Paris [Part 2 of 4]	Varsity Inc. (N) ESPN House	"Christmas Caper" (Com, '07) Shannen Doherty.	The Standard Messages	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Dead Doll	Teri Meri Duniya Sadabahaar Naghmae	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Supernatural Bad Day at Black Rock	Supernatural Bad Day at Black Rock	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Grey's Anatomy Let the Truth Sing	My Name Is Earl 30 Rock	Nova Missing in MIG Alley (N)	CBC News: The National	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Dead Doll	Futurama Pinky & the Brain	Best Damn Sports Show Period	
10:00	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	Heaven on Earth Wild at Heart	Boxing The Contender - Gomez vs. Tackie	Cold Case The Key	Deal or No Deal Canada	Without a Trace Desert Springs	Mor Deo Koi Desi Rhythms	Barenaked for the Holidays	Across the River Walk Like a Man	Seinfeld Seinfeld The Susie	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	Private Practice	The Office Fun Run	America at a Crossroads Campus Battleground	Christmas Confidential	Without a Trace Desert Springs	Naruto S. Raiders [Part 1 of 2]	Sportsnet Connected	
11:00	(:05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal La zone	Canvas of Conflict	SportsCentre	News	It's a New Day	News	News	TV Patrol	News	Realty Television	Frasier Frasier Party	Family Guy	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Mystery Hunters	Sportsnet Connected
12:00 MID	(:05) Arrested (:35) Can. Reflections	(:15) "La légende du pianiste sur l'océan" ★★	Life Isn't All Ha Ha Hee Hee	Off the Record Motoring 2008	(:05) Chelsea Lately (N) (:35) Late, Late Show	Saved by the Bell PR Maxx	(:05) Ent. Tonight (:35) E.T. Canada	(:05) TMZ (:35) The Daily Show	Punjabi Vibes	Desi Rhythms (:35) Conan O'Brien	(:05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park South Park	RENO 911! M*A*S*H	(:05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Conan O'Brien	Smart Travels Paris	The Hour	With David Letterman (:35) Late, Late Show	Futurama Malcolm in the Middle	Pratt & Taylor

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 21**

5:00 PM	The Simpsons Arrested Development	Match! La vie après L'Union fait la force (N)	Timothy/ (:10) Mama (:35) Babar	(4:30) NHL Hockey - Philadelphia vs. Buffalo (Live)	CHEK News	Full House King of the Hill	Early News Global National	CTV News	Punjab Times Phoenix World News	A Channel News at 5	The Ellen Degeneres Show (N)	My Wife and Kids My Wife and Kids	Malcolm in the Middle The Simpsons	KOMO 4 News ABC World News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News CBS Evening News	"All I Want for Christmas" ★★ (Com, '91) Jamey Sheridan.	(4:30) Poker After Dark Pratt & Taylor
6:00	News	Le Téléjournal	Desert [Part 6 of 10] Kratts' Creatures	News	News	The Simpsons Friends	News	News	CTI News	Vancouver Report	CityNews International	That '70s Show The Simpsons	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Sportsnet Connected	
7:00	Coronation Street Winnie the Pooh Cmas	Martin sur la route L'oe des neiges	The Canadian Brass	NHL Hockey - Dallas vs. Calgary (Live)	EI News	According to Jim The Simpsons	Entertainment Tonight Ent. Tonight Canada	Degrassi [Part 1 of 2] Giller Prize Profile	Hong Kong Express Pure in Heart	Bravo!Fact Presents Friends	Wheel of Fortune Jeopardy	The King of Queens The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune Jeopardy	Evening Magazine Inside Edition	Rick Steves' Europe KCTS Connects	the fifth estate	Entertainment Tonight The Insider	Rocko's Modern Life Pinky & the Brain	The Page CMI: Chris Meyers
8:00	"The Santa Clause 2" ★★ (Fam, '02) Tim Allen.	Simplement... Mario Jean	A Child's Christmas in Wales	SportsCentre	The Singing Bee The Singing Bee	3D Dialogue	Island Vets Island Vets	Duel (N)	Weekly News Forum CTS Night Club	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Biography Martin Short	Friday Night Smackdown (N)	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Duel (N)	The Singing Bee The Singing Bee	NOW Washington Week	CBC News: The National	A Home for the Holidays (N)	Ren & Stimpy Invader Zim	The Ultimate Fighter 5
9:00	Bons baisers de France	Christmas in Vienna	Murder Club Grannies, Guns and Love Mints	SportsCentre	3D Dialogue	Largo Winch Love Hurts	Moonlight No Such Things as Vampires	Hwang Jin Yi	Next Great Am. Band 3 Cut to Winner (SF) (N)	"Alien vs. Predator" ★ (Hor, '04) Sanaa Lathan.	Seinfeld The Fix-Up Seinfeld The Pothole	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	20/20	Dateline NBC	Bill Moyers' Journal	CBC News: The National	Moonlight No Such Things as Vampires	Futurama Gundam S Destiny	Best Damn Sports Show Period	
10:00	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes	Boxing The Contender	20/20	Cold Case Fireflies	Deal or No Deal Canada	The Sopranos (SP)	Open Concert	Thank God You're Here	Pink Planet III Key West	Frasier Frasier	Family Guy Viewer Mail 1 King of the Hill	News	News	News	the fifth estate	Numb3rs Longshot	Death Note Bleach	Sportsnet Connected
11:00	(:05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal La zone	Wild Goose Chase	SportsCentre	News	It's a New Day	News	(:10) News (:40) CTV News	TV Patrol	News	CityNews International	Frasier Frasier	King of the Hill	(:35) News (:35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	(:35) Conan O'Brien	News	CBC News: The National	News	Eureka Seven	Sportsnet Connected
12:00 MID	(:05) Arrested (:35) Kenny vs. Spenny	(:15) "Les visiteurs" ★★ (Com, '92)	National Geographic	Off the Record Hockey World Junior A Chall.	(:05) Chelsea Lately (N) (:35) Late, Late Show	Saved by the Bell Kingstar	(:05) ECW Wrestling	(:15) CSI: Miami Bloodline	Vancouver Masala Music Bank	(:35) Conan O'Brien	(:05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park South Park	RENO 911! M*A*S*H (P)	(:05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Conan O'Brien	Tavis Smiley	The Hour	With David Letterman (:35) Late, Late Show	Futurama Invader Zim	Pratt & Taylor



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SATURDAY DECEMBER 22

Table for Saturday, December 22, with 21 columns and 12 rows of programming. Includes shows like NHL Hockey, La magie continue, Miss BG, and various news and entertainment programs.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 23

Table for Sunday, December 23, with 21 columns and 12 rows of programming. Includes shows like The Muppet Christmas Carol, Oniva, (4:30) The Bear, and various news and entertainment programs.

MONDAY DECEMBER 24

Table for Monday, December 24, with 21 columns and 12 rows of programming. Includes shows like Kif-kif, (4:00) "Jingle All the Way", and various news and entertainment programs.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 25

Table for Tuesday, December 25, with 21 columns and 12 rows of programming. Includes shows like Kif-kif, (4:00) "Miracle on 34th Street", and various news and entertainment programs.

Large promotional banner for Driftwood Letters Online with the URL http://www.gulfislands.net/blogs/blog\_letters/

# CHRISTMAS STORIES



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**SEASONAL SINGING:** Fernwood Elementary School choir members perform at a Christmas concert. Fulford and Salt Spring Elementary schools hold their events tonight.

## STORY CONTEST

# Dragons, trolls, good and evil form Christmas story plots

Young writers' creativity comes through again

The Driftwood's annual Christmas Story Writing contest proved once again that the Gulf Islands can boast a Santa sack full of literary enthusiasm among its young people.

A total of 148 stories were received from children aged four through 12 this year and categories were drafted depending on the number of entries collected from writers of each age.

Of note this year is that five pairs of siblings appear in the winners and honourable mention list.

As always, the Driftwood's trusty troupe of retired teachers and literature aficionados, coordinated by the inimitable Alex Mitchell, handled judging duties.

Winners and writers of stories receiving an honourable mention from judges are as follows:

Age 4-6: First place, Josephine O'Donnell; second

place, Alistair Hayne; honourable mention, Sophie Gold and Liam McGuire.

Age 7: First place, Joely Welsh; second place, Jimmy Steel; honourable mention, JJ Pomeroy and Aidan Sutherland.

Age 8: First place, Zoe Cullen-Lahay; second place, Lyyli Kennedy; honourable mention, Hannah Grant, Oliver Roveda, Genevieve Lightfoot, Catelyn Creswick, Alexandra Barnes, Shael Lampard and Aidan Haigh.

Age 9: First place, Norees Gasper; second place, Harry Yardley; honourable mention, Nicholas Howe and Nixie Palm.

Age 10: First place, Olivia Hayne; second place, Sebastian Howe; honourable mention, Owen Twaites, Jenna Aston and Jared McGuire.

Age 11-12: First place, Hannah Pearson; second place, Elise Pearson; honourable mention, Ari Neville and Emily Dunsmuir.

First and second-place stories appear in this issue of the Driftwood, with some honourable mention stories

published as space permits this week and next.

Winners may also pick up their cheques (\$30 for first place and \$20 for second) at the Driftwood office.

Another winner is the Grade 2-3 classroom of Shelly Johnson at Fulford Elementary. Driftwood Publishing Ltd. will provide \$100 to a charity of the class' choice.

All classes achieving 100 per cent participation in the contest were entered in the random draw.

This year that included all three Salt Spring Centre School classes, ranging from students in kindergarten through Grade 5, plus Jim Lightfoot's class of Grade 4-5 writers from Fulford Elementary, and the Grade 4-5 students of Stella Weinert and Marie Mullen at Salt Spring Elementary.

The charity prize was introduced in 2003 to encourage more participation in the story contest, and several classrooms have risen to the challenge every year since.

# GISS art contest winners named as well

Winning artwork in the Driftwood's annual Christmas cover contest is also featured in this section of the paper.

In addition to the first place winner (submitted by Umi Inoue) on Page A1, second and third place covers can be found on Page B13, plus more favourites on Page B27.

# Trouble with the Abominable Snowman and the Yeti

BY JIMMY STEEL  
AGE 7 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

Once there was an Abominable Snowman. Nobody liked him except the Yeti who lived in a cave in the Snow Village. Every Christmas the Abominable Snowman never got anything, except a lump of coal. So he tried to think of a plan. He thought of a brilliant plan.

He went over to the Yeti's house and told him his plan. It was, "You, Yeti, find some rope to fit around Santa, put it just over the roof of the little girl's house on Salt Spring

Way. Santa will get stuck!"

But little did they know Santa was watching and he told his elves to make him bigger.

That night was Christmas Eve. Santa was going to go to the little girl's house and put the trap where the Yeti and Abominable Snowman were hiding and catch them instead of him! It worked perfectly. But out of the blue came a new Abominable Snowman and a new Yeti!

"Oh no," said Santa. But he knew what to do.

He pressed the button on his nose. He went down the

chimney. Little did Santa know, the Yeti had gone down the chimney with him, but the Yeti got stuck in the chimney. When the little girl's mom lit the fire, his behind got burnt! Santa said, "Ha! Ha! Ha!"

When Santa got home he had a big party. He invited everyone in Snow Village except the Yeti and the Abominable Snowman. From then on the Yeti and the Abominable Snowman never hurt anyone because they knew what Santa would do to them, and you know too. (If you read this story.)



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SUNDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 23	MONDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 24	TUESDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 25	WEDNESDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 26	THURSDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 27	FRIDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 28	SATURDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 29
SUNDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 30	MONDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 31	TUESDAY <i>Closed</i> Jan. 01	WEDNESDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 02	THURSDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 03	FRIDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 04	SATURDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 05

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## CHRISTMAS STORIES

# Buttercup's Rescue

**BY HANNAH PEARSON**  
AGE 12 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

Copper nickered softly as he saw Joe making her way over to his stall. Joe lugged all her tack over to Copper's warm, cozy stall where he and Buttercup (her brother's little mare) were munching on hay and enjoying their carrots. She tacked up quickly for a nice ride in the trails.

As Joe rode, her mind wandered with the excitement of Christmas the next day, so that she could hardly concentrate. She was dreaming of all her presents. She did not realize that snow was coming down hard, that it was getting late and darker outside, and Copper was getting tired.

She didn't realize she was going off trail. She didn't even hear her own stomach growl. She didn't notice that she should soon be at home having her Christmas Eve dinner with her family, until she was awoken from her thoughts by a flock of birds.

Joe pulled Copper to a halt and looked around.

Where was she? Joe knew she had to get back soon. She decided to just follow

her tracks home and it all would be fine. It was fine until Joe came to a blank canvas of snow. A thick, fresh coat covered Copper's tracks.

Joe's heart raced. She reached into her pocket to find her mom's cell phone missing. Suddenly Joe remembered she hadn't even told anyone she was leaving. She looked at her watch. Officially late for dinner. Cold, tired and hungry, Joe hopped off Copper to look around.

By now, Joe could only see a few feet in front of her. Surely not safe to ride. Joe led Copper around for what seemed like hours, but didn't seem to get anywhere.

Snow was really coming down hard. While Joe walked, she thought about how easily she would give up all her Christmas presents for her and Copper to be home safe with her family.

She realized that the true meaning of Christmas to her was just being with her family and doing typical family traditions, and celebrating! Joe missed everything about Christmas,

even having millions of pictures taken of her every few minutes. It was really daydreaming of presents that got her into this mess.

Joe pouted softly and wrapped her arms around her shivering pony's neck.

"I just want to go home," Joe called out.

Her own voice startled her. Copper's ears suddenly lurched forward. Joe heard the slightest little noise in the distance.

Copper whinnied loudly. The noise came again, then again, and again, each time closer and closer.

Copper whinnied even louder (if that was possible). Then Joe heard probably one of the happiest noises she ever heard: Buttercup's whinny (she knew that sound off by heart) and not too far away.

Joe cried out. She heard voices. Then she saw Buttercup, her mom, her dad and her brother. Joe screamed. Her whole body shivered, not from the cold but from happiness. She wasn't quite sure if this was the best Christmas ever or maybe even the worst. . . but thank goodness for horses.

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## Wishing you Peace this Holiday Season

**Our sincere thanks go out to each and every person who supports us throughout the year.**

Island Women Against Violence is a non-profit society dedicated to helping women and children affected by violence and abuse.

**Our programs:**

- Salt Spring Island Transition House
- Women's Outreach Services
- Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women
- Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling
- "Transitions" Thrift Store

"Transitions" Thrift Store thanks the wonderful volunteers who give their time and talents to the store, the generous folks who donate goods and our loyal customers. We could not do this without you.

Special thanks to Ace Courier for their extraordinary volunteer efforts in support of "Transitions".

"Transitions" is a fundraising venture owned and operated by IWAV since 1997. Profits go towards supporting our services for women and children.

Island Women Against Violence

## Toby's Christmas

**BY ELISE PEARSON**  
AGE 12 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

Toby snuggled closer to his mother, blocking himself from the cold. Her fur was covered with snow, but he was cozy, warm and safe.

His mother and sister were sleeping quietly, while he was restless and wanted to play. He nudged his sister's tummy, trying to wake her.

"Come play," he whispered. Clara stirred but did not wake.

Millions of stars filled the sky, and looking up at them, he felt like the only bear on earth. He got up and walked around, the stars clouding his thoughts.

Toby began to wander away from his mother and sister, after seeing a flash of light. His mother had told him about the northern lights, but he had never seen them this close before. He loped for a long time until he was right under them. He stared up, bewildered by their brightness and beauty.

Then he saw something out of place: flying reindeer and a big brown thing behind it, with bright colours on it, and a small pink and red animal he had never seen before.

At first, he was frightened and turned to run back to his mother. However, she

was not there. He looked all around him but all he could see was white prairie. Fear surrounded him like a black hole. He called out, so caught up in his own thoughts that he didn't see the sleigh land only 30 metres away, or a jolly man dressed in red get out and walk towards him.

Toby had his back turned to the man and was so worried about how he was lost that he didn't even see the man walk towards him. The man was only a metre away and the sound of his boot crunching against the snow brought Toby back to reality.

Toby turned his head towards the man, so afraid he couldn't move.

"You look lost, little feller. My name is Nick, you can call me Santa," the man said.

Toby shuddered under the sound of the man's voice. Santa picked up the little polar bear and carried him back to his sleigh.

Even though Toby was frightened, he couldn't help feeling content, for the man was warm and gentle, and his strength overpowered the little bear. Up, up, they went into the chilly night sky. Toby fell fast asleep.

When he woke, it was day and his sister was jumping and playing around him.

Toby didn't know if it had all been a dream. . . but he would never forget the man's kindness, and the best Christmas of his life.

## The Puppy Who Found Christmas

**BY JOELY WELSH**  
AGE 7 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

When Buster was a little puppy he had to leave his mother. He went with some people. They all said, "Good dog!"

But Buster grew out of being good. They all said, "You are more trouble than you are worth."

One dark night they took Buster to a place in town he didn't know. The cars' headlights shone like fierce eyes at Buster. He got scared and ran across the road. The drivers rolled down their windows and yelled at the puppy.

He started to walk up driveways, but every driveway he went up, nobody wanted him.

He saw some carollers so he went with them and they walked up a driveway.

The door opened and a handful of cookies reached out. The carollers said, "Thank you, Mr. Marlan."

Mr. Marlan said, "One for you and one for you."

A little girl said, "And one for the little puppy!"

Buster was very happy living with Mr. Marlan.

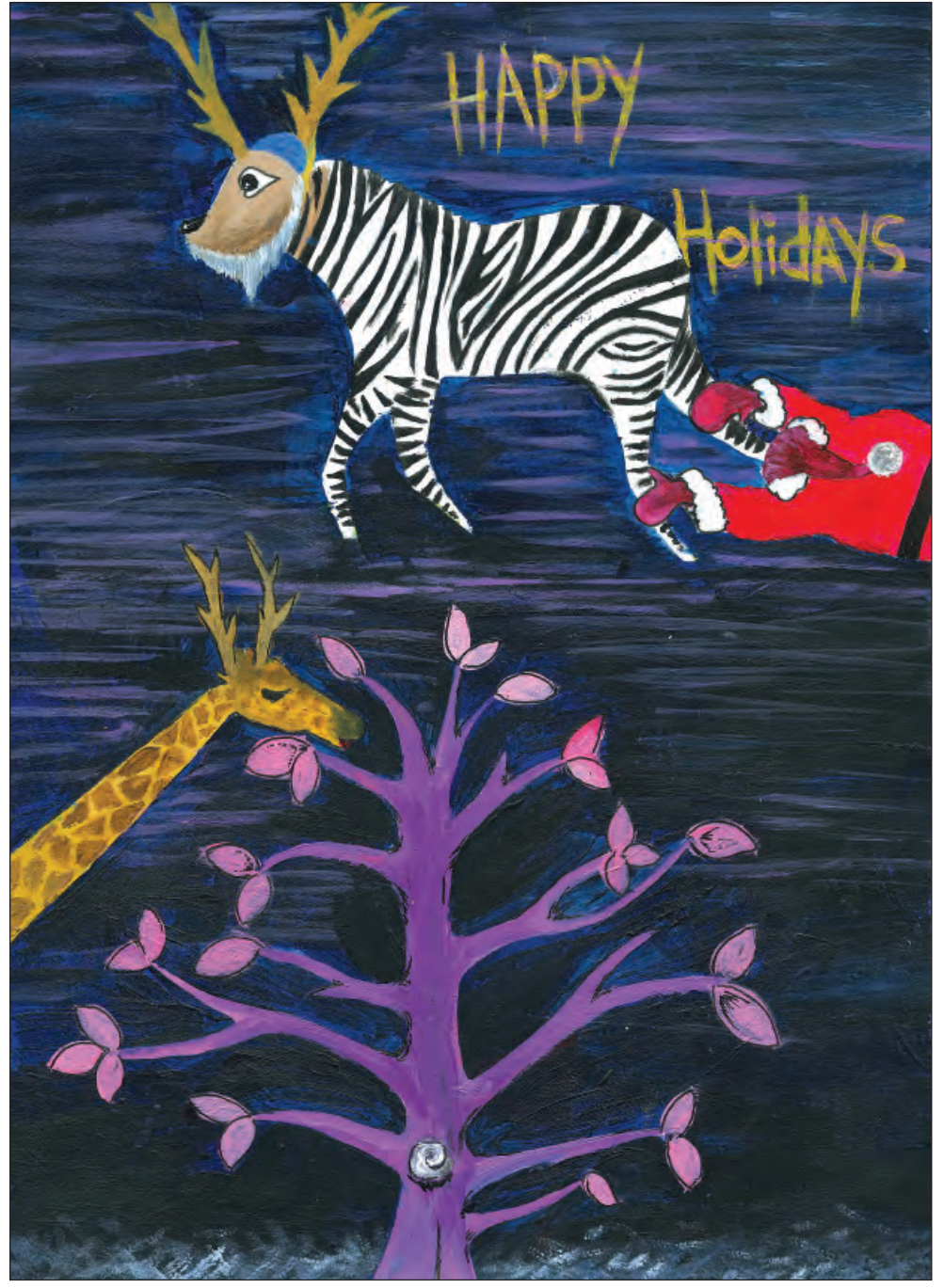
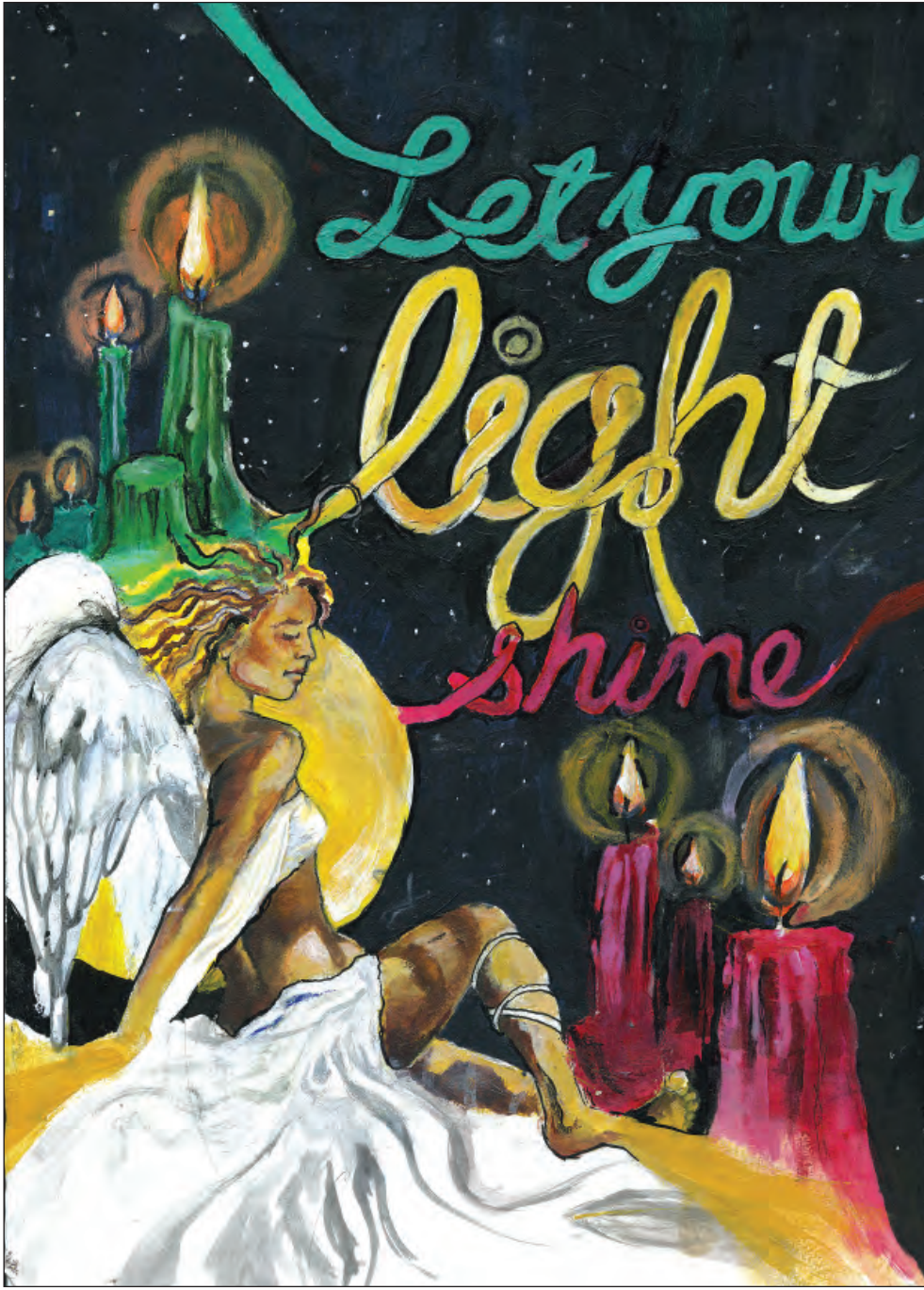
## Emma's Christmas Adventure

**BY JOSEPHINE O'DONNELL**  
AGE 4-6 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

It was around Christmas. Emma got on a plane to the North Pole by mistake. She walked on ice until she saw a big building full of elves. The elves put her in a big box of presents because they thought that she was a toy. It had her name on it.

Then she opened a present. She found a doll. Then the box got shipped to her house and when her mom opened the box Emma was there! Her mom was so happy.

# CHRISTMAS STORIES



**MORE COVER ART:** Second and third place winners in the Driftwood's annual cover art contest went to two Grade 11 students. Above left, is Danica Lundy's candle theme submission, while above right is a whimsical "jungle" theme by Jasper Snow Rosen. Runners-up can be found on Page B27.

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## CHRISTMAS STORIES

## Christmas Surprise

BY NOREES SOPHIE  
GASPER  
AGE 9 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

In a small town in Florida there was a small house with a pointy roof and straight green curtains. This was the home of 11-year-old Hanna Richards. She had long brown hair and always wore it up in braids.

Hanna was getting ready for bed on Christmas Eve. She had put out the cookies and milk, and then she put on her sleeper and climbed into bed. It was the middle of the night and lightning flashed outside. Hanna couldn't sleep, so she decided to go to her mom and dad's room. But when she got there the bed was empty!

But the closet was open so Hanna walked over to the closet and looked into it. There was a big big big slide! As she climbed onto the slide, she wondered where it went and if it were safe. Her stomach gave a flip as she zoomed down it. The closer she got to the

bottom the colder it got.

"That's weird," said Hanna. She closed her eyes tight, which was a good thing because Hanna's stomach gave another flip as she crashed into the snow. "What in the world?" she cried.

As Hanna uncovered herself, she saw a sign that said, "This way to Santa's workshop."

"Oh my gosh, I'm in the North Pole!" Hanna looked down, and to her amazement she was wearing snow boots and snow pants. "I guess Santa really is close by."

So Hanna stood up and started on her way. Then a thought hit her. What if her parents didn't want her there? All of a sudden Hanna got very nervous and started to panic. Without knowing what her legs were doing, Hanna started to run as fast as she could towards a red-dressed man.

Soon Hanna ran out of breath because the snow was up to her waist, but strangely the man was moving quickly and swiftly. As

he came closer she realized that he was Santa Claus.

"Oh my gosh, it's him?"

"Are you cold, my dear?" Hanna realized how cold she was as she climbed into Santa's sleigh. "Where do you live?" he asked.

"I'm not sure, but my name is Hanna Richards."

"Oh, your parents work for me," said Santa.

"Yes," said Hanna. "Now I know."

"Let's go," said Santa. They flew over cities and towns. They got to Hanna's house and she got off onto the roof.

"Thanks," she said.

"No problem," said Santa.

She hugged all the reindeer.

"You're welcome to come any time," Santa said, and then Hanna watched Santa fly away. She climbed down the dark sooty chimney. Hanna hadn't slept much that night but in the morning she opened presents and laughed with her mom and dad about her adventure.



Driftwood cover art judges were amused by this submission from Grade 12 student Niko H. Nilsson. Cover art finalists can be found on Pages B13 and B27.

Christmas Overload,  
Help Wanted!

BY SEBASTIAN HOWE  
AGE 10 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

"We have a system overload," the loudspeaker blared. "Repeat, we have a system overload. The assembly line is shutting down."

"Drat!" the head Santa swore as he heard the announcement.

"Tell the Santa clones to order their elves to hand-make the toys, double their hours and halve their coffee breaks. And hurry."

"Yes, sir," said His Royal Chubbiness, the head elf. "What?!" Colonel Elf said, as he was told by Santa #437 to double the elves' hours.

"What?!" Commander Elf said, as he was told by Santa #93 to halve the elves' coffee breaks.

Everybody was in an outrage.

Santa murmured to himself, "This will never get finished in time. I guess I have to press the big red button. Well, here goes." Then he lifted the safety latch, pushed the button and a metallic voice said, "ABDUCTO-BOTS ACTIVATED."

Meanwhile, Bill was woken by a strange whirring noise.

The room was lit up with a green light. Then he started to float like he was in water.

A bright white light flashed and enveloped the green light and he found himself in the middle of a small square white room.

There was a door in one wall and a piece of paper on the floor.

He started to wonder what to do when out of a small black box in one of the corners came a robotic voice.

"You are one of 300 children especially chosen

to help Santa manufacture toys. You will be paid in free toy coupons. Do not worry, your parents have been told that you have won a free trip in a contest, so they won't miss you. You will find full instructions on the piece of paper on the floor. BEEEP!"

Still in shock, Bill picked up the piece of paper and read the directions. "1. Exit the room. 2. Follow the arrows. 3. Go into room 19. 4. Await instructions."

Bill opened the door and walked into a hallway with bright green arrows along the wall and the sound of "Jingle Bells" all around.

On either side of him other children were doing the same. There were numbered doors along the hallway.

He soon found and entered room 19 where three other children were waiting.

There was also a minuscule elf sitting on a tall stool with a stepladder down the side like a mini lifeguard chair. The elf, in a high-pitched voice, chirped, "Observe," and started working on a block of wood with a strange tool.

"We will be making toy trains."

After a 15-minute lesson, they set to work.

The little elf helped them and gave them helpful tips.

After hours of work, the clock chimed twelve and the elf gave them three toy coupons and sent them back to the small white rooms.

In a flash of green and white light, Bill was back home.

When Bill woke the next morning, he wondered if it had been just a dream.

But in his stocking he found a note saying, "Thank you! Signed, Santa."

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## CHRISTMAS STORIES



Zoe Bentley makes purchases at a shopping event Monday at Fernwood Elementary School.

### The Dragon and the Snow Bunny

BY ALISTAIR HAYNE  
 AGE 4-6 CATEGORY  
 SECOND PLACE

It was Christmas Eve. The stars were bright and the moon shone down.

I looked outside and I saw a snow bunny! It was a magical bunny! I picked it up and took it home. I made a wish. I wished for a baby dragon. He was my favourite dragon. I took him outside and he liked it. He really, really liked me and he loved my home so we went inside. We hung up our stockings and we made our beds. Then, we went to sleep.

In the morning we went down to see what was inside our stockings. In my stocking was the snow bunny!

In the dragon's stocking was a little note. It said, "You have won a treat! Here is some skunk cabbage for you!"

There was another note that said, "Look under the Christmas tree . . ." The dragon looked and there were jet wings to help his wings fly faster! I got a jet pack too so we could see lots of different kinds of birds together. We flew over to see Santa to thank him.



PHOTOS BY DERRICK LUNDY

Miles Gillett helps his mom (Sarah) organize and run a table at Fernwood Elementary School's Reduce, Reuse, Recycle shopping fair held Monday.

### The Puffle's Adventure

BY ZOE CULLEN-LAHAY  
 AGE 8 CATEGORY  
 FIRST PLACE

Once upon a time there was a puffle. He lived all alone in Iceland.

One day he got mail. He almost didn't notice the tag on the side of his package, which said, "Do not open until 5 o'clock." Luckily he did so he opened it then.

When he was finished opening his package he looked in and all he saw was a ball of paper. "All of that work for nothing," he said. Then he picked up the ball of paper and opened it. Inside was a piece of gold. He looked at it for a long time and noticed a little thing on the back of the piece of gold. It said, "Greenland gold: magical."

The little puffle was so happy to have the piece of gold. But suddenly Iceland

began to shake. Then a piece of Iceland broke off! The puffle was all alone on the piece of ice. Then all of a sudden a big table appeared from nowhere. On the table was a glass of eggnog and a plate with cookies.

Then a strange little animal appeared. The animal looked like a monkey. The puffle was afraid, but he wanted to know what was going on, so he asked the animal, "Hello, who are you?"

"I'm Mister Christmas," said the animal. "Actually, I'm George. I control Christmas. I was the one that gave you mail, and I was also the one that gave you the eggnog and cookies."

"But where am I going?" said the puffle.

"You're going to Greenland."

"But why?"

"Because there's a mystery to figure out."

"But what kind of mystery, and why do you want me?"

"You need to figure it out yourself and you're the only one," said the animal.

"Okay, I'll do it. Bye."

"Bye."

Then the animal disappeared and the puffle fell asleep. He woke up and found he was on a different island. It was Greenland. He was scared. He didn't know what to do. He looked around and as he was walking he fell into a hole. He was trapped! He looked around and found a rope and a lot of wire. So he decided to make a grappling hook. When he was finished he came out and found he was in a mine. That's probably where the gold came from.

So he looked around and found a person. The puffle thought the person probably had something to do with the mystery. The person didn't see him, but the puffle saw the person. So the puffle ran away and climbed on the piece of ice and drifted back home. Luckily the eggnog was still there, and the cookies. Then George appeared so the puffle asked him, "What was the mystery?"

"There was no mystery!" said George. "I was joking."

The puffle was upset and disappointed.

When he got home he was hungry for dinner so he got his hat and his fishing rod and caught lots of fish. He got 198 fish and he ate them all and he went to bed and fell asleep. He dreamed of all the fun he would have tomorrow.

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# CHRISTMAS STORIES

## The Christmas Problem in Fander

BY LYLYI KENNEDY  
AGE 8 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

In a small town named Fander in California, in a small house, lived Sarah Buckwheat. She had never been outside of California before, but she still had a great life. She was a very kind and thoughtful person, but not everyone liked her. She had a secret between Santa and herself: she was Santa's helper. It was two days until Christmas. She had to go Christmas shopping with her mother. The next morning she woke up. She ate her pancakes, brushed her teeth, got dressed, grabbed her coat and ran out the door. She and her mom drove to the mall and first went into the toy store. She was looking and holding a magic eight ball and when no one was looking she got sucked into the ball! It was Santa that pulled her away. Surprised, she landed right in front of Santa's desk. She saw him sitting in his

armchair, reading a Christmas list. Santa said, "Hello. Sarah, we've got a problem. Some of the elves are sick this year and we don't have enough presents." "So what are we going to do?" "I was thinking that I could give you \$500 and you could take the magic eight ball and buy 20 presents with the money I have given you, and you could put each present into the magic eight ball, and it will go straight to me," Santa said. "So, are we going to do that?" said Sarah. "Indeed, we are. Here is the money. Be careful with it," Santa said. "I will." Santa sent Sarah back out of the magic eight ball and she was back in the toy store. Her mother saw her and said, "I've bought all of the Christmas presents. It's time to go to another shop." "Okay, one minute. I've got to get something," Sarah said. Then she

ran to get her magic eight ball and grabbed it. They went to a variety of other stores and bought all of the presents. Then Sarah stuffed them into the magic eight ball and a faint "thank you" floated from it. They went home, had dinner and went to bed. The next morning was Christmas morning, but the only thing Sarah found under the tree was a note that said, "Look in your wardrobe." Sarah ran upstairs, opened her wardrobe and saw a whole new set of tons of beautiful tops, pants, skirts, etc. Then she went over to her dresser and saw four rectangular pieces of paper. It turned out they were four tickets to Hawaii! "Yippy!" shouted Sarah, as she ran downstairs. "We are going to Hawaii!" she shouted down to her parents. They got so excited that they started to jump up and down. They had their usual pancakes for breakfast and then they went back to bed and Sarah thought about Santa and next Christmas.



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## An Elf Stole Christmas

BY HARRY YARDLEY  
AGE 9 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

Once on the 23rd of December, all the elves had made loads of presents and they were so tired they went to bed early. They had made 60,000,000 presents for all the kids in the world. But a bad elf stole all the presents when everyone was sleeping.

He hid them in the basement of the workshop. It took him all night of the 23rd. When everyone woke up they were shocked to see all the presents gone. They called 912 for the special North Pole investigators to look for DNA evidence, fingerprints, saliva, hairs and footprints. So they looked in the basement and found the

bad elf with all the presents. They captured the bad elf and put him in elf prison. Santa visited him in the prison to see why he had stolen the presents. The elf said, "It's because you're so jolly, Santa, and I wanted to be jolly like you and I thought the presents would make me happy." Santa said, "It's not the presents that make me jolly,

it's the joy of seeing the children happy when they get the presents. Why don't you come with me to deliver the presents and see the happy children?" So Santa talked to the police and investigators and they let the bad elf go with Santa. From then on he wasn't called the bad elf, he was called the Jolly Elf and he never stole presents again.

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Photo by Andrea Collins

This exhibit will include art created by children after they walked along the magical paths of the rainforest.

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## CHRISTMAS STORIES

# Sarah's Perfect Day

**BY OLIVIA HAYNE**  
AGE 10 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

It is winter on Salt Spring Island. The sky is dark and grey. The sun has not been seen for weeks. The first downy flakes of the season have started to fall.

As we walk from the shedrows through the falling snow, Sarah's ears pick up the slight sound of sleigh bells coming from the field. She remembers when she was a filly being harnessed up by her owner for a sleigh ride one Christmas.

As we walk on she becomes more excited as she knows she will be harnessed up again. She likes the sound of the jingling sleigh bells and the smiles on the children's faces.

As my friend Kate draws nearer,

Sarah whinnies and neighs for she knows that her friend Megan is coming too. I go to the car to get my dog Maisie and she jumps out to greet Kate's dog Freckles. The horses don't mind the dogs. They just stand clear.

As the dogs jump into the sleigh I go and get Sarah's harness and reins. Her brass bells tinkle as she runs her nose along the harness, remembering the smell of the leather harness from when she was young.

As I slip her harness over her head and bring the reins back into the sleigh, I call Maisie and Kate calls Freckles, we load up and holler, "Walk on."

The snow is deep and cold and the crunching noise of Sarah's hooves hitting the snow overtakes the jingling of the bells.

Into the depths of the woods we travel, in search of the perfect Christmas tree. On our way we pass a group of carollers in the village, singing beneath the sparkling village lights. The moonlight falls on the new fallen snow, making it look like diamonds. We find our Christmas tree and load it up on our sleigh, then head back for the stables to unharness the horses. I place the jingling harness on its post, knowing that there will be another day like this next year. The twinkle in Sarah's eye tells me so.

We walk the horses back to their stall and give them fresh hay. Arriving back home, we decorate the tree and drink hot cocoa and biscuits while the horses have their hay. We all munch away, thinking that this has been the best day ever.

## Rainbow Christmas

**BY SOPHIA GOLD**  
AGE 4-6 CATEGORY  
HONOURABLE MENTION

It's a beautiful day because it's not snowing and the sun is out and also a big rainbow.

My mom and dad are standing under the rainbow with my two brothers and me.

We're looking for the end of the rainbow, and at the end of the rainbow there was a big pot filled with

presents. We all got a bunch of presents, enough for everyone we know on Salt Spring, because it was a very big pot.

The pot was so big, because the rainbow was so big. Then we celebrated Christmas by unwrapping our presents and sharing them — if we don't share them, Christmas won't be so fun.

Then Santa brings presents just for our family.

## Christmas Riddles

**BY J.J. POMEROY**  
AGE 7 CATEGORY  
HONOURABLE MENTION

Once upon a time there was a troll. He lived in the forest. A boy wanted to go over the troll's bridge, but he had to answer three riddles first. The riddles were:

1. What makes a zebra run?
2. What does a rhino eat? And
3. What does a monkey eat besides bananas?

The boy answered: bones, meat and banana peels. He was right! The boy got to walk across the bridge and down the path.

He met an evil dragon on the path. He had to answer a question about dragons or the dragon would eat him. The question was, what colours are dragons? He answered: blue, red and green. He was right again and he walked all the way home.

When he got home it was Christmas Eve. He woke up the next day and there were presents and he saw a shining light. It was a giant golden Santa! Behind it the monsters were there! Santa gave the monsters presents too. They turned into nice monsters.

## Santa's Missing Sled

**BY AIDAN SUTHERLAND**  
AGE 7,  
HONOURABLE MENTION

Santa's sled was gone and he looked for it everywhere. He asked his elves and they said they had not seen it.

He went outside to ask his

reindeer. They did not see it.

He asked his wife and she did not know where it was.

Then Santa went outside. There was his sleigh.

The elves had washed it nice and clean to surprise him.

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### 9 SEASONAL GREETINGS

*The office of  
DR.  
KAREN BERG  
wishes you  
Happy Holidays  
& the best in the  
New Year.*

### 20 COMING EVENTS

**FOR A complete calendar** of coming events check the Driftwood Community Calendar, in our office in the Upper Ganges Centre, 328 Lower Ganges Road, or on our website at www.gulfislands.net. Use the calendar for event planning and to make sure your date doesn't conflict with someone else's.

**NIGHTGOWNS BY GILLIAN** cozy flannelette and soft cotton Granny gowns and nightshirts. See them at Wintercraft in Mahon Hall, Dec. 7 to Dec. 22, or call 653-9475.

### 20 COMING EVENTS

**TREAT YOURSELF** Painting classes (water colour or acrylics): new sessions for Feb. - mid April. Beginners & intermediates welcome. Call Val Konig 537-4660.

**JANUARY ENROLLMENT** Salt Spring Centre School has openings in Kindergarten (possible pre-K spots, as well), and Intermediate (grade3/4/5) for January start. Phone 537-9130 for more info.

**GIVE THE GIFT** of language, French, Spanish Habla! Gift certificates. Mom-n-tots, kids intro classes start on January 11, 08. Happy Holidays, Felices Fiestas, Joyeuses Fetes. 537-9382, 1298 Beddis.

**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE** at the Cheese Farm. 1 - 3 pm Sunday, December 23. Come listen to old world music by the Cantus Choir. Sit by the tree and enjoy hot apple cider. Santa's carriage will be there weather permitting. Come and enjoy some Christmas spirit. 285 Reynolds Road.

**SALE!** Handcrafted, unique, semi precious jewelry. Boxed and ready for Christmas. Information 537-0784. Open anytime until Christmas Eve. Mani Designs.

### 8 CARDS OF THANKS

**A BIG THANK YOU FOR EVERYONE'S PATIENCE DURING THE LAST HOUSE MOVE ON SALT SPRING ISLAND.**

Nickel Bros.  
House Moving

### 5 BIRTHS

**PART OF the baby boom?** Call Welcome Wagon for a personal Baby Visit. Gifts & greetings from local businesses and a warm welcome for baby. Andrea 537-8464.

**CELEBRATE YOUR** new baby and put a Celebration Classified in the Driftwood. To share your new bundle of joy with your friends and family, call 537-9933 to book your space



Dylan welcomes little brother  
**KAI DAVID**

Born September 22, 2007 in Comox, B.C. to Kirra & Bruce Gullickson, and proud Nana Margie Korrison

### 20 COMING EVENTS

### RUPHI Ceramics

Last minute gifts available from our studio next to the hospital. A selection also available at The Waterfront Gallery.  
www.ruphi.com  
250-537-4644

### RIDING LESSONS

ACCEPTING ADULTS & CHILDREN  
SCHOOL HORSES AVAILABLE  
WILL TRAVEL  
SPACES LIMITED

EC CERTIFIED LEVEL 1 COACH

PHONE 537-8916  
CELL 537-6588

### Gelato Cakes!

(Ice Cream) Order for Xmas by Dec 17

available at  
**HARLAN'S**  
100 Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island 537-4434  
www.harlanschocolates.com

### JOAN ASTILL (NEE: BASKOTT)

Joan Astill died peacefully at home following a lengthy illness. She was 86. Joan was born in Coventry, England. As a young woman she loved the outdoors and was a member of the Coventry Cycling Club where she met Cyril, her partner for the next 65 years. They subsequently moved to Canada with their young family and settled in Deep River, Ontario, where she indulged her other passion as a fabric artist and ran North Star Fabric and Crafts, a business which prospered because it offered women the opportunity to come together around the cutting table to work and talk. Joan's warmth and common sense approach to life provided the right atmosphere for the sharing of intimacies and the exchange of feminine wisdom and mutual support.

On Cyril's retirement in 1982, Joan moved again to the west coast and finally settled on Salt Spring in 1990. During that time, she was an active member of the Knit Knuts, a Victoria women's group dedicated to the art of machine knitting, and she became a well known presence at the Fulford Craft Fair and other craft fairs in the area. At home, her kitchen was always open to the many visitors who popped in to buy eggs or flowers from Cyril's greenhouse and to linger over a cup of coffee and a sample of her famous baking skills. She loved her Fulford Valley home and her wisdom and love for her family will endure in the legacy of caring she provided for her piece of this global landscape. She truly has left her heart and her footprint in the Fulford Valley.

Joan is survived by her husband, Cyril; three children, David Astill, Susan Astill and partner John Marko of Salt Spring Island; and Josephine Harris of Burlington, Ontario. Also, a small flock of grandchildren and great grandchildren including Andrew McNish and his wife Debra and great grandchildren, Liam and Emily, of Salt Spring Island; Deborah McNish and her partner Mark Stone of Portland, Oregon; Kim Stanger and husband Brad of Whistler, B.C. and great grandchildren Kaden and River; and Heather Harris and Jeff Reid and great grandchildren Madelaine, Jude, Bishop and Saxon, also of Burlington, Ont. and Alexi Marko and his wife Andrea and great grandchildren Luca and Naomi of Vancouver.

Joan's wish is that we remember her well and that we celebrate her life by looking after each other. There will be a private memorial in the spring when all of her family will come together and plant a tree in her memory on the Fulford Valley farm she loved so much. Donations can be made in her name to Lady Minto Hospital and the Bessie Dane Foundation with grateful thanks for the help and support of hospital staff and especially the Home Support Nurses and those very special Community Health Workers.

### 6 DEATHS



### DANGEROUS DON

(Donald Napier) died peacefully in his sleep on Dec. 5th, 2007.

Don moved to Salt Spring one year ago to battle ALS, which he did with great courage.

All those who met him will remember his warmth and charismatic smile.

He leaves us with a sense of humour that will not be forgotten.



### TOKARYK, Sonia Marianne

passed away at the Lady Minto Hospital, Salt Spring Island on December 10, 2007. She is lovingly remembered by her daughter, Marlyn (George) Freibergs; and her sisters, Lillian and Sylvia (Carl).

Born on July 5, 1916 in Witkow, Saskatchewan, Sonia moved to Ottawa in 1941 and relocated to Salt Spring Island in the 1990s.

Prayers will be offered at McCall Bros. Floral Chapel, Johnson & Vancouver Streets on Thursday, December 20, 2007 at 7:00 pm  
A funeral service will be held at McCall Bros. Floral Chapel on Friday, December 21, 2007 at 10:00 am. Interment will follow at Royal Oak Burial Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Lady Minto Hospital, 135 Crofton Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1T1.

Condolences may be offered to the family at www.mccallbros.com

## Thank you

**THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN SSI WISHES TO THANK DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CHRISTMAS AUCTION**

- |                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Admiral's Specialty Foods          | North End Fitness                   |
| Aroma Crystal Therapy              | Pacific Basketry                    |
| Auntie Pesto's Cafe & Delicatessen | Payless Service Station             |
| Countrywide Garden Ornaments       | Pegasus Gallery                     |
| Falconshead Grill                  | Randy Dolliver Property Maintenance |
| Feet First                         | Rainbow Trading Co.                 |
| Frankly Scarlet                    | Raven Street Market Cafe            |
| Friends Fitness                    | Masayo Hora RMT                     |
| Ganges Garment Company             | Salt Spring Air                     |
| Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic     | Salt Spring Books                   |
| Harbour House                      | Salt Spring Dry Cleaners            |
| Harlan's Chocolate                 | SSI Golf and Country Club           |
| Dr. Richard Hayden                 | SSI Landscaping Supply              |
| Houseboat                          | Shaw Cable                          |
| Island Escapades                   | Greg Spendjian & Donna Cochran      |
| Peggy Jacobs                       | Steffichfineart                     |
| Jana's Bake Shop                   | Stone Walrus Gallery                |
| Jill Louise Campbell FineArt       | T.J.Beans                           |
| Juliette's Hair Studio             | The Oyster Catcher                  |
| Val Konig                          | The Village Cobbler                 |
| Let's Face It --                   | Volume II Book Store                |
| Non-Surgical Aesthetics            | Watermark Books                     |
| Love My Kitchen                    | West of the Moon                    |
| Magic Touch                        | Windflower Moon                     |
| Natureworks Natural Foods          |                                     |

**PROCEEDS FUND THE HOPE PROJECT, WHICH SPONSORS GIRLS OF POTENTIAL IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHO WOULD NOT OTHERWISE COMPLETE SECONDARY EDUCATION.**

### BINGO

MEADEN HALL  
Royal Canadian Legion  
**7 PM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20**  
Early Birds, 6:30 pm

Sponsored by Ladies Auxiliary  
Royal Canadian Legion Br. 92.  
All proceeds to bursaries for Salt Spring Island students.

### SSI United Church

111 Hereford Ave. invites you to their  
*Christmas Events*

**SUNDAY, DEC. 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
Advent 4 Worship Service  
10:00 AM

Burgoyne Carol Service  
2:00 PM

**MONDAY, DEC. 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols  
7:00 PM

**TUESDAY, DEC. 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Gary's Christmas Day Community Dinner (at Meaden Hall)  
12:00 PM

**SUNDAY, DEC. 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Worship Service with Rev. Al Tysick  
10:00 AM

**Phone 537-5812**  
for more info

# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS - 537-9933

classified@gulfislands.net

## 25 EDUCATION

**TRAIN TO BE** an Apartment/Condominium Manager. Many jobs registered! Thousands of graduates working. Online or home-study certified course. Government registered. Information: www.RMTI.ca or 1-800-665-8339, 604-681-5456.

## 20 COMING EVENTS

### Christmas at the COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHAPEL

EVERYONE WELCOME

- Christmas on Main Street - Children's Musical Dec. 21 at 6:30
- A Community Christmas Celebration & Living Nativity Dec. 23 at 6:30 pm
- Christmas Eve Candle Light Service Dec. 24 at 7:00 pm
- 147 Vesuvius Bay Rd. For more info call 537-2622

## 25 EDUCATION

THERE IS A CRITICAL SHORTAGE of medical transcriptionists throughout North America. Work from home or on-site. 99% graduate employment rate. Start your MT training today! Contact CanScribe Career Centre now for a free information package. 1-800-466-1535, www.canscribe.com, info@canscribe.com.

## JANUARY ENROLLMENT

Salt Spring Centre School has openings in Kindergarten (possible pre-K spots, as well), and Intermediate (grade 3/4/5) for January start. Phone 537-9130 for more info.

## 20 COMING EVENTS

**Salt Spring Island Baptist Church CHRISTMAS SERVICES**  
**Sunday, Dec 23**  
 Sunday Morning Service at 10:30 am  
**Monday, Dec 24**  
 Christmas Eve Service at 3:00 pm  
*Come celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.*  
 250 Lower Ganges Rd  
 For more info call 537-2222.

## 20 COMING EVENTS

**20% off**

- ★ All art supplies
- ★ All games & puzzles
- ★ Oberon leather & pewter gifts
- ★ All wall calendars
- ★ Many adult & kids' books 20-50% off



**Salt Spring Books**

104 McPhillips Ave. 537-2812

"Thank you for shopping locally"

## 34 NOTICES

**DR. CRICHTON'S OFFICE**  
 New Address as of Dec. 28, 2007

#111 Corbett Rd, SSI, B.C. V8K 2R8

## SPECIALS ENDING SOON!

December 24th, last day to get 2 months free on a yearly membership @

**FRIENDS FITNESS 538-0006**

## 34 NOTICES

### SALT SPRING INN

"Country Comfort & Hospitality in the Heart of Ganges"

- Monday, Dec. 24 • Christmas Eve • 8 am - 3 pm
- Tuesday, Dec. 25 • Christmas Day • Closed
- Wednesday, Dec. 26 • Boxing Day • Closed
- Monday, Dec. 31 • New Year's Eve • 8 am - 3 pm / 5 pm - LATE
- Tuesday, Jan. 1 • New Year's Day • 10 am - 10 pm

"See you at The Inn!"

132 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island 537-9339

## EMPLOYMENT

### 50 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

WORK AT HOME ONLINE - Start a real home-based business. Work when you want. Apply online and start today! www.wfhbc.com.

### 55 HELP WANTED

SALT SPRING Centre of Yoga is looking for a residential office manager/staff coordinator to oversee operations, procedures and computer systems. Background in Yoga is required. Deadline for application Jan. 2. Job begins March 2008. Please apply to yoga@saltspring-centre.com.

### NOW HIRING BUS DRIVERS

Salt Spring Transit is kicking into gear, drivers with at least a Class 4 unrestricted license are needed for approx. 26-27 hours weekly. Dependable, courteous, friendly personality desired. Please call Ineke immediately at 537-6758.

SEAMSTRESS REQUIRED for ongoing casual position. For further information and to apply call 653-9549.

STRAIT CONSTRUCTION is looking for a certified carpenter. This is a long term position for a committed employee. Call 537-7350.

CONTRACTOR LOOKING for part-time labourer. Must have common sense and be willing to work hard. Wage conditional upon experience. Phone Grant @ 538-7077.

### FULFORD INN

Full/ part time housekeeper & maintenance man. 653-4432.

FEMALE CAREGIVER required for home and community support, previous training or experience working with adults with a disability and good driving record is required. Send cover letter and resume by January 4th to GIFTS at 152 McPhillips.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: be part of the solution! Quesnel Shelter and Support Society seeks qualified applicants for the position of Executive Director for a 14-unit shelter and transitional housing development. As Executive Director, you will provide leadership & use your experience, values, skills & education to help set up & operate a new shelter, housing & support services model in Quesnel, a growing community in the heart of the beautiful Cariboo. Among your duties will be the operational management of the Society & overseeing the daily housing operations, including the implementation of policies & procedures, hiring & managing staff, undertaking outreach to the community, etc. You are passionate about reducing homelessness, a superb communicator, well-organized & an innovative thinker. Previous non-profit experience, ideally in a transition house or shelter, is desirable. Deadline for receiving resumes is December 31st, 2007. To apply, please send your resume, including salary expectations & three references to: Board of Directors, Quesnel Shelter and Support Services Society, 146 Carson Ave., Quesnel, BC V2J 2A8.

CLASS 1 LOG HAULERS/chip haulers, High Prairie, Alberta. Required immediately. Competitive wages. Room supplied - first come first serve basis. Call Dan at 780-523-0911 or email resume to: ddeynaka@buchananlumber.ca.

WAREHOUSE JOBS: morning/afternoon shift. Annacis Island. Hiring: 1 Shipper, 1 Receiver, 1 Picker. Competitive wages based on previous experience. Fax resumes to 604-540-0266.

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNICIANS, \$28 - \$40 per hour. Busy expanding Chrysler dealership requires journeyman technicians. Wages to commensurate with skill level and experience. Small town living, lower cost housing, lower cost of living all within commuting distance to Edmonton. Medical plan, pension plan. Apprentices considered. Apply in person or writing to: Dale Marshall, Service Manager, Brown's Chrysler Ltd., 10447 - 104 Ave., Westlock, AB T7P 2E4. Phone: 1-888-349-5566. Fax: 1-780-349-6493. Email: dalem@brownchrysler.com.

CHEAPER THAN SCROOGE! Telephone reconnect - first month only \$24.95 + connection fee. Free voicemail with connection! No credit checks, fast connections! Phone Factory Reconnect, 1-877-336-2274; www.phonefactory.ca.

## 60 WORK WANTED

EXPERIENCED, DEPENDABLE roofer available for work. Cedar shakes, metal, Duroid. New roofs, repairs, renovations. References. 25 yrs. experience. Rick, 537-6988.

### THISTLE HANDYMAN SERVICES

No job too big or too small. New projects or I can finish what the other guy started. Competitive rate. Give us a call. 653-9604.

### I'M YOUR HOLIDAY HELPER

I am willing to clean, cook, organize, bake and make your holiday smooth. Fair prices, youthful & energetic. Call me, Leah 537-9129.

## 55 HELP WANTED

### HARBOUR ASSOCIATION OF SALT SPRING ISLAND

is accepting applications for the full-time position of Harbour Manager.

Resumes may be mailed or submitted to: Harbour Association of Salt Spring Island, Attention Chairman of the Board, Harbour Office, 127 Fulford-Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2T9  
 harbour@hassi.ca



Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island

## CAREER OPPORTUNITY

**BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., a full service investment firm is currently looking for an enthusiastic individual to work in the capacity of full-time Sales Assistant in our Salt Spring Island office.**

The successful applicant will possess, but not be limited to the following skills:

- Strong administrative background with a preference for those applicants having experience working in the financial services sector.
- Strong PC Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel and Maximizer experience would be an asset.
- Completion of the Canadian Securities Course, CP, or willingness to complete within a specified time frame.
- Excellent organizational, interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability to work well under pressure and with minimal direction.

Please submit your resume in confident to:

**Natalie Peters, BMO Nesbitt Burns, Suite 1000, 730 View Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 3Y7**

## SERVICES

### 100 ACCOUNTING

### FULL SERVICE BOOKKEEPER

with over 35 years of experience in Simply Accounting & Quick Books  
 References available.

Create balance in your life, hire a bookkeeper!  
 Call 538-0171

### 102 ARCHITECTS/DESIGNERS

JONATHAN YARDLEY, Architect. Islander for 33 years. Custom West Coast designs. Personalised home renovations. Heritage conservation. 653-4931. www.yardleyarchitect.com.

## LET'S GET STARTED!

Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.

PLEASE CALL **HELSET DESIGN 537-1037 & ask for Jim**

### 118 COMPUTERS

CALL BOB McIvor for troubleshooting, software and networking support. We do housecalls. 537-2827 or (cell) 538-7017. Please go and back-up your important data now!

## 130 HEALTH

### Anne May R.M.T

Registered Massage Therapist

Myofascial-Visceral-Deep tissue

SS Health Centre  
 130 McPhillips Ave

**538 - 7251**

## 132 LAWYERS/LEGAL SERVICES

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE is a public service program that matches people with legal concerns to a lawyer in their area. Lawyers who participate in the program offer an initial consultation of up to 30 minutes for \$25 plus taxes, and regular lawyer fees follow if you both agree to proceed. Phone 1.800.663.1919. DIAL-A-LAW is a free automated service that offers general information on a variety of topics on law in BC. Phone 1.800.565.5297 or www.dialalaw.org.

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.

## 138 MISC. SERVICES

DELUXE GIFT wrapping. Don't have time? Hate doing it? \$4 approx. shoe box size, \$3 for smaller, \$5 for bigger. Everything included from paper to gift tags. 537-9366.

## 140 MUSIC LESSONS

PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, friends! Enrich a whole lifetime. Pre-school music class, 3 1/2 to 6 year old with companion. Songs, games, rhythm, band. 537-5131 Melissa.

## 173 TRAVEL

TIMESHARE FORECLOSURES—save 60-80% off retail! Best resorts & seasons! Call for free Timeshare Magazine! 1-800-597-9347. Browse online for over 400 worldwide properties—www.holidaygroup.com/bc.

## 26 LEGALS

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS & OTHERS RE: THE ESTATE OF ALBERT LANTINGA, DECEASED, formerly of 648 Southwind Road, Galiano Island, British Columbia

Creditors and others having claims against the Estate of Albert Lantinga, Deceased, are hereby notified under section 38 of the Trustee Act that particulars of their claims should be sent to the Executors at Henley & Walden, #201-2377 Bevan Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia, V8L 4M9, on or before January 24, 2008, after which date the Executors will distribute the said Estate among the parties entitled thereto, having regard to the claims of which the Executors then have notice.

William George Thompson Ross and CIBC Trust Corporation, Executors

By their solicitors:

HENLEY & WALDEN, Barristers and Solicitors  
 201 - 2377 Bevan Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia V8L 4M9

## 29 LOST AND FOUND

BLUE/BLACK SCARF found in Thriftys parking lot on Wed., Dec. 5. Owner may claim by calling 537-1798 and identifying pattern.

FOUND CANOE on Cusheon Lake, 537-4868.

LOST: A PINK & black Samsung cellular phone. Lost in the snow a couple of weeks back during the snowfall. Call 537-2068 if found.

LOST: BRIGHT orange tabby cat with loud purr. North end area. Please call 537-4327.

FOUND: THE person who left an electric hand mixer and a large Corning Ware bowl on my doorstep at 533 Isabella Pt. Rd. Please come back, you got the wrong house!!!

## 34 NOTICES

IF YOUR Driftwood subscription label has the date highlighted, now is the time to renew!

MOUAT'S KITCHEN Centre now carries a fine selection of homemade preserves from Angel Cottage Studio (Julie's Pantry).

### NEED A SUBARU?

We have a one year lease on a Forester from Saunders Subaru that we're giving away. If you would like to have your name entered in the draw - simply renew your subscription to the Driftwood before Jan 15th, 2008. There are also 4 early bird draws of \$250 gas certificates from the Payless, Johnson's, Patterson's and Save-on. Drop by the Driftwood Monday thru Friday, we're open from 8:30 til 4:30, or give us a call at 537-9933. Renew today!

## 34 NOTICES

The office of **DR. KAREN BERG** welcomes **VAL FRASER** as office receptionist.

We all wish Susan congratulations & best wishes in Barbados.

The office of **DR. KAREN BERG** will be:  
**Closed Dec. 24 - 28**  
**Open Dec. 31**  
**1 - 5 pm**  
**Closed Jan. 1 & 4**  
**Open Jan. 2 & 3**  
**Regular Hours**

### Fulford Inn Holiday Hours

PUB CLOSED DEC. 22 - 27. OPEN FRI., DEC. 28

STORE CLOSED 4 PM ON 24 & ALL DAY DEC. 25.

Staff and Management thanks you for your patronage. Wishing everybody the very best.

## NOTICE

Salt Spring Garbage Transfer Station at 360 Blackburn Rd. will be increasing the drop off rate to \$3<sup>00</sup> PER BAG (CAN) effective Jan. 1, 2008 537-2167

Wishing you **Peace and Prosperity**

Thank you for another great year!  
 Full schedule through the holidays.  
 Closed Dec. 25, 26, 31 and Jan. 1 & 2.  
 Gift certificates & Solstice Soother still available.

**gangesyogastudio.com 537-2444**

**2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!**  
 Events for the whole Family!!  
 See a live reenactment of the Nativity Scene!!

- Live entertainment • free coffee & snacks • crafts for kids • live animals • Christmas carols & more...

**December 23 - 6:30 pm**  
**Community Gospel Chapel,**  
**147 Vesuvius Bay Rd.**

Inquires:  
 call Michele @ 537-9501

**ONGOING ART SALE**  
 Internationally known, awarding winning artists support  
**Salt Spring's Rainforest**  
**ArtSpring 10 am - 5 pm**  
 Local youth artists on display  
**PLUS**  
**SILENT AUCTION**  
 Everything from feasts to firewood.  
**3 MORE DAYS OF ENCHANTMENT!**

**GIFT-A-LIGHT**  
 Make a donation to support our Community Hospital when you go through the cashier at the GVM! Every donation made to the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation lights up the Christmas Tree and Supports Excellent patient care on Salt Spring Island! Join us on December 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Tree Lighting with Hot Chocolate & Carols at 4:30 pm!

# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS – 537-9933

classified@gulfislands.net

### 173 TRAVEL

ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGES - book online at [www.canadatravels.com](http://www.canadatravels.com) and save more on your vacations. Use code NCA74327 for discount or call us toll-free at 1-800-563-5722.

### MERCHANDISE

### 310 BUILDING SUPPLIES

DOUBLE SIDED see through fire-place (black trim) and approximately 24 feet of air cooled chimney. Three years old, very limited use. Lennox part number CST-38 documentation and specs available at [www.lennoxhearthproducts.com](http://www.lennoxhearthproducts.com) <<http://www.lennoxhearthproducts.com>> \$250 OBO. 653-4758.

#1 A STEEL BUILDING SALE! Save up to 60% on your new garage, shop, warehouse. 6 colours available! 40 year warranty! Free shipping, the first 20 callers! 1-800-457-2206. [www.crownsteelbuildings.com](http://www.crownsteelbuildings.com).

### SEE US FOR A FAST QUOTE ON ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS!

- Flooring
- Heating
- Eaves
- Plumbing
- Roofing

For all your building requirements, large or small!



804 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 537-4978

### 350 MISC. FOR SALE

EXPERT CLOCK repair and restoration - antiques my specialty. Free estimates, reasonable rates. Free house calls for shut-ins and heavy clocks. Mark's Clockworks, 537-0957.

ANTIQUE IMPORTED wrought iron fence panels, gates, etc. 70-100 years old. Each piece unique, stock always changing. Photos [www.islandgatesandfences.com](http://www.islandgatesandfences.com). 653-4123.

MATTRESS BLOW Out! All '07 models, all sizes cheap! Holiday sale on dressers, hiboys, lowboys, beds, desks, bookcases, sofas, love seats, recliners, kitchen/dining furniture! No PST/GST on all tools. Buy & Save, 9818 4th St., Sidney. Website: [buyandsave.ca](http://buyandsave.ca). Visa, M/C. 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. SaltSpringSound, 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.

I'M BACK! Bulk water delivery and water storage tanks. Isles West Water. 653-4513 Bob. PS thanks Cal.

UNIQUE ENERGY enhancing gifts. How about a pendant containing bliss elixir, energized water, a fridge energizer, or sole (Himalayan Rock Salt Brine), containing 80+ trace minerals and energized water? Phone Brian for more info and ideas, 537-8964.

2 MICHELIN light truck snow tires. 225/70 R15 mounted. \$100. Set of snow chains for 15" tires, \$50. 537-4336.

### 350 MISC. FOR SALE

#### FURNITURE, BUILDING SUPPLIES AND MORE

Matching sofa and arm chair, coffee table, kids pool/games table, round maple dining table and chairs, fish tanks, computer etc.. Plus temp. glass panels, fir beams, wood wire-dows, fencing wire, electrical wire, pipe, wood stove, anchor ...and more. Reasonable. Sat at 10, before and after 653-9898.

FIREWOOD MADE EASY! Large or small operation, maximum production. See video at [www.apacheforest.com](http://www.apacheforest.com). Dealer inquiries welcome. 1-866-986-0067.

ADD AND SAVE on home phone reconnection. Bad credit - no problem! Up to \$30 off for new customers, plus lower monthly rates! Call Tembo 1-877-266-6398 or sign up online [www.tembo.ca](http://www.tembo.ca).

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, extension 170, for free brochure.

BUILDINGS FOR SALE! "Lowest prices of the year!" 25x30 now \$5100. 25x40 \$6400. 30x40 \$7400. 35x50 \$9,990. 35x70 \$13,790. 40x80 \$16,900. Others. Canadian manufacturer...1-800-668-5422.

### SALT SPRING

#### Mini Storage

347 Upper Ganges Road  
"When convenience and security matter"

537-5888



Prompt, courteous service since 1990

#### NOW SERVING SALT SPRING

Heating Oil, Commercial and Farm Fuels  
76 Lubricants, Tidy Tanks, Pumps & Accessories



TOLL FREE 1-877-715-1019  
or (250) 715-1019

### 351 MISC. WANTED

WANTED TO buy: Queen size box spring & mattress, firm & in good condition. 653-0088 evenings & weekends.

WANTED: PHOTO albums, pocket type that will hold 6, 4"x6" each side. R Ball 537-5623.

### 360 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

FROM NEWMAN Family Productions, give the gift of musical instruments: Roland drum machine TR606 \$100. Fender Rhodes bass keyboard \$375. PAIA Strings 'n' Things 1550 \$150. Synthesizers: Roland E16 \$275. Juno/06 \$400. DC10 \$150. Yorkville amp \$150. Ray's horns: Cohn tenor sax 1500. Selmer alto sax 3500. Teac 2300S reel to reel recorder \$150. A-170 cassette recorder \$25. Technics Dolby/dbx cassette recorder. \$25. 537-5289.

### 370 PETS/LIVESTOCK

WANTED: TEMPORARY self board for three horses. Dec. 23 - Jan. 1. Please contact Vanessa 604-463-3076 or [deaness@telus.net](mailto:deaness@telus.net).

### 379 FREE/RECYCLABLES

LOTS OF bubble pack, newsprint, etc for recycling at Salt Spring Books. 537-2812.

TWO-SIDED WOOD fireplace with short chimney and jettied tops. 653-9579 Hafiz or Ranji

FREE KING size mattress and frame. 537-9662.

FREE, DOUBLE sofa bed, 537-9629.

FREE, CHEST freezer, 8 cu. ft. Double bed, with book shelf head board and mattress. Chimney brush, old desk with drawers and small cupboard. 653-9263.

FREE 8' X 10' INDIAN wool rug. In good shape, just needs cleaning. Off-white in colour. 537-8726.

LIGHT FIXTURES: bricks, red & grey, chimney liners, wiring - long lengths, sliding closet doors, kitchen sink, toilet, bathroom sink and various kitchen cabinets. Call Martin. 538-8206.

IKEA DOUBLE fold out futon. All wood, good condition. You pick up. 653-4617.

TOO BUSY for a yard sale so now it's all free. Garage full of furniture and stuff. 181 Fort St. Sat. Dec. 22. RICOH COPIER, free. 537-0888. Big and (probably) really efficient.

### 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).

## RENTALS

### 510 COMMERCIAL SPACE

#### Upper Ganges Village Shopping Centre PRIME LOCATION

UP TO 3300 FT<sup>2</sup>

Contact: Ferd Kallstrom  
(250) 701-3591

### 510 COMMERCIAL SPACE

450 SQ. FT. retail space for lease in Grace Point Sq. Ground floor. Excellent opportunity for sales in high traffic location. Call 537-9880.

IN GOVERNMENT bldg, 1357 sq. ft. for lease. Can accommodate variety of uses. Ample parking, wheelchair accessible. Richard, 537-2239.

### 500 APT/SUITES FOR RENT

FOR RENT: 1 bdrm. ocean front suite, \$1200 all inclusive. 537-6303. 2 BDRM, 1250 sq/ft lower suite, near town, W/D, F/P, NS, NP, \$1100. Also, 3 bdrm upper suite, \$1300. Feb. 1, long term. Take one or both. 537-9982.

ONE BEDROOM suite on Cushoon Lake, NS, NP, W/D. Long term renter wanted, references req'd. \$750/month. plus utilities. 653-4868.

LARGE: SELF-CONTAINED room with kitchenette in quiet character home. Private entrance, close to town, avail immed. \$500/ mo. NS, NP. 537-4723.

### 520 HOUSES FOR RENT

GREEN ACRES Resort, St. Mary Lake, fully furnished 2 bdrm cottages from \$650/ mo. plus power. NP, NS, call 537-2585.

2 BED HOUSE, Channel Ridge, 5 new appliances, hardwood flrs, sunny deck, view, long term. Jan 1. NS, NP. \$1350. 537-4746.

LARGE 3 BDRM, trailer for rent. Newly renovated, new washer, dryer, fridge, stove. Available Jan. 1. \$900/month. Call 537-6860.

NEAR NEW, one bdrm. ground level, furnished suite in Vesuvius, suitable for quiet, mature, couple/person, laundry, \$800/mo., hydro. incl. NS/NP. Refs. required. Avail. Jan 1, long term. 537-1970.

CABIN FOR rent \$375/ month. Wood heat, no electricity. Michael, 653-9565.

SUBLET JAN. 1 - Apr. 30. North end house with loving cat, \$500/mo plus utils. Laura 537-4077.

SMALL TRAILER in the Fulford Valley. Private, suits one or two people, \$450. 653-9396.

### 520 HOUSES FOR RENT

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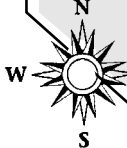
1 bedroom + den cottage, south end, fully furn., sunny, quiet & private location, no pets, avail. Nov. 1 - May 31 ..... \$1075

2 bedroom suite in Fulford Valley, avail. immed., long term..... \$975

1 bedroom Vesuvius, one person or couple only, avail. immed. long term ..... \$950

2 bedroom doublewide trailer in Fulford Valley, avail. immed., long term ..... \$750

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2 bdrm 1 bath  
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900.00 + % util

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1 bdrm 1bthrm  
avail 1 Jan NS NP  
partial kitchen  
shared Property  
1050.00 + % util

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1 bdrm 1bthrm  
avail 1 Jan 4 appl  
shared Property  
NS NP  
1275.00 + % util

MID ISLAND 104792  
strata twnhse adult  
2 bdrm 2.5 bthrm  
5 appl gas fireplace  
NS NP elect heat  
1375.00. + Util

NORTH END 104165  
Avail 6 Oct  
5 appl gas fireplace  
2 bdrm 2.5 bthrm  
NS NP elect heat  
1975.00. + Util

MID ISLAND 103665  
month to month  
avail 1 Nov - Feb  
4 appl fireplace  
1 bdrm 1bthrm  
NS NP  
1125.00+ Util

NORTH END 79463  
3 bdrm 3 bthrm  
lease assignment  
avail 1 Dec  
5 appl NS NP  
1950.00 + Util

MID ISLAND 98170  
4 bdrm 3 bthrm  
avail 12 Sept  
5 appl NS NP  
1700.00 + Util

MID ISLAND 96927  
2 bdrm 2.5 bthrm  
new exec twnhse  
5 appl gas fire place  
pool/exercise facil  
NS NP 1875.00 + util

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## Home Sweet Home

### 204 ARCHITECTS

Neil Morie architect  
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4, Fulford Marina  
ph. 653-4812  
creative design  
responsive to site  
craft and client

### 220 CONCRETE



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25 years  
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call these professionals today!

### 525 RENTALS MISC.

400 SQ. FT. of clean, dry space available. Suitable for office, studio, storage. \$350/mo. 653-2374.

### 540 WANTED/RENTALS

YOUNG HYDRO employee looking for long term residence, suite or room. Available to move in Jan./Feb. Will consider a house sitting position. Phone 537-7851.

### 690 WEBSITES

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION for the Gulf Islands is a mouse-click away. [www.gulfislands.net](http://www.gulfislands.net).

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### 820 BOATS & MARINE SALES

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1997 VOLVO 850SE, auto., 5 cyl., luxury sedan, like new condition, low 112,000 kms, tan leather, premium sound pkg., air, traction control, \$11,000. 537-1804.

1999 SUBARU Forester, AWD, good condition, fire engine red, all receipts, 169,000 kms, \$10,000. Comox. 250-339-7366.

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### 855 TRUCKS/4X4S

1992 TOYOTA SR5, 4 Runner, moon window, good tires and running condition, tow hitch. Can be used for a Jeep or Land Rover recovery vehicle, excellent vehicle in snow. \$5000 obo. 537-2053.

1995 JEEP YJ, 4x4, strong engine, body needs wrk, good winter vehicle, \$3000 obo. Call Dennis 537-4554.

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EX-TRANSIT VEHICLES, mini buses & raised roof vans. Some wheelchair lift equipped & diesel powered. Starting at \$3900. Toll-free: 1-888-416-9333, local: 604-882-9333.

### 856 BUSES, VANS

1984 DODGE RAM van, 3/4 ton, long box. Motor shot, rest cool. \$200. 537-1252.

### 900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

GOTTA SELL your car, truck, boat, RV, trailer or motorcycle? Advertise it in the Driftwood for 8 weeks at only \$37.95. (Private party ads, 20 words, 1 vehicle per special, must be prepaid.) Call 537-9933 for details.

UNICEF CHRISTMAS Cards - every purchase makes a difference to the world's children - available now at "et cetera" ph 537-5115.

PLEASE NOTE: Too Late to Classify ads are accepted until 10:00 am Tuesday at the rate of \$13.25 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 proofread because of time constraint.

RED GINGER Clothing, closing out sale. All items in store now 50-70% off. Everything must go by Dec. 22. Organic cottons, great bras, shoes galore & holiday dresses!

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.

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### 335 FURNITURE

CHOCOLATE BROWN sofa, like new, \$150. Brown rocker recliner chair \$25. Buffet \$25. 537-9360.

BEAUTIFUL MAPLE burl and solid maple, handmade and finished coffee table \$600 and two end tables \$500 each. 537-1980.

NEARLY NEW: futon, entertainment centre, Sony flat screen TV, maple dining table & 4 chairs, 3 piece book shelf unit. 538-6221.

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classified@gulfislands.net

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WANTED TO buy: firewood logs. Konig & Son Firewood. Phone 537-9531.

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Join Brenda Akerman for Aquafit Classes at the Summerside Pool. Aquafit will positively impact your body, and your mood. Start each day feeling great! Drop in classes \$6. Regular classes, Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Walking low impact classes Mon, Wed, 10:30-11:30a.m. (Last class Wed., Dec. 19, will resume again Jan. 7). For more info, call Julie 537-9433.

**SAM ANDERSON Appliance Repair.** Hot water tank and appliance installation. Authorized warranty technician for all makes. Sears authorized warranty technician. 537-5268.

### YOU COULD WIN!

Renew your subscription to the Driftwood before Jan 15th, 2008 and your name will be entered in a draw to win a one year lease on a 2008 Forester from Saunders Subaru! There are also 4 early bird draws of \$250 gas certificates from the Payless, Johnson's, Patterson's and Save-on. Drop by the Driftwood Monday thru Friday, we're open from 8:30 til 4:30, or give us a call at 537-9933. Renew today!

### ESTHETICS BY PENNY

Gift certificates available at 501 Rainbow and Stuff & Nonsense...a caring gift for all. Call Penny 538-0307.

2 CATS NEED babysitting for 3 weeks in January. Nice, neutered brother and sister. Ph. 653-4812.

### 900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

#### CHRISTMAS MASSAGE

HEALING & HEALTH massage. 1 hr., \$35 or 1 1/2 hrs. \$50. Your home or studio near Ganges. Clare 653-9898. See What's On.

#### FRITZ THE CINEMA CAT

is available at Wintercraft, Mahon Hall, and book shops in Ganges. The sequel "Fritz the Cinema Cat Gets his Wings" will be published in February. Watch for ads re: book signing at Sabine's. Happy Holidays to all.

#### INNOVATIVE GIFT IDEA

Give the gift of health! Summerside Pool Memberships, \$100/mo, includes pass to fitness area. Call Julie 537-9433.

31 X 10.5 R15LT SPORT KING a/t, steel radials with good tread on 15" Keystone rims. All 4 for only \$1500. 537-6745.

PART-TIME labourer needed to work on home construction project. Phone Grant @ 538-7077.

#### GULF ISLANDS OPTICAL

Novel gifts for eyeglass wearers. Perfect for last minute stocking fillers. Now in, our 2008 frame collection. Beautiful colours, unique styles. For the perfect look see Wendy at the Lancer Building. 537-2648.

#### POMODORO WISHES ALL OUR CUSTOMERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

We will be closed from Dec. 24 through Dec. 28 and Jan. 1.

GULF ISLANDS Optical 2 for 1 sale ends Dec. 25. 537-2648.

### 900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

HOUSE/CAT-SITTER SOUGHT for week between Christmas and New years. 538-1638.

DAD LOST his license! His loss is your potential Christmas gift. 1990 Dodge Dynasty, 140,000 km. Power windows, power seats, immaculate interior, this car has been faithfully serviced and is in great shape. Would be ideal for a college bound kid, or make a great second (or first) car. \$1395 obo. 537-9161.

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GREAT CHRISTMAS gifts: TRIBAL JEWELRY and silk kimono robes just arrived from Vietnam. Act II Aroma Crystal Therapy in Gasoline Alley.

VILLAGE COBBLER Gift Certificates for Christmas. Any amount you like! Call 537-5015.

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1984 TOYOTA LE Van. Runs good, \$1200 obo. 537-4794.

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#### ELECTRIC SCOOTERS

Year -end sale. Save \$250 off all electric scooters and \$150 off all electric bicycles in stock. Sale ends Dec. 31. E V Riders 537-2840. www.evriders.ca.

## SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR DEC. 19



2	7	8	2	8	9	6	1	9
5	9	1	6	8	7	8	2	2
8	6	2	5	1	2	9	8	7
1	2	9	9	7	8	2	6	8
6	2	7	8	9	2	8	9	1
8	8	9	2	6	1	7	9	2
9	8	8	1	2	9	2	7	6
7	9	6	8	2	8	1	2	9
2	1	2	7	9	6	9	8	8

### This Week's Horoscope by Michael O'Connor

#### Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

Reaching down deep to open your mind wide or vice versa is a current theme. You want answers and adventure. What is true and what is not? You want to merge both within - between your heart, mind and soul and probably with someone special. Your focus may be personal and romantic yet also philosophical and spiritual. Inner preparations for a whole new level of power in the world are underway. Shared visions and genuine purpose are motivating factors. A new level of training or apprenticeship will begin very soon unless you are really on the ball and it is already in motion. See a bigger picture without making promises or drawing conclusions. Identify your power potential.

#### Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21)

Sometimes it is good to take inventory to be aware of what is needed and what is outdated. Finding your place in the world means leaving behind what was or actively giving it away. Merging and combining energies, resources, visions and passions is a recipe for deepened relationships. Do you know what you need and what you want and the difference between the two? Clarify this distinction and it may save you a lot of time, energy, money and heart ache. Reclaiming former glory or previously acknowledged power finds you looking back. On the other hand, you want to explore new horizons and modes of expression. Alternate styles and approaches are attractive. Unleash more of your wild side.

#### Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

Some of your power potential is peaking. Along with it you may feel the pressures of new levels of responsibility. You may feel inspired to work with, and on teams. This trend will continue into the future. A search for what is truly inspiring, sustainable and equitable may be on your mind. This may include the facing of certain fears. Concerns about security for the future are implied. New realizations about what you actually need verses want are already coming in and will continue. Big news is shaking your world for better or for worse, perhaps both. Either way, you are challenged to exercise cool, calm detachment to keep the drama in check. Alternately, you will feel called to take action and shake things up.

#### Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

The world is changing quickly now and you are challenged to rise to the occasion. This includes using your imagination in healthy ways to see through and beyond problems to see creative solutions. To do so, you must control fearful reactions. Change is the law and it is coming your way. Being emotionally ready for it is ideal. If you need assistance, ask for it. A spirit or flexible, willing cooperation may be exactly what you need. The time is ripe to learn new angles and skills. Look into training, perhaps on the job site, or more formal education. Aim to do work you love or at least can enjoy, rather than direct your focus purely upon money. This is the trend of the times.

#### Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

A creative and expansive cycle continues to inspire you. You probably need this uplift to offset the otherwise weighted pull of Saturn. You have been in a restructuring phase and are now in a rebuilding phase. This implies healing at core

and foundational levels. Consequently, you may not have as much energy as you would like to make the most of this upward spiralling sub-cycle. Flowing with the momentum, take time out as you can and attend to this inner work. Rest as necessary yet also exercise discipline and courage to do what you feel you must to fortify your foundation whether in your body, mind, emotions and/or your outer reality. Balance the highs with the lows and make the best of it

#### Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

Nestling in close to home is the call now. Wherever you are this is a good time to re-charge your batteries. Nurturing yourself with good food, rest and with inspiring visions and philosophies will keep your spirits high. Striking a balance between giving and receiving is implied. Fortunately, a new creative wave is coming in and will lead you to diversify your energies and focus for the sake of greater returns. This is a good time to entertain the possibilities that this implies. Even if you are simply preparing mentally and emotionally you are on the right track. You will be ready to launch in February especially. Get ready because you are on the verge of a whole new scope of creative power.

#### Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

Tuning-in to the reality of the times continues. The point of power is in the moment. You may feel a little stretched these days with changes, duties and responsibilities. Fortunately, a new quality of confidence is coming your way. It will include a more sober assessment of who you are and what is the quality of your actions, yet it will prove empowering. These will be followed by even larger moves and changes that will affect both your living situation, your career and social status in general. This is probably not a good time to take on too much in terms of extra responsibility and the energy it will require. Use this time to plan and to get ready emotionally for this change.

#### Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

Expanding and consolidating go hand in hand; as we increase the load we have to increase the foundation upholding it. The big questions are: how, and is the volume actually sustainable or worth attempting to uphold? The ability to answer such important questions often requires careful consideration. Returns for past efforts are coming in; are they what you aimed for? What is needed to feel secure? Often people believe they need much more than they actually do. Does your life feel balanced? Where is there too little and where too much? As you get clearer about this important question, you will also gain clarity about what you can do to create a new quality of balance. Aim for sustainability.

#### Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

Whether by inspiration, desperation or both, you are taking new leads and strides. Responsibilities surrounding your health, finances and your

actual (verses desired or imagined) skills and talents, are weighing on your mind. The time has come to bring forth more of your wisdom concerning what is balanced, fair and just. This will create a stir in your home environment. Perhaps you want to create a home office or studio or perhaps you feel the need to move altogether. Outline your goals so that you can focus upon them. Meeting the needs of others, your family and perhaps your community will require more of your time, energy and attention very soon. Prepare inwardly by associating pleasure to realistic and genuine service.

#### Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

Drawing plans, attending to administrative realities and making preparations behind the scenes continues. The time is right to prepare for new initiatives. This may well include longer term educational pursuits and interests. Creating new associations and increasing your network is part of the plot. You are both attracting to and aiming to attract to you people of means, talent and creative energy. By next week you will take even more deliberate actions and by February you will be very intent upon expressing the full measure of your power. Keeping an open mind and being willing to see yourself and the world, and yourself in the world in new ways are keys to success.

#### Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

Deep thoughts and considerations about freedom are on your mind. You are also interested in both experiencing and creating a higher state of culture. This includes balance and social justice. Your challenge is to transcend the old ways. As people in a culture we are influenced by the collective and that influence currently implies massive consumption of things we don't really want, let alone need. Of course, this trend is unsustainable and is setting the stage for cultural, economic and spiritual revolution. Are you aware of and ready for this shift? Hopefully you are because ready or not, here it comes. Look to the larger needs of our times and offer your allegiances.

#### Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

You are riding the crest of a big wave. This process requires concentration, commitment and determination. Do you feel you have the energy to sustain it? Do what you can to sustain an even pace and maintain your focus. This will require realistic attitudes and measures - not necessarily easy for dreamy Pisces. However, with vision and focus and determination you can beat the odds. Do what you can and must with steady and measured efforts, rather than attempting to go against the current as this will probably lead to rapid burn out. New levels of power and opportunity are coming and will be evident as early as late winter. Hold steady and follow through gracefully.



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# Sudoku

	8	5		6				1
		1		7				
			1		2	6		
		3				4		9
	9				6		7	
	3	6	2					
2			4					5
5		9	6	8	7	3		2

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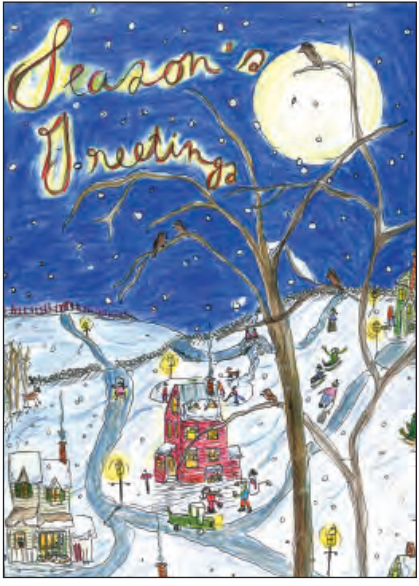


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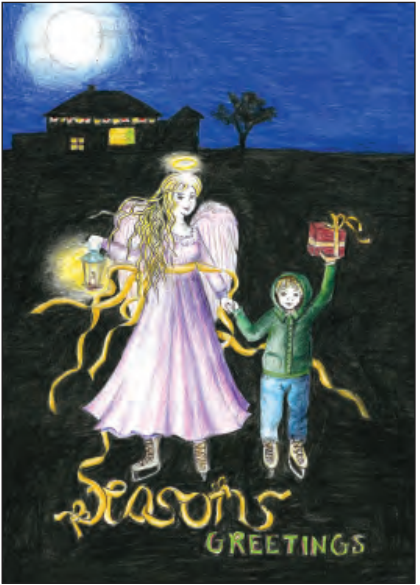
arvid@saltspring.com

537-5568

# PEOPLE & COMMUNITY



From left to right is Christmas cover art by Emily Wypkema, Sara Anstis and Zenah Rippindale. At right is Salle Wiltshire's art.



From left to right is Christmas cover art by Sarah Stubbs, Sierra Lundy and Connor Berkman.

## Runner-up cover art winners

All of the artwork on this page were among the favourites of the dozen or so people who judged the Driftwood's annual Christmas cover contest this year. All pieces were also among those highlighted by Gulf Islands Secondary School art teacher Sandra Lockie, whose grade 9-12 students entered the competition. The Driftwood was impressed by the variety of submissions and — in keeping with the “subjectivity” of art appreciation — very few judges selected their favourites in the same order. In looking for a Driftwood Christmas cover, judges consider many things, including reproduction potential, colour and immediacy. Winner this year was Umi Inoue's colourful and unique Christmas scene. Other artwork can be found on Page B13, and the images here are in no particular order.



At left is art by Kyla White, while above, from left to right are submissions by Justin Taylor, Katelyn Girard and Christina Fletcher.

## The Driftwood could put you in the driver's seat of a new Subaru



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# PEOPLE & COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY  
Candles at a recent advent ceremony on Salt Spring light the dark of winter with a seasonal touch.

## VIOLENCE PREVENTION

# Lower membership fee decision aims to boost R+R support

\$10,000 still needed to complete classes this year

SWOVA members hope a smaller membership fee will help the society deliver its award-winning curriculum to Gulf Islands classrooms this year.

At its annual general meeting last month, SWOVA (Salt Spring Women Opposed to Violence and Abuse) voted to lower fees to \$5 a year from \$25 in order to make membership more accessible to those wanting to show support for the program.

Former SWOVA board chair Leslie DeAthe announced the decision, adding the society hopes this will give those unable to join before an opportunity to support

the award-winning violence prevention work the organization is known for provincially, nationally and internationally.

According to press material, a SWOVA membership supports "a local, proactive violence prevention initiative that is gaining international recognition as a means of reducing violence in our communities and teaching healthy relationship skills to youth."

Membership includes the SWOVA newsletter ROAR, which gives up-to-date information about all of SWOVA's activities, including the schools-based Respectful Relationships program.

Membership is open to women and men, adults and youth, organizations and businesses.

SWOVA issues charitable donation tax receipts for gifts of \$20 or more.

People can also donate gifts of stocks, bonds and mutual funds to SWOVA and benefit from tax savings.

Though Gulf Islands students are presently receiving the R+R curriculum, SWOVA is still short \$10,000 to complete classroom delivery this school year.

Further information is available through 537-1336 or [www.swova.org](http://www.swova.org).

## ISLANDS TRUST

# OCP review now entering its next phase

A spokesperson for Islanders for Self-Government recently voiced the need for more hearings to discuss changes to the island's official community plan (OCP).

"The meetings in the fall were useful and well run but were dominated by those half-dozen hot-button issues," said Denis Russell at last Thursday's Trust committee meeting. "Now that

most of those have been resolved, we think it would be a good idea to have some more meetings."

He encouraged trustees to seek out how other communities in the province have dealt with their plan reviews.

Trustees said Islands Trust staff will prepare and streamline recommendations before more public sessions are scheduled.

"Once we receive the staff analysis we will be in a position to make proposals to the public and to get more input from them, specifically on some of the bigger issues such as amenity zoning, density transfer, energy use and secondary suites," Ehring said.

A schedule of OCP meetings seeking public input will be advertised early in the new year.

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INSIDE

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SEE PAGE B16

# GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, December 19, 2007 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 47TH YEAR — ISSUE 51 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

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# NEWSBEAT

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS

### Public support credited for man's release

Canadian set free after eight months in Dubai jail

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring woman who took an active role campaigning for the release of Bert Tatham from a Dubai jail is relieved to know he's arrived home in time for Christmas.

Tatham, 36, arrived in Toronto on Tuesday night, two days after authorities released him and 377 other prisoners as part of an amnesty held in conjunction with the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha. Two other Canadian citizens were among those released.

"It's a good news story," said Salt Spring resident Amanda Spottiswoode, the mother of Bert Tatham's partner Sarah Gilmer, 28, of Victoria. "There are so many bad news stories out there and this is a nice change."

Tatham was arrested at the Dubai airport last summer while on his way home

from Afghanistan, where he worked with a U.S.-based non-governmental organization teaching farmers about alternatives to poppy production.

Dubai authorities sentenced Tatham to four years in prison after customs agents found trace amounts of Hashish and a pair of two-year-old poppies in his possession. Tatham, his family and supporters maintain the hashish became attached to him because of the nature of his work in rural areas around Kandahar.

The two "inert poppy husks" were intended as props to educate Canadians about the Afghan poppy supply and associated heroine trade, Spottiswoode said.

"You could probably get more poppies from a poppy seed muffin," she added.

Within days of sending out a mass e-mail, Spottiswoode was overwhelmed by the response from other Salt Springers offering moral and practical support.

"Dozens of the responses were from people I'd even forgotten were on the list,"

she said.

Spottiswoode last saw Tatham two summers ago while sailing with her daughter in the waters surrounding Salt Spring Island.

"He has a genuine desire to help people living in the most desperate conditions," she said.

In a statement released Monday evening, Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier said the amnesty marked a positive step in relations between Canada and the United Arab Emirates.

"We welcome this act of goodwill by the government of Dubai. Canada highly values its friendship with the U.A.E.," he said. "Growing commercial ties and an expanding political dialogue give the relationship important depth."

Despite the government's best efforts, Spottiswoode said, she and many others believe the federal government could have done a lot more much sooner to secure Tatham's release.

"I think that we have a rather naive trust in the

Canadian government, but they really didn't do everything they could do," Spottiswoode said.

Notes of congratulations on [www.freebert.ca](http://www.freebert.ca), a website designed to raise awareness about Tatham's plight, came rushing in once news of his release was confirmed by the government on Monday.

Some echoed Spottiswoode's frustration with Canada's response.

"This freedom comes solely because of the intervention of Dubai's head of state and under no circumstances should anyone have any delusions that his freedom was a result of Canada's so-called 'new government' or its members," reads a comment posted on December 17. "If that were the case, Bert would still be imprisoned."

Precisely how Tatham reacts upon his return and his plans for the future are uncertain, according to Spottiswoode.

"He's angry," she said. "We can't expect it to be plain sailing, but at least he's here."

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7:00 pm (Carols at 6:30 pm) Our Lady of Grace  
11:00 pm (Carols at 10:00 pm) St. Paul's (Fulford)  
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10:00 am Our Lady of Grace  
NEW YEAR'S EVE - DEC. 31  
10:00 pm (Adoration) Our Lady of Grace  
11:00 pm (Candlelight Mass) Our Lady of Grace  
NEW YEAR'S DAY - JAN. 1  
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	7.9	9.2	10.5	11.2	10.8	12.1	12.1
WE	04:54	06:11	07:32	08:51	13:56	11:14	12:20
	2.3	2.7	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.2	3.1
	7.5	8.9	9.8	10.5	11.5	10.5	10.2
	11:35	11:59	12:29	13:08	22:10	14:49	15:43
	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	-0.2	3.4	3.3
	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5	-0.7	11.2	10.8
	19:21	19:59	20:41	21:24	0.8	22:56	23:41
	2.6	1.3	0.3	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.0

☼ ☼ ☼ ☼ ☼

## SALT SPRING LIBRARY

### Library offers partial service for now

Repairs to finish in January

Library doors reopened to the public Monday morning, two weeks after a severe winter storm damaged the building's roof and main floor.

"Everyone coming in seems really happy that we're open again," said librarian Marilyn Ming Tuesday.

The list of services offered at the

library includes most non-fiction titles, computer access, DVDs, magazine and newspapers, and some fiction titles. All new books and reference materials remain available.

Ming said she is hopeful the children's section may be reopened by December 21.

Repairs will not be finished until roofers arrive in early January, Ming said.

She said total costs paid by the library's insurance company have not yet been released but noted the library is responsible for a \$2,500 deductible.

Overdue items returned between now and the end of the year will incur no fines. The library closes at 1 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve days. No service will be available on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

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**Happy Holidays to all from Richard and Wendy**

# Newsbeat

## Heads up!

Gary's Christmas Dinner

December 25

Meaden Hall, noon

### ENVIRONMENT

# Regional district folds on plastic bag ban proposal

Salt Spring needs alternatives

BY CHRIS STEPHENSON  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

One woman's campaign to ban plastic bags in the Capital Regional District (CRD) was shot down last week by the CRD's Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) in Victoria, which doesn't have the jurisdiction to prohibit the product in retail stores.

Anke Bergner, solid waste planner for the Environmental Services department, said while the CRD has no jurisdiction over banning bags at retail stores, the CRD's SWAC will support education to reduce the use of bags in the district.

"We're leaning towards reductions and to provide alternatives," she said.

Some of those CRD alternatives include creating a separate web page on the district's website listing options to plastic-bag use and adding information to the new recycling guide for the CRD, states a SWAC report.

Despite the CRD's step to reduce the use of plastic bags, Lana Popham, who is lobbying for the ban from her home in Sannich, said the CRD is simply not taking ownership of the issue.

She said many municipalities in the CRD informed

her a decision to ban plastic bags could only be made by the district. However, when she met with SWAC members last Thursday in Victoria they told her the issue was up to individual municipalities.

"It's so silly no one is in charge of random litter," she said.

Popham said she's now more determined than ever to get her message out that plastic bags are a huge and unnecessary detriment to the environment.

In Popham's presentation to SWAC, she said a large amount of oil is wasted in the production of plastic bags.

"A statistic from the U.S. is that it takes 12 million barrels of oil to make the bags that the U.S. consumes annually. Here in Canada an average family of four uses 1,000 plastic bags per year," states a copy of her presentation to SWAC members.

She also pointed out that plastic bags are harmful to marine life.

"Floating plastic bags look like jellyfish to sea turtles. Dolphins, seals and whales will also eat plastic and, with a false sense of fullness, often die of starvation. When plastic breaks down into smaller pieces, smaller birds and fish eat it."

Popham said an alternative action like using a cloth bag when shopping is a simple way to reduce the use of plastic.

"It's such an easy target."

On Salt Spring, Clare Cullen, business account manager at the Island Savings Credit Union, is all for a plastic bag ban. Cullen has thought about how to implement a plan on the island, but has yet to start an active campaign.

"I intend to put together a proposal for Salt Spring Island, but have yet to do so," she said via e-mail.

She said consultation with businesses such as grocery stores and larger retail outlets is essential to achieve a significant reduction in the use of plastic bags.

"The key is offering options to shoppers, such as affordable and attractive cloth bags, boxes, home or office delivery options."

Stores such as Thrifty Foods and Ganges Village Market (GVM) have already taken a step in the right direction, she said.

"Thriflys and GVM offer the re-usable shopping bags at a reasonable price, which is great."

She said now what she needs is support from the community to get the ball rolling.

Those interested in implementing alternatives to plastic bags on Salt Spring can contact Cullen at [c\\_cullen@telus.net](mailto:c_cullen@telus.net).

In March 2007, San Francisco became the first U.S. city to adopt a plastic bag ban, followed by the Canadian town of Leaf Rapids, Manitoba.



PHOTO BY CHRIS STEPHENSON

Christy Cook carries a full load of groceries outside of GVM in cloth bags. She's surprised more people don't opt for an alternative to plastic bags.

## News briefs

### Holiday deadlines

Driftwood readers who rely on the paper to spread the word about events they want to publicize should be aware of early deadlines affecting the next two issues of the Driftwood.

Rather than press releases, letters, Rants & Roses or What's On Calendar items being accepted as late as the Monday before Wednesday publication dates, they must be received by the Driftwood office no later than 10 a.m.

on Friday, December 21 for the December 26 paper, and by the same time on Friday, December 28 for the January 2 issue.

The Weekender will be published on its usual schedule, i.e. going to press on Thursday afternoons.

Advertising deadlines for both the Driftwood and Weekender are also changed for the next two weeks. See the ad in this issue for details, or call the Driftwood office at 537-9933.

If a major news event occurs, visit the Driftwood's website at [www.gulfislands.net](http://www.gulfislands.net).

### \$10 million for repairs

The Capital Regional District (CRD) aims to spend \$10.6 million repairing the emergency communications service in the region, which will vastly improve the system, says Salt Spring's fire chief.

In 2003, the Capital Region Emergency Service Telecommunications (CREST) came online, providing radio communication for police, fire, ambulance, military and transit crews in the CRD.

However, users complained the service often cut out or transmitted weak signals in certain areas.

Salt Spring Fire Chief Dave Enfield said parts of the island are also affected with no service available through CREST. Enfield said the department currently uses a back-up system in case the service fails.

With the anomalies in radio transmission, Enfield is looking forward to the improvements in the CREST service.

"I've been a proponent from the start," he said.

Approximately 36 organizations and 1,800 users rely on the CREST system. Improvements to the service include installing 16 new transmitters throughout the region by June 2008 to boost the signal to 97 per cent reliability in the radio coverage area.

The contact for making the improvements is with Motorola, the original system provider. To ensure the system will meet public safety standards, the contact includes performance standards, remedies for non-compliance and third-

party testing, states a recent press release.

CREST board chairman Hy Freedman said the improvements will affect all user areas.

"We want to provide the best radio coverage possible," he said. "As long as I'm voted as chair I will certainly continue going in that direction."

The CREST system upgrade will be partly funded by a levy on telephone landlines in the CRD.

Municipal representatives in the CRD plan to vote on the CREST system upgrade contract January 10.



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## NEWSBEAT

### BUDIMCIC CASE

# Witness recalls Croatian war

Recounts day in question with Josip Budimcic

BY MITCHELL SHERRIN  
Driftwood Contributor

Testimony from the final witness in an Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) hearing for Josip Budimcic added complexity to both sides of an argument that will decide whether the island man remains in Canada or returns to Croatia following a war-crimes trial in absentia that convicted him with a 15-year jail sentence.

Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) counsel contends that Budimcic withheld information or misrepresented himself as a refugee to Canada.

But fellow Croatian refugee Nedeljko Bosanac offered translated testimony to the IRB hearing that had mixed value for Budimcic.

On the one hand, Bosanac painted a very similar picture to that described by Budimcic of escalating hostilities in Croatia in 1990-1991.

Like Budimcic, Bosanac described problems with mixed marriages between the two ethnic sides of the conflict in former Yugoslavia, since Bosanac's family was Serbian and his wife's family was Croatian.

"[Extremist Croatians] were talking against Serbs and [Croatian president] Franjo Tudjman himself said he was happy his wife was not a Jew or a Serbian. I saw it on TV."

And Bosanac, a retired prison guard, escaped from the developing war in Croatia with his family to Belgrade, just as Budimcic had done in July 1991.

But unlike Budimcic's testimony, Bosanac described how he volunteered to return to the war zone at Tenja, near the Battle of Vukovar in September 1991.

"I can't live in Serbia and have my house in Tenja and not be in the war and help where my house was. Nobody liked us in Belgrade either."

Unlike Budimcic, who claimed he didn't want to fight for either the Croatians or the Yugoslavian Nationalist Army, Bosanac had no qualms telling the hearing that he took sides during the war.

CBSA counsel Ron Yamauchi prompted Bosanac, "You must have hated [the Croatian extremists]."

He replied, "The same as they hated us. It was war."

Bosanac testified that both he and Budimcic carried weapons during guard duty in a farm house near a Croatian position, contrary to Budimcic's earlier testimony that he never had a weapon.

"Sometimes [Croatian soldiers] would sneak up in the day, but mostly at night. They would shoot at us and we would shoot at them," Bosanac said.

But in favour of Budimcic, Bosanac placed himself at an incident where Budimcic was later accused of torturing and executing Croatian prisoners of war (POWs).

Corroborating Budimcic's testimony, Bosanac described how the two men stopped to chat with a dozen POWs during an unarmed drive between two towns near the front line in a Renault passenger car in October 1991.

According to Bosanac, they each recognized two men from their own village, they talked with the men politely and then drove away.

"I do not feel guilty of anything and neither is Josip. If there is a God in justice, there is nothing they can do."

Observers at the IRB hearing learned that the Croatian POWs later alleged they were tortured, several men from

the group were executed and the remainder spent 60 days in a "concentration camp" after their meeting with Budimcic and Bosanac that day.

In addition to events described dur-

**"There was shooting; you**

**didn't know if a [mortar**

**shell] was going to drop on**

**your car; seeing people cap-**

**tured. You don't forget this."**

NEDELJKO BASANAC  
Former Croatian

ing Budimcic's testimony, Bosanac added that he witnessed one of the Croatians being sprayed by "nerve gas."

"At first, I thought they were crying because they were afraid. When I saw the last man in the row get sprayed, I thought they were all sprayed."

Bosanac's testimony was so vivid that IRB presiding member Ross Pattee marvelled at his remarkable recall of events from 16 years ago.

"One does not forget such things. You remember this for all your life. There was shooting; you didn't know if a [mortar shell] was going to drop on your car; seeing people captured. You don't forget this."

Pattee will accept written submissions from counsel until the end of December and intends to make a decision about Budimcic's refugee status sometime in the new year.

## IRB won't rush for Budimcic outcome

Don't hold your breath if you're waiting for the outcome of the Josip Budimcic hearing.

New controversial issues were still being introduced late in the public portion of Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) proceedings on December 11 and IRB presiding member Ross Pattee announced he would accept additional written submissions until the end of December.

Consequently, Budimcic might have to wait weeks,

months or even years before he learns whether he must return to Croatia to face a 15-year sentence issued in absentia for war crimes.

Concluding remarks at the IRB hearing, originally scheduled for December 10, were put off indefinitely as more and more evidence swelled several phone-book-sized files during the hearing.

"We can't make closing remarks until all the evidence is in," said Budimcic counsel Dennis McCrea.

Pattee doesn't expect to decide on whether Budimcic can maintain his refugee protection and remain in Canada until some time in the new year.

"I will provide a written submission in due course. It won't happen overnight."

But once a decision has been offered, the matter will likely be appealed by opposing counsel, postulated IRB tribunal officer Mumtaz Rama.

One issue adding complexity to the case is that

the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) wishes to investigate the Australian immigration forms of Budimcic's witness Nedeljko Bosanac, who left Croatia as a refugee in 1998.

The CBSA wants to examine Bosanac's papers to see if they corroborate testimony that he accompanied Budimcic with the Yugoslavian Territorial Defense Force in September and October 1991 during the Croatian War for Independence.



**Advertising Deadlines**

Please note the Driftwood office will be closed  
Saturday December 22nd to Wednesday December 26th

The Driftwood office will be open  
Thursday December 27th from 8:30am - 4:30pm

**Deadlines for the Driftwood  
Wednesday December 26th**  
Display deadline: Thursday, December 20th, 10am  
Classified deadline: Thursday, December 20th, 4pm  
Too late too classify: Friday, December 21st, 10am

**Deadlines for the Driftwood  
Wednesday January 2nd**  
Display deadline: Thursday, December 27th, 10am  
Classified deadline: Thursday, December 27th, 4pm  
Too late too classify: Friday, December 28, 10am

**Deadlines for the Weekender  
Friday December 28th**  
Display deadline: Thursday, December 27th, 10am  
Classified deadline: Thursday, December 27th, 10am

**Deadlines for the Weekender  
Friday January 4th**  
Display deadline: Wednesday, January 2nd, 10am  
Classified deadline: Wednesday, January 2nd, 2pm

**Our office will be closed Tuesday January 1st.**  
537-9933 driftwood@gulfislands.net

## NEWSBEAT

## BUDIMCIC CASE

## IRB hearing reveals secretive CBSA acts

Australian witness' immigration papers requested by government

BY MITCHELL SHERRIN  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) presiding member Ross Pattee has struggled with irregularities during a hearing to determine the refugee status and citizenship of islander Josip Budimcic.

Within the first day of the hearing, Pattee voiced displeasure that counsel from the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) withheld files from the IRB that could have a direct impact on Budimcic's case.

"The issue is that I don't have the full file in front of me and that's been an issue for five months now. It's [the CBSA who is] determining what is disclosable and it should be the IRB member who makes that determination by looking at the file in camera."

But CBSA counsel Jesse Davidson and Ron Yamauchi would not submit a rationale of why the Budimcic file was not culled as per standard procedure, they would not divulge items from the Budimcic file subsequent to their investigation and they would not share with IRB some RCMP testimony that was utilized by defence counsel.

But when retired RCMP officer Lee McColl (of Salt Spring) used RCMP reports from 2001 (withheld from the IRB) to comment on shoddy investigation procedures in Croatia as an expert witness for Budimcic, the



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Back at work on Salt Spring after his hearing last week, Joe "Somebody" Budimcic was seen hanging up Christmas lights in Ganges.

CBSA took objection.

"A foot of material was in front of me and you didn't produce it," Pattee said to CBSA counsel.

"Everything that needs to be heard will be heard."

Pattee recommended that either party enter the RCMP documents as evidence. But the CBSA was not interested in submitting the documents as part of their case and defence counsel Dennis McCrea was reluctant to foot the \$5,000 translation bill.

On the last day of public submissions in the hearing, Pattee was challenged by a CBSA request for the Australian immigration papers of Budimcic's star witness Nedeljko Bosanac.

"Is there an obligation for the tribunal to at least provide the witness with the opportunity to have counsel?" Pattee asked.

Bosanac appeared ready to give consent to the CBSA to access the forms, but Pat-

tee expressed concern about protecting the Australian citizen's rights.

"One thing I'm a bit worried about is that if this inquiry goes ahead, it can only be regarding his testimony and not for anything else. And if it were found to be used for something else, it would be pretty ugly," Pattee said.

But then, based on Davidson's comments, Pattee asked if the CBSA already possessed Bosanac's file, without his consent.

"We can't divulge that," Davidson said.

Pattee appeared alarmed. "I'm calling a break and I think you'd better call a lawyer," Pattee said to Davidson.

By the end of the public hearing, Pattee requested written submissions from both the CBSA and Budimcic's lawyer Dennis McCrea regarding Bosanac's rights to fair counsel in Canada.

## FIRE DISTRICT

## Fire district mum on incorporation

Fire trustees will respond but provide no concrete answers to an Islanders for Self-Government (ISG) request the department support incorporation.

"This is inappropriate and not our business," said Michael Schubart, chair of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District, during the board's monthly meeting Monday evening. "If the powers that be decide to move towards incorporation, that's their decision."

Discussion was based on a letter addressed to trustees from ISG president Ken Marr. At

the fire district's November meeting, Marr said trustees could help the department fulfill its mandate more effectively if they passed a motion acknowledging formal support of incorporation.

Fire trustee Tony Kennedy suggested the board take a "wait and see" attitude on the matter.

"I do think it is a fundamental issue that the [fire] chief is not allowed to enforce many of the bylaws passed by trustees," he said. "I think this is a safety issue on the island."

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## NEWSBEAT

### COURT DOCKET

# Road maintenance defence part of Ganges court day

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A 26-year-old Salt Spring man is prohibited from driving for 12 months and must pay a \$600 fine after pleading guilty in Ganges Provincial Court last week to impaired driving.

The charge against David Cooper stems from a September 16 incident when RCMP officers noticed a vehicle trying to evade a police roadblock near the corner of Fulford-Ganges Road and Seaview Avenue.

When police caught up with and pulled over the vehicle at 1:15 a.m., Cooper was "slow to respond" and "unwilling to make eye contact" with officers, Crown counsel Barb Penty told the court.

After police detected a "strong odour of alcohol" and Cooper failed a roadside screening device, he was taken to the Salt Spring RCMP detachment and provided blood-alcohol samples of 0.130 and 0.120.

Cooper told police he was in the process of driving his girlfriend home from a Ganges bar after they failed to obtain a taxi.

"There's no public transit and it's hard to get a cab at that time of night," he said.

Though Cooper had no criminal history, Penty indicated he had received five prior 24-hour driving prohibitions.

### Jail time served for fire-stick feud

A Salt Spring Island man was sentenced to four

months in jail after pleading guilty to an aggravated assault which sent a young man to Lady Minto Hospital in August.

Despite the sentence, Adrian Good, 20, will not have to serve any more jail time as the presiding judge awarded him double credit for the two months Good spent incarcerated at the Wilkinson Road facility immediately following his arrest on August 7, 2007.

"That was one of the hardest parts of my life," Good told the judge. "It gave me a lot of time to think about what I'm doing and how I can avoid getting into that situation again. I have a bright future ahead of me and any more jail time would not be useful."

Court heard an argument broke out after Good stepped on a set of the victim's fire sticks during a party at Beaver Point Hall on August 5.

The victim was taken to hospital with nose and eye injuries after Good punched him in the face.

Justice Mike Hubbard credited Good for time served in view of the young man's plans to complete high school, attend Malaspina College and "get on with life."

"You're a strong young man and you have to be careful about how you behave yourself," Justice Hubbard said.

Good received an additional 12 months of proba-

tion and must perform 35 hours of community service after police found him in violation of conditions of a court-imposed curfew on Saturday, December 9.

### Ticket appeal highlights bad roads

A Salt Spring man successfully contested a traffic violation on a technicality despite a half-hour defence centred on the poor state of the island's roads.

Lawyer John Davies was issued a ticket for crossing the double-yellow centre line along Fulford-Ganges Road after he lost control of his vehicle and crashed into a ditch near the Cusheon Lake turnoff early on the morning of November 17, 2006.

Davies contested the ticket on the grounds that poor lighting, a lack of road markings and poor weather conditions caused the accident.

"I feel I was the victim of a lack of road maintenance," Davies told the court. "I became disoriented. There was nothing to clue me in to where I was on the roadway."

In spite of Davies' attempt to pin the blame on the road conditions, further review of the ticket led Justice Mike Hubbard to declare the ticket void on account of a typographical error committed by the ticketing officer.

"It appears you win on a technicality," Justice Hubbard told Davies.

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On behalf of our clients, we have made donations to the Salt Spring Island Food Bank and Toy Fund



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### VICTORIA COURT

## Man sentenced to 90 days for theft

Salt Spring matters heard in Victoria

A former Salt Spring resident was sentenced to 90 days in jail and is forbidden from setting foot on the island for three years after he pleaded guilty last week to possession of stolen property.

Part of the way through his trial in Victoria on November 30, Fabian Cousineau confessed to illegally possessing a \$90,000 sailboat.

According to Crown counsel Barb Penty, Cousineau reportedly stole the vessel from a marina in Anacortes, Washington after telling a former girlfriend he owned such a boat.

When the woman asked Cousineau to take up residence on his luxury sailboat instead of her home, Cousineau proceeded to steal the boat, Penty said.

The 32-foot vessel in Anacortes was the closest match to the boat he had described, Penty added.

"There's no indication he'd ever met the owner or been on that boat before," she said, adding that Cousineau located the vessel over the internet.

Cousineau was found in possession of the boat in Fulford Harbour by the Salt Spring harbour master nearly two weeks after it was reported stolen.

Cousineau, who now resides on Vancouver Island, will serve his sentence on weekends. He must also pay \$4,000 in restitution to the sailboat's owner.

Also in Victoria court: A provincial court judge sentenced Ethan Marcano to three days in jail in connection with four charges picked up between July 30 and October 21.

Marcano pleaded guilty to assaulting a peace officer, multiple breaches of his probation and mischief in a Victoria court sitting on December 7.

All incidents were alcohol related.

Court took into account the six weeks Marcano served in jail after he was denied bail on October 21.

Justice Mike Hubbard cancelled all outstanding probation orders, including one banning him from the island, and did not impose any further conditions.

According to Crown counsel Barb Penty, Marcano argued the stress caused by so many probation orders was driving him to drink, violate his conditions and further compound his problems. Marcano finished serving his sentence last week.



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# NEWSBEAT



**PERFECT TREE:** Mark and Carlie Aston pick out a Christmas tree from the Boy Scouts' annual sale at Windsor Plywood.

## FIRE DISTRICT Island jeep lights up Langford

Volunteers bring home top spot

Salt Spring Island volunteer firefighters are celebrating the department's third consecutive first-place finish at the Festival of Lights Truck Parade in Langford Sunday afternoon.

"We had it all lit up like a Christmas tree," said volunteer firefighter Laurence Spencer. "We put in four days worth of work on it."

The Salt Spring contingent, comprising Spencer and fellow volunteers Mario Tello and Mike Bartle, took first place out of the 20 entries from fire departments across Vancouver Island.

Top-spot winners receive an engraved trophy.

This year marked the first appearance of the department's 1962 Willys Jeep. Previous Salt Spring entries in the antique truck category featured the Bickle pumper, which is on display at the fire hall in Ganges.

Spencer said the department is considering registering both trucks next year.

"This has become our annual event," he said.

### COURT DOCKET

## Sentencing delayed for 'machete bandit'

Crown wants objective pre-sentence report

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A provincial court judge has agreed to postpone sentencing of a Salt Spring Island bank robber following the Crown's demand for an independent pre-sentence report.

Koby Trociuk, 21, held up the Islands Savings Credit Union branch in Ganges on October 20, 2006.

He made off with an unspecified amount of money and was arrested after he tried to spend a marked bill at a local video store.

Trociuk pleaded guilty to robbery and wearing a disguise with an intent to commit an indictable offence on November 6, 2007.

Crown counsel Barb Penty asked for the report upon learning that doc-

umentation submitted by Trociuk's lawyer was incomplete. According to Penty, it omitted "serious allegations" of theft which Trociuk may have committed while on bail during the summer.

"Circumstances indicate he appears to have no impulse control and appears to be a person for whom consequences are never to be thought of or considered," Penty said during Salt Spring's monthly court session on Tuesday, December 11.

"He tends to act with an impulsiveness that astonishes when you consider his activity impacts people who are strangers to him. It causes me serious concern."

Trociuk's friends and family dominated the courthouse audience as defence lawyer Chris Massey argued against the delay on grounds his client pleaded guilty to the crime more than one month ago.

"This is at best an allegation that has nothing to do with the matter at hand. It is largely irrelevant," he added. "Your Honour has all the significant facts."

Considering the robbery occurred more than one year ago, Justice Mike Hubbard said he found nothing wrong with delaying the matter further in order to collect the facts.

"We should have an objective report and that should contain details about how Trociuk behaved whilst out on bail."

Trociuk remains under house arrest at his mother's Salt Spring home. He is not permitted to leave the property unless accompanied by his mother or another adult approved of by Trociuk's bail supervisor.

Penty indicated she would be seeking a federal jail sentence of three years. Trociuk's lawyer will be asking for a conditional sentence. A sentencing hearing is expected in February.

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# Opinion

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**2007 Canadian Community Newspaper Association Awards**



EDITORIAL

## Saving a rainforest

Unfortunately for Creekside Rainforest Appeal campaigners, the object of their desire doesn't have the visibility of a Mount Erskine or the threat caused by logging trucks running around it like the Texada lands did several years ago.

And it's only 19.46 acres, not the 100 acres of Erskine or the thousands owned by the Texada Land Corporation.

But it's still a rare piece of endangered ecosystem and a beautiful sanctuary for plants, animals, spawning salmon and humans on this island.

Sure, a million bucks is a big schwack of money, but it's starting to sound not so outrageous for any substantial chunk of the Gulf Islands and the associated transfer costs.

**THE ISSUE:**  
Creekside Rainforest Appeal

**WE SAY:**  
Major donors needed now

And the only sure way to protect green space on Salt Spring is to buy it at the asking price, or covenant it. Salt Spring Island is a long way from build-out. Even if future local Trust committees never allowed another rezoning on the island, lands will be sold, subdivided and houses will be built on them as long

as there's profit to be made and people want to live here.

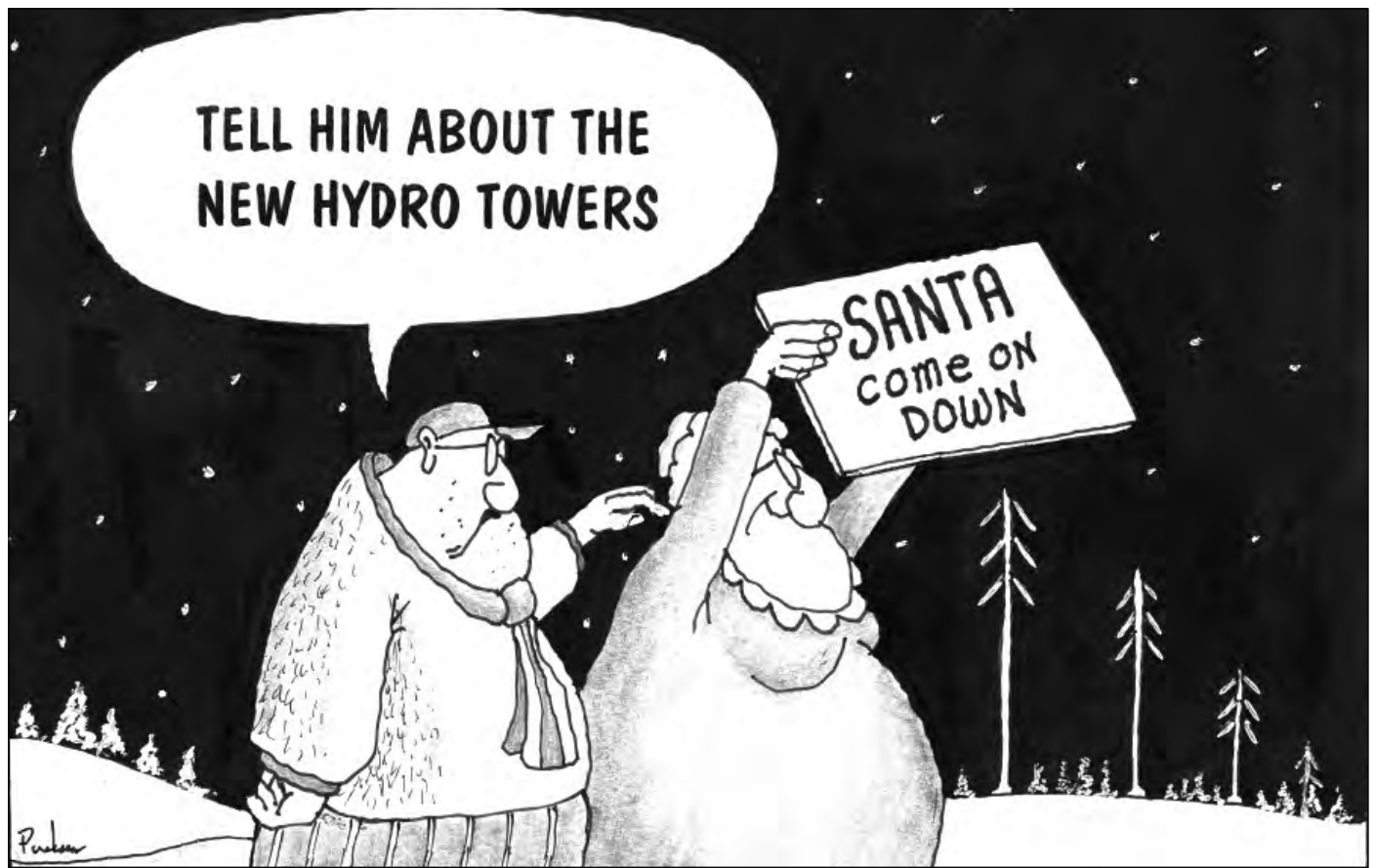
In the case of the Creekside parcel, its owners plan to subdivide the property into three acreages, says their representative Eric Booth. If the purchase deal negotiated by The Land Conservancy of B.C. (TLC) falls through, "the owners intend to proceed with their plans early in the new year," says Booth.

While people can be assured TLC would not have gotten involved if its board did not feel the land was worth saving, they should see it for themselves. Guided walks run the next two Saturdays at 10 a.m. and on Sundays at 1 p.m.

Fundraisers have used special events like the Art for the Rainforest exhibit and silent auction on at ArtSpring until December 21 to raise funds and awareness of the campaign, but this effort now needs big money — the kind that ends with the land becoming a park bearing a major donor's name.

If there's individuals or families out there who'd like to make the ultimate and most permanent kind of investment in Salt Spring Island, now is the time to contact the campaign. Its website is [www.savesaltspringrainforest.net](http://www.savesaltspringrainforest.net).

It's also the right time of year for a miracle.



## ISG vision prompts questions

BY HAROLD BROCHMANN

There seems to be a lot of uninformed talk around the island about the activities of a "cabal" calling themselves Islands for Self-Government (ISG), who want to make Salt Spring into a municipality.

What follows is my understanding of what the issues are.

But first . . . about the Islands Trust, a local governing body that seems to be ISG's main target — its authority is pretty well limited to zoning matters.

All the other things, like parking regulations, fire protection, road construction and maintenance, social housing, certain welfare services, water and sewage systems, issuing of dog licences, restaurant sanitation inspection, pollution control, building inspection, policing, noise pollution, liquor licensing, gambling, building licensing and inspection, etc. are the concern of various provincial and Capital Regional District (CRD) agencies.

If the ISG gets its way, all these things in addition to zoning decisions would be the responsibility of an island-based municipal council supported by a number of departments such as engineering, administrative, legal, financial, environmental and so on.

Why should we want to do this? I suspect the answer is something along these lines:

"Local people should make the decisions about local matters because they know best about local needs. For example, we could use local funds to promote tourism and encourage large firms to establish their corporate offices and maybe even production facilities here. As a result, retail sales would soar, businesses would prosper, housing construction rates would increase. This in turn would provide all sorts of local employment in addition to the political and supportive staffing requirements of the municipality and the number of real estate sales people could increase."

"Maybe we could even have a casino at Central." (Well, that last one may be laying it on a bit thick, but you get the idea.)

### VIEWPOINT

"All of these things would result in a more substantial tax base which would give us money for a municipal ice skating rink and a swimming pool in the south end."

"Further, we would expect to receive government startup grants and we could build an impressive new municipal hall with local artwork on display. More local employment."

For some people this is a motherhood type of approach which will be supported by a chorus from the masses of "yeah — we know best what's good for us — not those bureaucrats in the gommint" or words to that effect.

**"All those services mentioned above are going to cost."**

The opposing viewpoint, as I understand it, runs something to the effect that "Salt Springers are an argumentative bunch and if we had a municipality with a mayor and aldermen and all the special interest civic groups and unofficial lobbyists that would go with them, there might be more energy devoted to local infighting and promotion of personal agendas than getting anything done. Better to have decisions made elsewhere by disinterested bureaucrats who are less likely to be subject to local kinship and economic persuasion — and not add another layer of politicians who are inexperienced in real public-service administration and who may initially be well meaning, selfless and conscientious, but will inevitably figure out how to gain access to whatever pork barrel Salt Spring has to offer. The real downside is that extensive real estate development is in the interests of business and would be unavoidable and permanently change the face of Salt Spring.

On top of that there is such a thing as economy of scale. All those services mentioned above are going to cost.

Ask yourself, "Who are the members of the ISG? What are their motives? What is their vision for the future of the island? What would Salt Spring look like in 20 years if they had their way?"

I don't have the answers to these questions, but maybe we need to know.

*The writer is at Salt Spring resident.*

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:**

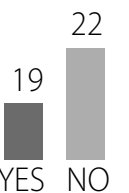
### Has Christmas become too commercial?

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**LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:**

### Should ISG run candidates in next year's local election?



## Driftwood

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# IslandVoices

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"I feel I was the victim of a lack of road maintenance."

JOHN DAVIES

SALT SPRING RESIDENT

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:** What's one gift you would like to receive this Christmas season?

**BARB TODD**

*I wish for peace on earth, but if that fails, pave Dukes Road.*

**MIKE VALCOURT**

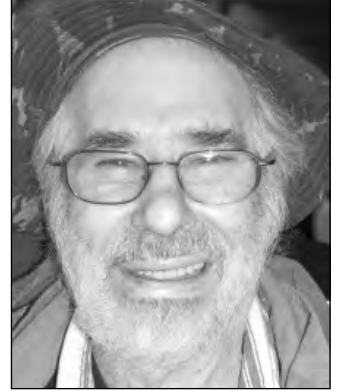
*Peace to everyone in the world.*

**SABINE GEORGY**

*A healthy long life for everyone.*

**PER SVENDSEN**

*To have my whole family here for Christmas.*

**ART FALARDEAU**

*Just friendship.*

## Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name. Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication. Read and reply to Driftwood letters online at [www.gulfislands.net/blogs/blog\\_letters](http://www.gulfislands.net/blogs/blog_letters)

### Awed by rainforest

On Sunday, December 9, I decided to take the walking tour of Salt Spring Creekside Rainforest for which there is a current campaign, organized by Maureen Moore, to raise enough money to purchase the property and preserve it from development.

Although I live on Creekside Drive I have never explored the property before and I was awed to walk this beautiful rainforest with Briony Penn as a guide and educator. This small portion of land is a perfect example of coastal rainforest with tall, stately Douglas firs, and many varieties of plants and wildlife living together in harmony. The trees reminded me immediately of Cathedral Grove on Vancouver Island.

To sacrifice this forest would indeed be a dreadful thing, depriving our children of the chance to appreciate the beauty of nature. I urge all who have not visited

this area to take the tour and enjoy this small jewel on Salt Spring Island.

**DON STEVENS,**  
CREEKSIDE DRIVE

### Shadowy scene

I'd like to remind pedestrians that it is not only at night that it is wise to wear white or reflective clothing.

On these dusky mornings and evenings there are plenty of shadows on the roads and if you are walking in the shade it is hard for motorists to see you.

Also, drivers, please always dim your lights when approaching or closely following another car; the full glare of your headlights is dazzling and dangerous.

Thank you!  
**MARGARET HODGES,**  
SALT SPRING

### Meddlers

I read the "Frosty reception for ISG at Trust Council" article in last week's edition.

Did anyone see what I saw? I saw Kim Benson, Tony

Law and Sheila Malcolmson, all off-islanders, meddling in local affairs. As off-islanders they realize that the cash tax cow (read Salt Spring) is starting to tire from the nursing of a 30-year-old calf (read the Trust).

These three should better spend their time dealing with preserving and protecting the Trust area and not selfishly trying to preserve and protect the Salt Spring-supported tax base on their home island.

**BLAIR HOWARD,**  
SALT SPRING

### Pondering plastics

It's Christmas time, and the plastic bags are flying out of the stores.

They take about 400 years to biodegrade, and meanwhile they choke the oceans and the creatures that live there.

We feel good about recycling them into more plastic products, yet this is energy intensive, and plastic persists in the environment.

I note that the Irish gov-

ernment has introduced a small tax on plastic bags resulting in a 90 per cent reduction in their use. Could Salt Spring decide to be plastic-bag-free?

There are a few things to think about: would this measure result in retailers heavily pre-packaging food items, resulting in more weight and waste? Are paper bags really any better, especially if they're coated in polypropylene for water resistance?

When you think of container shipments of paper, cotton, or jute bags (on a global scale), the bulk and weight signifies more transport carbon than shipping plastic bags.

So what are we to do? First, I think of the myriad reusable fabric bags that we or creative folk on the island could come up with.

Then I think of my mother, who never saw a plastic bag till she was in mid-life. Groceries were delivered to her kitchen every Saturday by a high school kid working for the store.

(Yeah, he drove a truck,

but bags were nowhere in sight.)

Now put that together with news from France. In the fight against global warming, more than 70 French towns have introduced horse-drawn carriages to collect garbage and take children to school, and 30 more are set to follow suit next year.

Does this suggest anything to anyone? P.S. the roadside roses would love it.

**WENDY HILLIARD,**  
MEYER ROAD

### Successful first

The Bag-a-Book Sale has come and gone under somewhat snowy circumstances.

We have stored the remaining books for transport to Victoria for distribution, we have completed our final administrative tasks, and we have paid recognition to 37 hard-working volunteers, many sponsors, and our partners: the Driftwood and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92.

In wrapping up this event we wish to extend our final thanks to Salt Spring Island community members, who were asked to show their generous support by donating and buying lots of wonderful books.

My goodness, the books arrived by the car load, to the tune of 9,000-plus volumes!

Equally rewarding were the carloads of buyers the following two Saturdays, who came with a constant message, "This is a splendid idea, we hope you do it again next year!"

All of the money raised at the Bag-a-Book Sale will help make possible our continued commitment to provide quality "life-long learning" experiences on-island by dedicated island instructors.

The book donors and book buyers helped us make this "community first" a great success and for this we say thank-you.

**JUDI FRANCIS,**  
CHAIR, SSI COMMUNITY ED

**MORE LETTERS** continued on A10

## Rising real estate and loonie mean good-bye to Americans

Recently I got an e-mail from my friend George. George owns a beautiful home on a stunning piece of waterfront in the south end.

George and his wife wile away the summers in this beautiful house, shooing away emboldened deer, spying on the family of otters, drinking summer drinks. In the winter they do what any sane couple would do with the opportunity and the bank account: they go back home to a more temperate Florida.

Recently I got an e-mail from my friend George.

"Her ladyship and I are putting the house on the market — trying to take advantage of a strong real estate market, the exchange rate, etc."

Sad news indeed. Not only do George and Susan contribute substantially to the local economy (their home is full of local art) but it cuts deeply into my summer social life.

Really, can you blame him? Bear with me for a moment while I do the math. Let's role play. Say you are an American citizen, house hunting in 2001. You buy a waterfront property for \$500,000, the approximate average selling price six years ago. Fast forward to 2007. Although all the numbers aren't in yet, it looks like the average selling price for Salt Spring waterfront this year will be \$1.4 million

dollars. That's almost triple what you paid for it.

But wait, there's more. The U.S. exchange rate in 2001 was at a low of 62 cents. As we all are gleefully aware, the two currencies are now at par. The eagle and the beaver, hand in hand. That \$500,000 (Cdn) house cost \$310,000 (US) in 2001. If the house didn't appreciate an inch, you would have made almost \$200,000 on the exchange rate alone.

So let's review. Between the heart-stopping rise in real estate and the soaring Canadian dollar, you would have made \$1.1 million. And with a creative accountant, that's likely tax free. Nice work if you can get it.

In my opinion, most (but not all) Americans who have moved up to Salt Spring since 2000 have done so for economic reasons. Unlike the Vietnam influx, politics is a distant second to economics this time around. The demographics are also polar opposites. We are not talking about Woodstock refugees with crumpled-up draft papers in their Levis scratching out a living collecting mushrooms in the rain forest. This time around, we are talking about smart money.

After all, our Americans could have set up

**Peter Vincent**

### HEAD TO HEAD

housekeeping very nicely in the San Juan Islands, just a stone's throw from our shores, where the gas is cheap and the beer is in supermarkets. But they would have paid double for the house. So move north. Same climate, half price. Smart money.

Again, fast forward to 2007.

The American housing market has tanked. New housing permits are at a 14-year low. There are more "For Sale" signs on front yards than at any time since 1985. The median price of a house fell 13 per cent in October alone. Let's not use the "R" word (recession) but let's just say there is a bit of a slump south of the border. There are bargains to be had.

So let's go back to our fictional American homeowner here on Salt Spring. He can now fold up his table and go home with a \$1.1-million profit and cherry pick a great deal in his home town, without the nuisance of border crossings, immigration departments and French language instructions on everything. Smart money.

George goes on in his e-mail: "The ideal game plan is to buy a piece of waterfront property north of San Francisco or Seattle

and build another house."

Is this a trend? I think so. In George's strata enclave of waterfront properties, four out of the nine were owned by Americans. He and "his ladyship" are the last. All the rest have cashed in and moved home. At the far north end of the island, another American friend has "unofficially" put his Sunset Drive place on the market. Sometimes profit margins trump the idyllic Salt Spring lifestyle (particularly in February).

Some say this is a good thing. Some say that it will let out some of the pressure of an overpriced local market. More houses on the market and fewer buyers should mean lower prices. Not so, grasshopper. The vacuum seems to be filled by frazzled execs from Vancouver looking for weekend getaways and shivering Albertans who have grown tired of the boomtown oilpatch, the mud and mosquitoes in the summer, the forty below frostbitten winters. Expect more of the same stratospheric Salt Spring house prices, just different licence plates in the driveways.

George goes on in his e-mail: "It'll be a longer drive for you but there'll still be organic ostrich and tasty wines."

I'm really going to miss George and Susan. And I shudder at the prospect of having to learn a new language — Albertan.

# OPINION

## MORE LETTERS

continued from A9

### Oneness blessing

As my last letter to the Driftwood indicated, the retreat experience in India was truly remarkable.

I participated in a 10-day "deepening" course, then served on staff during the 21-day intensive that followed.

We live at the dawning of the golden age. This mass spiritual awakening is singularly the most significant event to occur on Earth in many thousands of years. We are divine in origin and we, now, are re-awakening to this already present but long forgotten reality.

As AmmaBhagavan, the Indian avatar at [www.onenessuniversity.org](http://www.onenessuniversity.org) says,

"Awakening human consciousness is akin to cooking a pot of rice. The rice simmers, seemingly forever, and when you want to see if the rice is done, you don't check the whole pot, you just check a few grains."

Based on several years experience at their school of awakening just north of Chennai, India, they declare decisively, speaking of human consciousness, "You are cooked. You are done. You are awakening now!"

I would be happy to speak with anyone interested in this emerging phenomenon, and more importantly to share "oneness blessing" with you. This remarkable energy transfer, which I spoke of in my earlier letter as "ego/mind solvent," invites spirit to step more fully into your life. This in no way conflicts with exist-

ing spiritual or religious belief. Rather, it enhances and helps fulfill it. This is a gift from the divine to help us awaken quickly, and avert further disaster.

If you'd like to contact me I can be reached via email at [davidthatcher@shaw.ca](mailto:davidthatcher@shaw.ca). Please leave your phone number and I'll call you back. Have a wonderful holiday season, a very Merry Christmas, Namaste.

**DAVID THATCHER,**  
SALT SPRING

### Duck-like

Tom Toynbee objects to my criticism of Islanders for Self(ish) Government (December 12 "Gary's over the top" letter), but with respect, misses the point.

I have no problem with differing opinions, but I do object to ISG's deliberate misinformation campaign.

I am disappointed that Mr. Toynbee — who complains about rhetoric but did not address any of my specific examples of ISG nonsense — seems to be fine with it.

Mr. Toynbee incorrectly states that my article refers to the 2002 referendum, a 70 per cent no vote on incorporation. I actually cited the 2005 election in which only the candidates opposing the incorporation option were elected, all with strong majorities. With this unequivocal result, why does Mr. Toynbee or ISG expect the trustees and I to renege on our promise of improving our unique, rural system of governance?

And how can he countenance ISG lobbying the province to reject more local trustees for Salt Spring, even though this addresses a number of historical com-

plaints by incorporation-ists?

Mr. Toynbee objects to me pointing out the alliance between ISG and the development industry. But ISG's own press release on their meeting with Minister Ida Chong states clearly it was attended by "representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, the Contractors Association and the real estate community."

Read the ISG ads, pamphlets and website, that present a litany of complaints about many issues having little to do with governance structure and more with their opposition to the policies and priorities of currently elected officials and our OCP.

As for the selfish part, this is more than tongue in cheek. ISG complains that Salt Spring subsidizes

planning in the rest of the Trust area, but what about our responsibility to these special areas? ISG is also silent on the fact that the southern Gulf Islands contribute millions of dollars annually in property taxes to schools and hospitals, yet Salt Spring has the hospital, the high school and all of the employment that goes with it. In other words, ISG is fine with subsidies, as long as Salt Spring is the beneficiary. Sounds kind of selfish to me.

The real debate on governance alternatives will occur during the next local election. In the meantime, if ISG continues to look, walk and quack like a duck, please don't be surprised or insulted that some may feel compelled to point this out.

**GARY HOLMAN,**  
CRD DIRECTOR

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## OPINION

# More Kanaka flood discourse needed

BY ERIC BOOTH

The article in last week's Driftwood, entitled "Residents blame dam for flooding woes," contained a number of allegations, and created a general perception of the situation which we would like to publicly correct.

To start with, the reference to a "dam" being built by Salt Spring Ventures is misleading in that a dam was not built. Instead, a manmade drainage ditch, on our private property, was filled in to prevent the flooding of our property.

It is a fact that the flooding which occurred in the area was primarily due to the five inches of combined rainfall and melting snow within 24 hours, an amount which totalled over 10 million gallons running through our neighbourhood. To put it into perspective, that's the equivalent of about 12 per cent of Salt Spring's total annual rainfall in one day.

It is also worthwhile to note that the culverting system below our property was evidently inadequate to handle the flow, as evidenced by the reported one-inch overflow of water at 175 Kanaka and the flooding over of the two-inch culvert under the school field, just downstream. The importance of this information is that the restriction of water flow at those culverts would have the effect of slowing down the velocity of the stormwater and consequently causing the backing up of water in the Ministry of Transportation (MOT) drainage ditches above the culverts, which, in combination, may actually have resulted in the flooding, if not merely contributing to its intensity.

While Mr. Grange is reported to agree that "Swanson's Pond is part of a traditional water course," I would respectfully point out that he does not work for the Ministry of Environment, Water Management Branch (MoE, WMB), which happens to disagree with Mr. Grange's opinion. In September, MoE, WMB, ruled the drainage ditches on our property were not a "natural" watercourse but rather a manmade one built in the late 1950s.

It is worthy, however, to note that while it was reported Mr. Grange "couldn't

comment on whether or not [our filling of a drainage ditch on our property] caused the flood," he is reported to have said the drainage ditches near the flooded areas were "incapable of carrying the flow... for the amount of water that had accumulated." We entirely agree with him on that point and believe anyone can successfully make the argument that numerous MOT ditches on the island, as evidenced by the many reports of extensive flooding, all over the island, were incapable of handling the record volume of water on that day.

We would, however, like to bring to the attention of the public the fact we have requested three times, over the past two months, to have an onsite meeting with MOT to discuss ditch maintenance and easy improvements to the drainage in the area. Unfortunately, to date, those requests have been ignored.

On November 5 we informed the MOT area manager in writing, "We would like to do a few improvements to the existing drainage, and, before proceeding, we need to know what we may require formal permission for and what we may be able to do without formal permission. We want to ensure the existing ditching system will take water away from the road infrastructure as quickly as possible and be free of any ponding. There has been little or no maintenance done for over 20 years on some of the ditches in question, and we believe a little maintenance will go a long way to improving and providing adequate drainage in the area." We also asked whether he had, as we had suggested three weeks earlier, contacted MoE, WMB, on the matter.

The short reply we received on November 6 stated the following, "I did not contact MoE. Do not do anything on Ministry property without prior permission. I am seeking guidance on our next course of action."

If MOT had bothered to spend the half hour it would have taken to meet with us to discuss the situation, and agreed to the simple ditch maintenance we were requesting, we believe much, or all, of the flooding in the area may have been prevented.

On December 5, in an effort to prevent further flooding of our property, we submitted a formal application to perform ditch maintenance, including the cleaning and clearing of MOT ditches fronting our property, offering to do it ourselves, at our own expense, if there is no money in MOT's budget to do so. Last Friday we were notified by MOT it will likely be "a couple of more weeks" before they can process the application.

**To date there has been no offer of repair to the damage caused on our property by the residents involved.**

We would also like to comment on the Driftwood's report that some of the residents "pulled the dam apart to allow some of the storm water to flow through the pond." If we are to understand this correctly, residents trespassed onto our property, and in an apparent act of criminal mischief, dug a drainage ditch on our property, which consequently flooded our property with about two feet of water. Regrettably this is the third incidence of trespass and mischief on our property in the past few months and once again we have been forced to request RCMP involvement to protect our interests. To date there has been no offer of repair to the damage caused on our property by the residents involved.

Finally, in cooperation with one of the area residents, we have initiated a request for a "without prejudice meeting" with all of the residents who were flooded in the area in the hope costly and unnecessary legal actions may be avoided by both sides and that a mutually acceptable, long-term approach to avoiding the impacts of any significant future storm events may, as a result, be achieved.

*The writer is a representative of Salt Spring Ventures Inc.*

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## OPINION

# Regional director misleads constituents over Trust in post-incorporation world

BY TOM NAVRATIL

Gary Holman's recent View Point in the Driftwood ("Democracy is not ISC's real agenda") is deeply troubling.

Here is an elected representative in a supposed position of leadership, authority and trust. Instead of a meaningful dialogue, Mr. Holman is not only publicly slandering and ridiculing a legitimate organization — Islanders for Self-Government (ISG) — but also makes untrue and misleading statements to the public.

Mr. Holman's statement that with incorporation "the Trust would have virtually no presence on Salt Spring" is totally false.

In 1990 the Trust Act was amended to allow for municipalities within the Trust area.

An island municipality, its OCP, bylaws and all of its pertinent policies are required to conform to the Islands Trust Policy Statement and legislatively to the Trust Act, and are subject to Trust Council Executive Committee approval. Each island municipal council is required to appoint two of its members to the Trust Council. This is the law.

Mr. Holman equates the ISG organization to a group of "real estate developers and vacation rental practitioners," and maliciously polarizes the initiative of incorporation against the concept of the Trust.

I challenge Mr. Holman to publicly apologize. ISG (www.islandgov.org) is a voluntary, purposeful and a non-partisan organization of substantial membership comprised of a wide cross-section of the island's population that sees and understands the need for a democratically, professionally, efficiently and accountably run Salt Spring Island government within the Trust mandate.

Mr. Holman boasts how well the current governance is working. How about a brilliant example: the tennis bubble fiasco in which Mr. Holman is directly involved

## INDEPTH

and which to date lost more than \$300,000 of taxpayers' money (including legal fees but not counting wages) without an eye's blink from the PARC or Mr. Holman.

The reality is that the current governance structure does not work well. It is expensive, cumbersome and fragmented, to say the least, often overlapping and with duplications.

We have the two trustees, then we have a CRD representative (Mr. Holman), then various CRD-administered entities such as the Ganges and Maliview sewage plants, Burgoyne Bay liquid waste facility, Parks & Rec and building inspection, provincially governed highway maintenance, individual waterworks districts, the harbour authority, the ambulance, fire department, the government agent's office and the list goes on. There is no one place where one can go to contact the "local government."

Mr. Holman further states that the burden of the roads would be on Salt Spring taxpayers' shoulders. He conveniently neglects to mention the generous grants available to municipalities by the province that help with all kinds of expenses such as the roads.

Mr. Holman accuses ISG of hidden agendas, including that of opposing the introduction of additional two trustees.

Well, would the addition of two trustees solve our problems?

No, it is becoming very clear that it would not. On the positive side it would alleviate the workload of the current two trustees and it would help to improve the quorum dilemma, but on the minus side it would do nothing for the Trust's limited mandate of land-use and planning, it would perpetuate the current fragmentation and inefficiency, it would require a monumental legislative change and, according to the Neilson-

Welsh Report, it is clearly inconsistent with the key equal area representation concept of the Islands Trust mandate to preserve and protect.

What is the Neilson-Welsh Report? Earlier this year the Islands Trust commissioned Neilson-Welch Consultants to produce the Islands Trust Governance Review Report. It seems that this well-researched document dated April 2007 was simply dismissed by Trust Council as it looked like it did not reveal findings that the current Trust was looking for.

**"How I wish that somewhere there existed an island for those who are wise and of good will. In such a place even I would be an ardent patriot."**

ALBERT EINSTEIN

The report (available on the Trust website) affirms that the Trust was never designed or intended as governance for the Trust area, but rather as "a provincial 'trust' with a legislated provincial mandate to preserve and protect, on behalf of the people of the province, an area of provincial significance" and "is concerned primarily with protecting places as opposed to providing services to people."

The report continues, "while the Trust was given certain characteristics of a local government, it was not created to be a local government."

While the report was not to consider the alternative of incorporation, it clearly

states with respect to incorporation: "Using its existing authority over the Policy Statement, and its authority to direct resources to Trust Area-wide services, Trust Council has the ability to ensure that measures to preserve and protect the entire Trust Area are firmly entrenched in all local jurisdictions, including island municipalities."

The report recognizes that the current governance structure is inadequate in many ways and in conclusion it tabulates the potential effect of various combinations of improving the Trust on the local level and as a whole.

The option of adding two more trustees to the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC), according to the report, would be largely of symbolic value and would be legislatively problematic while providing minimum "improvement to all" (stakeholders).

Subsequent to the report the Trust conducted a Trust Area-wide public input campaign on the issue. The total participation was astoundingly miniscule: less than two per cent of all Trust area population (total of 446 participants from population of 23,000; of the 446, only 264 persons participated in the 11 various meetings!)

Even with this flawed sample the input was not overwhelmingly in favour of adding two extra trustees to the Salt Spring LTC!

Incredibly, without seeking further solution, the current Trust proceeded with the application to the Minister of Community Services to approve the acquisition of two more trustees for Salt Spring. Really, how much more un-democratic and self-serving can one get?

"How I wish that somewhere there existed an island for those who are wise and of good will. In such a place even I would be an ardent patriot." (Albert Einstein)

*The writer is a Salt Spring realtor and member of the Advisory Planning Commission.*



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# NEWSBEAT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**SANTA'S HELPERS:** Helping with the delivery of Christmas hampers at the Community Services Society food bank Tuesday were, from left, Angela Anderson, Penny Grossman and Elizabeth and Christine Anderson.

**MORE LETTERS**  
continued from A10

## Hope

A few weeks ago, the film *Finding Dawn* was presented by SWOVA. It was also an

opportunity to learn more about the very successful Respectful Relationships program for students.

Perhaps the next generation of letters to the Driftwood will be less opinionated and thus more productive.

Of course, as respectful adults we can now start communicating about how we can work together to make our island a better place for all of us.

**MARG SIMONS,**  
HILLTOP PLACE

**PATHWAYS**

# Path hits fundraising goal

PARC and New Horizons grants complete picture

Good news continues to roll in for the Partners Creating Pathways committee, formed by members of Island Pathways and the Salt Spring Island Trail and Nature Club.

Last week the group received word that its final grant application had been accepted and that the Partners Creating Pathways project would receive \$20,000 from the New Horizon Seniors program.

Those approving the grant, with funds from the Government of Canada for Seniors Initiatives, agreed that the Pathways project was a perfect fit since most of its organizers are seniors, it is near five seniors residences and many local seniors will travel on the pathway.

With the addition of the grant, the project was a mere

\$3,500 from its \$90,000 goal.

"Then last Monday evening, the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) voted unanimously to top up the fund to the tune of \$3,500. So they have done it!" explains a recent press release.

On top of that good news, the committee also learned Tuesday that Allteck Line Contractors Inc. would donate gravel to the project to ensure its completion.

"This will ensure we will have the materials we need to construct the pathway we want," said Jean Gelwicks of Island Pathways in recent press material. "What a lovely Christmas present to us and to the community."

During Island Pathways' November 23 AGM, the Salt Spring Island Lions Club presented Gelwicks and Zeke Blazeka from the Trail and Nature Club with a generous donation that increased the number of partners into a "very respectable list."

Financial partners to date include: Salt Spring Island Community Transit and Transportation Commission/CRD director Gary Holman, Salt Spring Island Foundation, Victoria Foundation, B.C. Transmission Corporation, PARC, Salt Spring Lions Club, The Royal Canadian Legion, Allteck Line Contractors and many individual community members.

"This has been a lucky cou-

ple of weeks for this project," said Blazeka. "It has all come together in time for the new year. We are very pleased."

The project would not be possible without the Community Transit and Transportation Commission (CTTC), which will take on the liability and maintenance of the pathway and Gary Holman, who Gelwicks said has been one of their best supporters.

Because the off-road trail is being created with almost no government funding, said Holman, "It's a great deal for taxpayers and it's a great addition to the pedestrian and cycling aspect of the transportation commission."

The pathway itself will run parallel to Lower Ganges Road from Wildwood Crescent to Blain Road.

Four work parties have already cleared the entire length of the pathway in the hopes that "people with sturdy shoes can start walking it now."

More work bees will take place in the spring and the group hopes that anyone who has native plants to donate to the project will hold onto them until May when construction will begin. The group is also looking for donations of split-rail fencing and large boulders.

"We owe a big thank you to the community and all our partners," said Gelwicks and Blazeka.

*We hope your holiday is filled with comfort and joy  
and the warmth of good friends.*

*We look forward to serving you  
in the new year.*



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537-5515



John Cade  
537-1866



Gord Ellis  
537-5515



Carol Fowles  
537-5515



David Knight  
537-6850



Sandra Smith  
537-5515



David Giddy  
537-6637



Gil Mouat  
537-4900



Tom Navratil  
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Henri Procter  
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Simone Lamers  
537-6786



Felicity Robinson  
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Norman Rothwell  
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Patti Speed  
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# NEWSBEAT

## RANTS and Roses

### Roses

A big bouquet of beautiful-scented, agenda-free roses to manager Mike at Thrifty Foods for politely asking the Islanders for Self-Government to stop soliciting at the entrance of Thrifty Foods on Friday. Much appreciation from your customers who don't want the ISG in their faces while doing errands. SB

A big litter of rainbow roses for all the people who helped Scout . . . for Maria who lent me her cage, for Cathy and Jean for their generous funding, for Shelly, who will provide a home for the Kitty and Dr. Dave and staff at the vet clinic. Thank-you all. Penny

An ocean of marine roses to Katherine, Sandy, Geoff, Doug, Laurie, Karen, Derek and other crew members of the Queen of Tsawwassen on the morning of December 9 for giving my grandson Kieran a great experience

that he'll remember always. Thanks so much for making his day, and mine. JH

All-year-round roses to Ann behind the counter at Ganges Post Office for all her cheerful friendly help and advice to those of us who arrive at the other side of the counter all year round — you are very much appreciated!

A big bush of "Francis Dubrevil" in full fragrant bloom to all the courageous Salt Spring Spanish teachers who, with vim and vigour, strive to educate the masses. A rose is a rose unless it's in Spanish, in which case it is una rosa. XO — Habla!

Roses to Janet from VIHA for sharing your secrets to survival with parents of picky and not-so-picky eaters. Roses to our Janet from Elf for sharing your great space. Thank you!

Roses to Bill at GVM for

your generous donation of organic foods for our snack at the healthy eating workshop. Roses to Craig and Cathryn at Natureworks for helping keep our snack completely GMO-free. Many families enjoyed the variety of good foods.

A bus full of fragrant roses to Cecelia and Barbara for another fun day in Chemainus. Your efforts to include me in all of the varied events is much appreciated. Happy Holidays!

A car full of snow-coloured roses for the home care ladies who go the extra mile when driving conditions are terrible. Happy Holidays to one and all!

A big warm hug to Julie at Solace Space for her awesome massage and acupuncture work. Organic liniments, oils, salves and much more can be bought at her spa in Fulford. Vicki Miller



Sam & Wendy Anderson wish all their valued clients & friends a very Happy Christmas Season and Prosperous New Year.

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The Christmas season has many safety hazards. That's why it's important that your family review these important safety tips before beginning your holiday preparations.

## CELEBRATE WITH SAFETY & JOY

### HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

- All light set cords should be fully insulated and carry an approved testing label. Ensure all cords & lights are in good working order before putting them up. If in doubt replace them.
- Don't overload electrical circuits or extension cords.
- Only cords and lights approved for outdoor use should be used in your yard or outside your home.
- Keep lights away from tinsel, paper, draperies and other flammable materials.
- Turn off all lights and extinguish all candles before leaving home or going to bed.
- Before placing tree in stand, cut slice off of butt end. Be sure to water the tree daily. Place tree away from all heat sources, such as fireplace, radiators and candles.
- Dispose of tree when needles start to fall off.
- Keep candles away from children, pets and flammable materials.
- Keep poinsettias and holiday potpourri away from children and pets, as these items may be hazardous if ingested.
- Christmas wrapping and decorations can be highly combustible and should be kept away from all heat sources.
- Discard gift wrap & boxes with the garbage or recycle where appropriate; **do not burn them in the fireplace.**
- Now is a good time to review your home fire safety escape plan with all of the family members.

If you don't own one, purchase a smoke detector and a reliable fire extinguisher and know how to use it. Remember, safety is the most important gift you can give your family and yourself.

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Class of Person	Individual	1 Month Pass	3 Month Pass	Annual Pass
Adult (19 yrs and older)	5.00	55.00	156.00	550.00
Youth (13-18 yrs or valid student card)	4.00	44.00	125.00	440.00
Child (4-12 yrs)	3.00	33.00	94.00	330.00
Tot ( 3 yrs and under)	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Family (max 5 people)	12.00	132.00	375.00	1325.00

Single Admission rates will apply for use of whirlpool or showers only.  
Single admission rates apply to each entry per day.

Indoor Pool - Lesson Fees (including GST, where applicable)		
	Individual	Session (Set of 10)
½ hour Lesson		50.00
¾ hour Lesson		60.00
½ hour Private Lesson	20.00	
½ hour Semi-Private Lesson (2 people)	30.00	

Indoor Pool - Aquatic Fitness		
	Drop-In	1 Month Pass
Participant	7.00	65.00

Indoor Pool - Rental Rates		
Class of Organization	Per hour plus GST	
	Per Lane	Entire Facility
Commercial Organizations		300.00
Non-Profit Organizations		200.00
Youth Aquatic Sport Organizations	12.50	75.00
Adult Aquatic Sport Organizations	25.00	150.00
School Organizations	12.50	75.00
Birthday Party (youth)		150.00

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**The big myth** "If I list with One Percent the other agents won't show my house". **The reality** is other REALTORS® on Salt Spring do show my listings. Overall 70% of One Percent listings are sold by other agents. The first listing sold by One Percent on Salt Spring was sold through another agent working for another brokerage. The buyers see what they want to see. Buyers have access to all the MLS® listings.

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## NEWSBEAT

### SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

# Land swap home unsuitable for Phoenix

School board searches for facility

BY CHRIS STEPHENSON  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Phoenix high school program is without a home next year after School District 64 learned a potential location acquired in a land swap was unsuitable for the school.

District 64 recently swapped a piece of Rainbow Road agriculture land for a parcel next to Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) owned by Richard Murakami.

District superintendent Jeff Hopkins said during the early stages of the deal approximately three years ago, the school board thought the house on the new property would suit the Phoenix program.

"It became an urban legend that the house would be acceptable."

Hopkins said after the swap was finalized, the district assessed the house and found it was not in proper condition for students.

He said GISS decided to use the property for their carpentry class. However, Hopkins is unsure what to do with the house in the future.

Despite the fact the district has no facility for the Phoenix program next year, Phoenix teacher Linda Underwood said she is talking with students, parents and the school board to find a proper location.

The lease on the Jackson Avenue building that now houses the Phoenix program expires at the end of this school year.

Phoenix has 34 students who are cross-enrolled from GISS.

Murakami, who now owns the former district property across from GISS at 229 Rainbow Road, said he has no plans to develop the agricultural land.

### ISLANDS TRUST

# Three Point proposal delayed by questions

Trustees request rezoning details

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island trustees delayed giving first reading to a draft bylaw for the construction of three homes overlooking Fulford Harbour in exchange for 63 acres of community farmland.

"In going through the community plan again, I have come across 11 clauses which do not appear to be addressed by this staff report," Jonathan Yardley told trustees at a Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting last Thursday.

Yardley's concerns focussed on the restricted activities dictated by the Trust's Development Permit Area (DPA) 6 boundaries. According to the island's official community plan, the clearing of larger trees and removal of dirt may be restricted in steep areas with a high risk of landslides and soil erosion.

Yardley said determining which areas on the 203 Musgrave Road property fall under DPA 6 is essential before proceeding with a draft bylaw and subsequent public hearing.

"When we get a redrafted bylaw, I hope we can be very clear on where the DPA 6 applies and whether the proposed new plan, the revised plan, avoids those areas which it has to avoid,"

said trustee Peter Lamb.

Lamb further suggested formal confirmation be obtained from the Farmers' Institute regarding its intention to assume control over the Fulford farmland property, often referred to as the former Hughes farm property.

Mark Wyatt, Three Point Properties' project manager for the Fulford Farms proposal, said the Farmers Institute has submitted written confirmation its members are willing to assume control over the farmland, but said more is needed to finalize a formal agreement.

"This is obviously not only a new process for the Islands Trust, but also for us and the Farmers Institute, so we understand there is some legwork yet to be done," Wyatt said.

Speaking during the meeting's town hall session, south-end resident Harry Warner asked trustees to take into account the land's agricultural potential before making a decision which will impact the Fulford Harbour shoreline.

"The [donated property] is the only area that still has snow on it," Warner said during the meeting's town hall session. "That land is good for nothing except for growing hay."

Staff anticipate a new draft bylaw will be ready for consideration of first reading at January's LTC meeting.

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# NEWS BEAT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**CHRISTMAS KISS:** Moms Molly Murphy and Tiffany Wightman hang out at a craft fair on Salt Spring, while their backpack babies get to know each other a little better.

## LOCAL CURRENCY

# Monetary fund aims to sharpen marketing plan

Salt Spring Dollars ATM now open

BY CHRIS STEPHENSON  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring Dollars ATM is up and running in the visitor info centre for tourists and residents alike to withdraw funds to circulate on the island.

Bob McGinn, one of the directors for the Salt Spring Island Monetary Fund (SSIMF), hopes the ATM will help market the bills to a wider audience.

"The time is right for locals to support us," he said during the IMF annual general meeting last Wednesday.

SSIMF, a non-profit society, started circulating its bills in 2001 to promote local commerce and help fund community projects.

The ATM was installed in early December and dispenses \$20 Salt Spring bills using debit or credit cards.

This is the second time the group has installed an ATM on Salt Spring. Approximately three years ago the foundation placed a cash machine in Thrifty Foods,

but it had limited success. The machine was removed a few months later.

"It was probably ahead of its time," McGinn said.

He's hopeful the new central location will draw on a wider group of people and help get their bills into circulation.

While Salt Spring dollars are accepted in many businesses on the island, marketing is one issue the foundation needs help with, McGinn said.

"We need a good marketing plan."

He said SSIMF hopes to recruit marketing students either from the University of Victoria or Camosun College to help develop a strong plan.

Eric Booth, another SSIMF director, agrees the students could help with the foundation's marketing. He said SSIMF hasn't spent any energy on promoting its website, which accounts for a large portion of their currency sales.

"We've had limited exposure with good success. This could be exciting especially now that we have a new coin," he said during the

meeting.

SSIMF issued a \$50 silver coin in 2006 and has sold 40 per cent of the 199 minted.

The foundation makes a large portion of its revenue by either selling currency to collectors or through tourists who take the money home as souvenirs.

The SSIMF's 2007 financial report states that 145,551 Salt Spring dollars are in the hands of the public, including collectors and tourists.

Foundation revenue is being used to offer micro-loans with low-interest rates to community organizations and organic farmers.

McGinn said the group is working with a farmers' cooperative to help purchase a walk-in cooler to store produce for longer periods, with an overall aim of promoting local food production.

SSIMF has issued bills in one, two, five, 10, 20, 50 and 100-dollar denominations. All Salt Spring Dollars currency features local artists and historical figures.

For more information about SSIMF, contact www.saltspringdollars.com.

## PARKS AND REC

# Toilet facility dubbed 'architect's fantasy'

Commissioners await new loo design

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Commissioners unanimously rejected a proposed plan for the new Centennial Park public washroom facility during their monthly board meeting at Portlock Park last week.

"It looks like it's about to take off for the moon," said Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) chair Rosemary Trump. "It doesn't look like [the architects] tried to fit it in with anything else on the island."

The 905-square-foot structure would be in approximately the same space next to the playground, but is about 400-square-feet larger than the existing building. The facility is estimated to cost \$200,000.

"We are getting one extra toilet for 400 feet of playground space," said commissioner Robert Brewer. "That's an expensive toilet."

Commissioner Peter Lake suggested architects be directed to consider designing a two-storey structure that could be partially closed off in winter.

"I don't know why we are spreading out when we can move up," Lake said.

"This is an architect's fantasy," he added. "We need something far more practical."

Preparation is underway to provide a temporary modular washroom unit for the beginning of the 2008 market season, as it is unlikely the new building will be completed by that time, states a staff report.

"The building itself is deteriorating to the point where it needs to be replaced," he said. A revised proposal is expected by early 2008.

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## Capital Regional District



## NOTICE TO ELECTORS WITHIN THE SALT SPRING ISLAND ELECTORAL AREA OF THE CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

**ELECTOR APPROVAL PROCESS FOR CRD BYLAW NO. 3494 – A Bylaw to Establish a Contribution to a Search and Rescue Service in the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of Directors of the Capital Regional District (“CRD”) proposes to adopt Bylaw No. 3494, “Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue Service Establishment Bylaw, 2007” to establish a service for the purpose of contributing to the overhead costs (rent/lease, telephone, utilities, administrative allocations) for a search and rescue service in the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area.

The taxation impact for the contribution service, per average residential assessment at the \$15,000 requisition, is approximately \$2.40 per annum.

The Salt Spring Island Electoral Area is the participating area for this service.

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the CRD may proceed with Bylaw No. 3494, unless at least **832 electors** within the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of 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. 3494.

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 the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of the CRD.

**The deadline for delivering the original signed elector response forms to the CRD, in relation to Bylaw No. 3494, is 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, the 31st day of January, 2008. Forms must be received by the deadline to be counted.**

**The CRD has estimated that the total number of electors within the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of the CRD is 8,328 and that 10% of that number or 832 electors must submit elector response forms to prevent the CRD from enacting Bylaw No. 3494 without the assent of the electors by referendum.**

Further technical information concerning Bylaw No. 3494, may be obtained from Mr. Travis Whiting, CRD Offices, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6 (Telephone 360-3186) during regular office hours Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) from the date of this notice until the 31st day of January, 2008.

**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 Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of 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 Salt Spring Island Electoral Area of 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 about the elector approval process, please contact CRD Administration Department, P. O. Box 1000, 625 Fisgard Street, 5th Floor, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6, or telephone (toll free) 1-800-663-4425 extension 3129 from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.**

Elector response forms may also be obtained at the CRD Salt Spring Island 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)

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

A copy of Bylaw No. 3494 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 31st day of January, 2008 at the following locations:

- public notice board in the lobby of CRD headquarters @ 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC;
- Building Inspection Office, #206-118 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC and
- on the CRD website:  
for Bylaw 3494: [http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/bylawssubjecttorefer\\_/](http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/bylawssubjecttorefer_/)  
for this Notice: <http://www.crd.bc.ca/about/elections>

Given under my hand at Victoria, B.C. this 7th day of December, 2007.

Carmen Thiel  
Corporate Secretary  
Capital Regional District

## NEWSBEAT

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

# Police set up random holiday road checks

Salt Spring detachment ready for overtime

**BY CHRIS STEPHENSON**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Partygoers who want to get behind the wheel this Christmas season should think twice before taking the risk.

Const. Jason Jewkes of the Salt Spring RCMP detachment says if islanders drink and drive over the holidays, they will get caught.

He said from approximately December 1 to January 7 roadside checks will be set up around Salt Spring.

“We’ll have road blocks from early evening to late evening,” he said.

Jewkes asks islanders to plan ahead this holiday season and find a designated driver if they wish to drink.

Salt Spring RCMP officer Cpl. Kerry Howse said the detachment has an overtime budget in place for the holidays, which means the police will be out in full force for the Christmas season.

Howse said the island’s RCMP hopes to set up two to three road blocks each

night to check vehicles for impaired drivers.

“The checks will be at random locations,” he said.

While there is no formal safe ride service on the island, Kimberly Lineger of Salt Spring Victim Services said drinking and driving is easily preventable if people decide ahead of time when they want to consume alcohol.

“Think about how you want to get home,” she said.

She said many informal ride programs have started at businesses on Salt Spring island to ensure employees and customers get home safely after Christmas parties.

According to Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) statistics, in 2005 there were 121 fatalities and almost 3,400 injuries in approximately 5,300 alcohol-related crashes on B.C. roads.

If vehicle operators are caught drinking and driving over the legal limit of the 0.08 blood-alcohol ratio, the RCMP may charge the driver under the Criminal Code of Canada. If the vehicle operator is convicted, he or she will lose driving privileges for at least a year and have a permanent criminal record.

## NEW TICKET SALES & LOADING CUT-OFF TIMES

Effective Monday, January 7, 2008  
All Minor & Intermediate Terminals

Dear Valued Customer;

In order to allow sufficient time for safe, consistent and clear Shore Closure Procedures, BC Ferries will be implementing new ticket sales and loading cut-off times effective Monday, January 7, 2008 at our minor and intermediate terminals. Similar procedures are already in effect at our major terminals.

This policy will allow for an accurate passenger count prior to departure, allow safe on-time vessel departures resulting in more efficient fuel consumption and show respect to our customers who arrive on time.

The new cut-off times for minor and intermediate routes are as follows:

**VEHICLES**

- 5 Minutes prior to scheduled sailing time at the following terminals: *Little River, Westview, Saltery Bay, Earls Cove and Snug Cove*
- 3 Minutes prior to scheduled sailing time at all other minor terminals

**FOOT PASSENGERS**

- 5 Minutes prior to scheduled sailing time at all minor terminals

All traffic that is ticketed or in line at the pre-ticket area prior to the cut-off time will be loaded if there is deck space available. If the vessel’s arrival is delayed, the cut-off time will be the vessel’s arrival time.

Complete schedule information is available at [www.bcferries.com](http://www.bcferries.com) or by calling 1 888 BCFERRY (888 223 3779) between 7:00 am and 10:00 pm daily.

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## CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Audrey Reynolds plays the piano as Ivy Waltho listens. Reynolds is one of the volunteers who cheers Lady Minto residents.

## Christmas comes home to EC unit

Volunteers bring festivities to Lady Minto residents

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Christmas season is a time to be home with family; but what if your home is a hospital ward? For the patients at Lady Minto's Extended Care Unit, that's precisely the case.

Seniors who can no longer live without medical care or assistance are resident patients of the unit, making holiday celebrations more difficult to accomplish. Fortunately, a caring group of people has made Christmas in the unit a reason to celebrate.

Hospital staff and volunteers from the Lady Minto Auxiliary are very aware of the importance of making the ward welcoming.

The auxiliary, which is funded entirely through the proceeds of Lady Minto Thrift Store, brings in volunteers every day of the year to visit and serve tea, both in the morning and afternoon.

Musical entertainment such as piano playing happens on a weekly basis, and every resident's birthday is remembered with a card and a gift.

Margaret Mackenzie, a long-time auxiliary volunteer and the group's coordinator, explains: "The Extended Care Unit is more like a residence than a hospital, so we try to make it as much

like home as possible."

As Mackenzie points out, nothing makes you feel more at home than a home-cooked meal. The auxiliary therefore works with the Extended Care activities planners to prepare several meals a year in the unit kitchen: a summer barbecue, special breakfasts and, of course, Christmas dinner. This year's celebration takes place on December 21.

"The event starts with a glass of sherry or a glass of wine and an hors d'oeuvre, to get everyone in the spirit," said Mackenzie. "It's very festive, and Valdy brings it all together, of course." The folk legend leads a sing-along performance using the Driftwood carol book at 11 a.m., followed by a visit from Santa, with dinner served at midday. Each resident gets to invite one or two family members, allowing them to have the family occasion that would otherwise be impossible or at least very difficult.

The entire meal is planned, shopped for and prepared by the auxiliary volunteers. Hospital night staff put the turkey in the oven to ensure its midday service, while the veggies and sides are cooked that day.

Santa's duties are performed by Ted Aves. Now in his 80s, Aves has been in care his entire life; it's both a tradition and a treat for him to take his part. As for the musical guest, Mackenzie says

the party has become as important for Valdy as it is for the people he sings for.

Mackenzie recalls that when she first had the idea of getting Valdy in to perform, others scoffed that he'd never be available. However, when she decided to just call him up and ask, "He was delighted.

"And of course, he wouldn't miss it now. Kathleen, his wife, comes with him. It's part of his Christmas now."

Christmas at the Extended Care Unit has become a must for Mackenzie as well. She first began volunteering to give something back to the community, but has found the rewards are much greater than the demands. Accordingly, she has several holiday messages to send.

"I'd like to personally send a special thanks to all the volunteers working in the Extended Care Unit, and a Merry Christmas to the whole community," Mackenzie said, adding: "None of this would be possible without the thrift shop. We thank them very much and the community for supporting them."

However, Mackenzie's Christmas wish is for more volunteers to fill the auxiliary's desperate need for helpers, especially for the daily tea service.

"They will get back much more than they give," she promises.

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537-9971  
www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca

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- \* **Dad 'n' Me:** Saturdays 8:30am-11:00am.
- \* **Parent Child:** Drop-in Wednesday 10am-1pm.
- \* **Food Bank:** Open Tuesday, 11am - 4pm
- \* **The Wall:** Indoor Rock Climbing Gym, Contact jalexander@sscis.ca
- \* **Recycle Depot:** Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 537-1200.
- \* **Seniors Wellness Programs:** Call Sharon Glover at 537-4607.
- \* **Emergency Mental Health Services:** Available 4pm to midnight through Emergency Room at Lady Minto Hospital. Call 538-4840
- \* **24 HR. Crisis Line:** Toll free: 1-866-386-6323. Caller is connected with the Need Crisis Centre in Victoria.

## Dr. Crichton's office is moving!

The clinic is moving to  
111 Corbett Road  
(close to the hospital)

We will therefore be closed  
on Friday, December 28  
in order to get everything in place

We will re-open  
in our new office on  
**MONDAY**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2007**


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Make 2008 a Happy Year  
Rita Dods



# PEOPLE & COMMUNITY

## FUNDRAISING FOR THAILAND

# Local 'runs away with the circus' to bring smiles to refugees

As the annual Christmas Market in the Park opens on Saturday, December 22, one vendor will be fundraising to help children in Thai refugee camps.

Terri-Ann Dunning of Stunning Dunning Designs will donate 100 per cent of the proceeds of her hand-painted floor art sales at the weekend market in Centennial Park to fund the Laughing for Life Circus group's January 2008 trip to entertain children in Thai refugee

camps and orphanages.

Funds are specifically needed to buy art kits for each child — they cost only \$1 each — and a set of circus toys (\$100) for schools and orphanages the group will visit.

"Laughing for Life is a small, silly, smiley circus of inspired international and Thai performers who have come to Thailand to volunteer, teach and perform," explains press material from Dunning. The circus features professional performers

using poi, staff, hula hoop, juggling, fans, trapeze, break dancing, stilts, clowning, drums and art workshops for the kids. Dunning will contribute fantastic fire spinning and lead art workshops. A team of 10 teachers from six countries is participating, with all members volunteering their time and expertise and covering their own expenses.

Despite the uncertain political climate in Burma at the moment, Laughing for Life members were

able to acquire access permits.

The group will be working with schools and non-governmental organizations in the north of Thailand in the Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Mae Sot regions. "This area of Thailand has many refugee camps in need of fun, creativity, play and distraction — as well as many orphanages, hill tribes and programs for street kids who do not have access to such creative events or activities," said Dunning.

People or companies wanting to support a specific project can be acknowledged in media releases and on the group's web page.

"For example, \$500 could cover the cost of the sound system for the month, a very specific and tangible contribution we would much appreciate."

For more information, call Dunning at 538-0971, e-mail her at tadunning@hotmail.com, or drop by the market on Saturday.

# Ganges Village Market News

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## TURKEY FOR DINNER



### CHRISTMAS HOURS

Dec. 24 8am-6pm  
Dec. 25 closed  
Dec. 26 closed  
Dec. 31 8am-6pm  
Jan. 1 closed

FRESH

### Lilydale A Turkeys

Available Dec. 19  
All Sizes

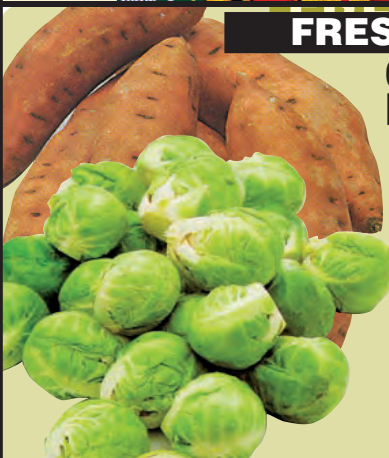
**1.88**  
LB  
4.14Kg

FRESH

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All Sizes

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•Yams  
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5-9Kgs ONLY  
Limit 1 Per Family Order  
Over Limit 1.58Lb 3.48Kg

**1.38**  
LB  
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### Hertels Frozen Pork Sausage

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Each  
500g

### Fresh Lilydale Turkey Breast Roast

White or White & Dark Meat

**5.48**  
LB  
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### Butterball Turkeys

•Regular •Stuffed Frozen 5-7Kg

**2.29**  
LB  
5.05Kg

Be Responsible this Holiday Season

# DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!

## What's for Dinner?

### THE GANGES VILLAGE MARKET

### CRAN-RASPBERRY BALSAMIC GLAZED HAM

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

**Ham:** Traditionally, hams can be either dry-cured or wet-cured. The process of curing pork was elevated to an art form and as time has passed, family recipes became closely guarded secrets handed down from generation to generation, becoming family traditions. Traditional wet curing requires immersing the ham in a brine for an extended period, often followed by light smoking. Smoked hams grace many a table during the holidays & the family tradition is furthered by the way the ham is glazed at home. The vastness of this method & the combinations that can be combined are endless. I hope you enjoy this delightful addition to your recipe collection.

Preheat oven to 325°. Put pan on the lowest rack in the oven. Combine in a small saucepan over low heat, **1/4 cup balsamic cream, 1/4 cup corn syrup 1/4-cup raspberry seedless jam or raspberry syrup, 1/4 cup cranberry sauce, 1/4 cup red wine.** Keep glaze warm while baking ham. Score ham by cutting across the skin lightly forming a diamond pattern, and stud with whole cloves or black pepper. Place ham in foil lined pan. Brush glaze over ham, and baste ham every 10 to 15 minutes with glaze. You will glaze the ham 4 times. Bake for 10 minutes per pound of the ham you use. During the last 4 minutes of baking, turn on the broiler to caramelize the glaze. Remove from oven, and let stand for 2-3 minutes before serving.

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



• This Thursday 1:00pm - 5:30pm  
• This Friday 11:00am - 5:30pm



### Shopping list:

- 1 Ham (Meat Dept.)
- Balsamic cream (Deli Dept.)
- Corn syrup
- Raspberry seedless jam or raspberry syrup
- Cranberry sauce
- Red wine (optional)



## Lotto Centre

OPEN DAILY 8am - 9pm



# PEOPLE & COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

**DECADE OF DEALS:** Staff and customers celebrated the Transitions Thrift Store's 10th anniversary with chocolate cake and homemade cookies on Friday afternoon.

## BOOK REVIEW

# Earth explored as 'sacred home'

Transformation revealed in Bob Wild's new book

*Sacred Journey: Gift of Earth and Spirit*, by Robert C. Wild. Trafford Publishing, 2007. Paper, \$19, available at local book stores.

**BY PAT BARCLAY**

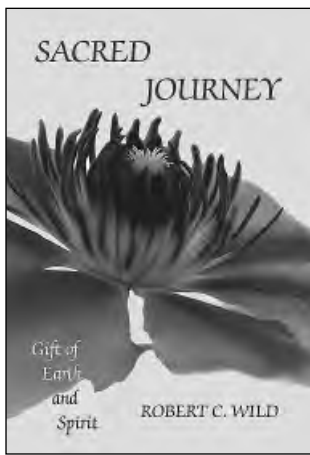
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Bob Wild's new book is a prime example of good things that come in small packages. *Sacred Journey: Gift of Earth and Spirit* is a "slim volume" of 131 pages with a stunning cover photo of a flower that enhances realism, making it a fitting complement to the gift of spiritual encouragement that lies within.

Readers familiar with Wild's earlier book, *Sacred Presence: In Search of the New Story*, will welcome this helpful sequel, but *Sacred Journey* stands comfortably on its own. Stylistically speaking, the author hits his stride with this new book. Philosophical reflection blends easily with personal anecdotes and prayers, while apt quotations and practical instructions create an atmosphere of hope and possibility for the uncertain time of transition in which we live today.

The following excerpt from Wild's preface outlines both the book's purpose and his own credo:

"Traditional religions picture Heaven as our blessed



destiny and Earth as our temporary home. But when we reflect on the new cosmology that is rooted in the discoveries of science, and bring this cosmology into dialogue with our religious inheritance, a new and different story of spiritual meaning and beauty emerges. We learn that Earth is our sacred home. We learn that this home is the gift of the Sacred Presence in whom Earth and all its creatures have an unknown destiny within the Mystery of the unfolding universe. And, for the present, we are content to discover a Sacred Journey given to us so that we may become who we are called to be, by both Earth and Spirit."

However, in our time the accelerating problem of climate change brings a new urgency to the task of spiritual exploration.

"The roots of this threatening calamity are not

environmental — they are spiritual and moral," writes Wild. Living responsibly with Earth and each other has often been beyond our capabilities for the past 6,000 years!

With the pressing need for a fresh start uppermost in Wild's mind, he brings together a multitude of resources for intentional travellers who seek the lost connection between Earth and soul. These include suggestions for daily practice, what to look for in a "soul friend," questions for discussion and a selection of nature poems.

He also adapts some of the great Hebrew psalms to his purpose, explaining: "I cannot exaggerate the debt I owe to them in assisting my spiritual journey."

Wild's own stories in the book are a testament to the truth and power of anecdotal evidence. By including them, he demonstrates that the goal of becoming a "transformed person" is indeed achievable. However, nowhere in *Sacred Journey* does Bob Wild suggest that his own journey is other than a continuing work in progress.

*Sacred Journey* is available in Salt Spring book stores, and let us hope that Bob's readers will decide to follow his example. Because, if we can't get it right on Salt Spring, how much hope is there for anywhere else?

we're online at  
[www.gulfislands.net](http://www.gulfislands.net)

**Driftwood**  
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*For unto us a child is born,  
unto us a son is given:  
and the government shall  
be upon his shoulder:  
and his name shall be  
called Wonderful, Counsellor,  
The mighty God,  
The everlasting Father,  
The Prince of Peace.*

— Isaiah 9:6

## The Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island Christmas Services for 2007

**Sunday, December 23rd**

9:30 am Holy Eucharist at All Saints  
11:30 am Holy Eucharist at St. Mark's  
4:00 pm Nine Lessons and Carols at All Saints

**Monday, December 24th**

4:00 pm Family Eucharist &  
Living Manger Tableaux at All Saints  
7:30 pm Holy Eucharist at St. Mary's

**Tuesday, 25th December**

10:00 am Holy Eucharist at St. Mark's

**Sunday, December 30th**

10:00 am Corporate Eucharist at All Saints

**Sunday, January 6**

10:30 am Festal Eucharist at  
All Saints & Potluck Lunch

*In the event of snow, services will be held at  
All Saints in Ganges. Please call 537-2171 to confirm*

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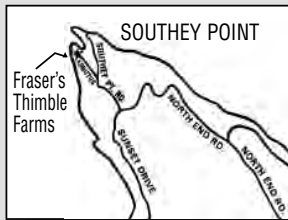
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## PEOPLE & COMMUNITY

# Enjoy ease of 'bad rap' pudding



Linda Koroscil

## LET'S EAT

### Christmas Pudding

Christmas puddings have a bad rap.

But believe it or not, they are one of the easiest holiday desserts to make: just mix everything in one bowl, pour the batter into a pudding mold and then steam the pudding for one and a half hours.

Bob's yer uncle – that's it!

- 1 c. mixed dried fruit (apricots, cranberries, etc.)
- 1 c. sultana raisins
- 1/2 c. currants
- 1/2 c. chopped candied ginger
- 1/2 c. mixed peel
- 1/3 c. chopped nuts
- 185 g. butter
- 3/4 c. brown sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 c. bread crumbs
- 3/4 c. flour
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp. cloves
- 1/3 c. brandy

Mix fruit and nuts together. In a separate bowl, beat butter and sugar.

Add eggs. Stir into fruit and nut mixture, then add bread crumbs and dry ingredients. Add brandy.

You could also add 1/4 c. molasses for flavour.

Pour into greased pudding mold, cover with lid and steam for about one and a half hours.

(Place the steamer in a heavy pot, add boiling water half way up the sides of steamer.)



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**CRAFT CREATION:** Gaye McIvor is spotted knitting a hat at the Fulford Hall Christmas Craft Fair.

### CHRISTMAS SERVICE

## All Saints uses procession in Christmas Eve service

One of several Christian events on island

If you are hoping to go to Bethlehem this Christmas, then the family service at All Saints church on Christmas Eve will take you there.

In a departure from the usual midnight mass, the service will take a form more reminiscent of the ancient medieval church, in which at great festivals the people themselves carried images in grand procession.

"All Saints has for many years enjoyed a unique set of nativity figures, beautifully crafted by Caroline Hamilton and given to the parish by her," notes an All Saints press release. "The figure of Mary holding aloft the baby Jesus wonderfully illustrates the joy of that eternal moment, while all the familiar figures of the nativity glow in the worship of their tiny King. These are the images to be used in

the celebratory procession for the road to Bethlehem along which we shall travel on Christmas Eve."

Within the framework of a simple yet deeply reverent eucharistic liturgy, based on one devised by the Iona Christian community in Scotland, the Christmas story will unfold as a colourful, tactile and visceral experience. Carols and candlelight will all be part of the mystery.

Although the service begins at 4 p.m., everyone is encouraged to come early to enjoy the ambience, the music and the anticipation which are so much a part of the festivities of the season.

For a more traditional service, the Anglican Parish is offering the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at 4 p.m. on December 23 in All Saints, a service on Christmas Eve at St. Mary's using the Book of Alternative Services, and on Christmas morning a service in St. Mark's at 10 a.m. using the Book of Common Praise.

\* In the heart of Fulford Village \*

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**GISS BASKETBALL**

## Senior boys hold their own at tourney

Third place finish "not great, but not bad"

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
STAFF WRITER

The Gulf Islands Secondary School senior boys basketball team finished a week-end tournament in Campbell River with mixed results but plenty of optimism.

The Scorpions opened the tournament with a convincing 78-50 victory over Timberlands, a triple-A team from northern Vancouver Island.

"We all played hard," said player Bob Byron. "It was a good way to start off the tournament."

Despite the great start and a seven-point lead after the first half, the Scorpions failed to beat the heavily favoured host team from Carihi High, dropping the match 62-46.

"Since they're one of the best teams on the island this year, we knew we had to play hard," Byron said. "We lost, but still took a lot out of that game. It kind of shows what we can do."

In the Scorpions' third and final game, a consolation round match to determine the tournament's third and fourth-place teams, the senior boys barely edged out Sooke's Edward Milne Community School by a score of 51-50.

"We lacked intensity in that game," Byron said. "We were lucky to pull it out with a one-point win."

GISS player Martin Lannan was awarded a first-team all-star award after he finished the tournament with nearly 60 points.

Byron made the second-team all-star with a total of 30 points.

Salt Spring basketball fans are reminded of Saturday's alumni celebration at GISS. The December 22 evening features basketball players from today and yesteryear facing off against each other at the high school gymnasium.

The girls game begins at 5 p.m. and boys is at 7 p.m.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**SOCCER SUNDAY:** Salt Spring U15 girls soccer player Christine Villadsen, left, fights for the ball against a Gorge player. The local squad lost the match — played Sunday in a wicked wind that toppled one of the nets — by a score of 4-1.

**SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL**

## Short-staffed Scorpions still chalking up the wins

Eight of nine games played with seven girls on roster

Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) senior girls basketball team continued its winning ways last week, taking a win over Brentwood at home and then nailing three of four games at the Victoria Christmas Tournament.

Competing with only seven players, the girls took down Brentwood last Tuesday in a close, fast-paced match in front of a supportive home team crowd. Final score was 52-46.

Kayla Gromme led the way with 21 points, with Monique Comeau adding 11 and Amanda Hoy eight.

"It was a slow start for GISS with Brentwood jumping out to a 19-6 lead," said coach Tony Mason.

But by half time, GISS had taken the lead 26-23, holding Brentwood to just four points in the second quarter.

In the fourth quarter, tied at 46 with four minutes to go, Danica Lundy "hit a shot to key the comeback," followed by a successful Meredith Raddysh steal. GISS scored the last four points to seal the victory.

"I was happy with the girls' effort," Mason said.

"It wasn't our best game offensively or defensively, but we still managed to get the win. Considering we have played eight of nine games this year with only seven players, I'm very pleased with how the team is performing."

Last Friday and Saturday, the team took fifth place overall in the Victoria Christmas Tournament, competing against 12 teams in the gold division.

The team kick-started the tourney by beating AAA Belmont 72-46. Gromme scored 25 points, Hoy, 17, and Comeau, 3.

In their second match, the girls played a "young but good" AAA Heritage Park team from Vancouver.

"Despite playing good defence most of the game we lost 63-44," Mason said. "We could not buy a basket, despite getting good opportunities."

Due to injuries, he added, the team ran a young line-up for the third game against Sentinal from West Vancouver, bringing up junior players Erica Rimmer and Adriane Harkema, who played "substantial minutes" and contributed to the 48-45 win.

"Our final game was against Rick Hansen [school] from Abbotsford," Mason said, adding the match would be a test for the team.

"Despite being a bit battered and bruised, we never trailed in the game and at one point led by 22. Good shooting got Hansen back in the game, but we prevailed 49-40 for a fifth place overall finish."

The team was scheduled to play at Cedar Secondary School in Nanaimo as the Driftwood went to press Tuesday.



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# SPORTS & RECREATION



PHOTO BY LINDA MATTESON-REYNOLDS

**BRIGHT BOATS:** Salt Spring Sailing Club members went all out decorating their boats for a Friday night "light-up" event at the Douglas Road facility.

## MEN'S SOCCER

# FC Alumni capture island bragging rights

Goodwin extends shutout streak

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring soccer fans were forced to declare their loyalties Sunday morning as FC Alumni faced the Old Boys in the second and last all-island match of the 2007-08 season.

**"Playing alongside a guy whose English is limited to 'hello' was pretty interesting."**

DAVE MCCOLL  
Salt Spring Alumni FC



PHOTO BY DERRICK

Old Boys player Antonio Alonso, right, battles it out with Colin Clark, an FC Alumni player, during an all-island Masters C-division match on Sunday.

give the team a two-goal lead by the half.

The game featured FC Alumni recruit Ivica Budimcic, a former player with the Croatian national team.

While Budimcic didn't score any goals, McColl said he played a very strong and smart game.

"Playing alongside a guy whose English is limited to hello was pretty interesting," McColl added.

Mike Brown and Ken Marr each added a goal in the second half to extinguish any chance of an Old Boys comeback.

Duff Goodwin earned his

second shutout in as many games despite several strong opportunities for the Old Boys' offence.

"When they managed to get the ball out of their own end they did get a couple of chances," McColl said.

The victory improved FC Alumni's record to 10-0-3, while the Old Boys dropped to 4-5-4.

FC Alumni remains five points ahead of second-place Sooke United FC with three regular-season games remaining.

Play for both Alumni FC and the Old Boys resumes on January 20.

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# Arts & Entertainment



## ART SHOWS

# Rainforest group mounts world-class exhibit and auction

Show raises land purchase profile

BY DAWN HAGE  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Islanders have an exciting opportunity to view world-class photographs and artwork and also contribute to an urgent fundraising campaign to help save Salt Spring Island's threatened rainforest.

The Art for the Rainforest Exhibit and Silent Auction takes place in the ArtSpring gallery from December 15-21. All artwork displayed is for sale and each artist has offered to donate from 45 to 100 per cent of the purchase price to the cause.

"Islanders are rallying again to meet a tight fundraising goal to save Creekside rainforest, the last available parcel (19.46 acres) of rare temperate rainforest in a riparian (waterside) area on Salt Spring Island," states press material from the Salt Spring Rainforest Appeal.

"This precious area is also home to one of the rarest of eco-systems on Earth. The goal is to raise a million dollars by the end of the year, with the campaign about a fifth of the way there."

The display features artwork and photography by some of the island's most esteemed artists, a display of artwork by the Grade 4-5 class of Stella Weinert and Marie Mullen at Salt Spring Elementary School and a silent auction. Artwork ranges in price from \$45 to \$2,500 and many of the pieces can be purchased with or without the frame.

The gallery feels immediately open and welcoming with ample room to view the carefully placed works. The perimeter walls primarily display the professional artists' work and the centre dividers provide a perfect backdrop for the children's art.

A long table includes descriptions of the silent auction items and sheets to sign your name and hoped-for contribution.

Starting with Shari Macdonald's trio of trees shot



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Adler Rabson with his River of Peace artwork at the Art for the Rainforest Exhibit and Silent Auction currently running at ArtSpring.

**"Islanders are rallying again to meet a tight fundraising goal to save Creekside rainforest, the last available parcel ... of rare temperate rainforest in a riparian ... area on Salt Spring Island."**

through mist and unusual patterns of light and angles,

all the way to a limited edition Robert Bateman print called Sarah E. with Gulls, the tour is breathtaking.

I loved the Old Maple collage by Theresa Mackey, where she juxtaposed four photos to create one unique and full-of-character tree. The unusual gold-toned Sand Willows, Aspens and Ford Cove by Susan Huber also caught my eye.

Three Sunflowers by Janet Dwyer literally pushes out of the frame — it is so realistic and textured that I couldn't believe it was a photograph.

One of the larger works displayed is Forest Rejuvenation by Steven Friedman. Viewers see a forest of burned trunks and sticks nestled in undergrowth that includes both dead growth and the beginnings of new,

green shoots along the forest floor.

Friedman displays his versatility with Mossy Tree Trunks, capturing multiple shades of green and a black, and white Chesterman's Beach that articulates the sand patterns on the famous Tofino beach.

David Borrowman's photographs are always a treat and he doesn't disappoint with Burgoyne Bay Giant, a striking collage of rusts and greens on a peeling arbutus nestled in the forest.

Birgit Bateman's Late Evening Sky provides a familiar view of Fulford Inn from out in the harbour and she manages to capture that brief moment of reflection of light off the water just before the sun sets completely.

I loved Andrea Collins'

Creekside Canopy 1 and 2, giclee prints on canvas that are absolutely gorgeous.

Orange is the dominant colour in a beautifully displayed collection of larger photographs by Osman Phillips and Shari Macdonald, taken from flower and tree trunk subjects that are viewed so closely that they transform into whatever

your imagination chooses to see.

There are many more wonderful pieces on display and I highly recommend that islanders find the time to come and see the exhibit for themselves.

Articles from the silent auction include an organic lamb feast, Bookart Poetry Chapbooks, a Phyllis Webb broadsheet, a cord of firewood, hair styling, massage, green business cards, a helicopter ride, a Robert Bateman art book, hand-carved wooden candles and many more items too numerous to list.

After visiting the Emily Carr exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Salt Spring Elementary students travelled to Mouat Park where they picked a view to sketch, keeping Carr's use of brushstrokes and colour in mind as they worked.

The resulting paintings are beautifully framed and displayed and add a lovely touch of colour and a youthful interpretation of nature to the show.

The Art for the Rainforest Exhibit and Silent Auction can be viewed daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

More information about the rainforest and other fundraising initiatives is available at the show. The Save Salt Spring Rainforest Appeal is supported by The Land Conservancy of B.C., Salt Spring Island Conservancy, Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society, Friends of Salt Spring Parks and Salt Spring Water Council. Visit the website at [www.savesaltspringrainforest.com](http://www.savesaltspringrainforest.com).

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**WHAT'S ON?  
SEE PAGE B6**

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## LIVE NATIVITY:

From left, Clair, Jo and Molly O'Donnell guide Misty around Centennial Park, promoting the second annual Community Christmas Celebration this Sunday at the Community Gospel Chapel, beginning at 6:30 p.m. One of the highlights includes the acting debut of Misty, a horse who takes the role of a donkey in the live nativity.



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## MUSIC REVIEW

# Perfect Christmas memories made

Invention, musicianship and Hammond B3 organ

BY ANDREA RABINOVITCH  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With chestnuts roasting, bells a-jingling, and CBC recording, We B3 Kings filled the almost full ArtSpring theatre on Sunday afternoon with enough Christmas cheer to last till Old St. Nick squeezes his girth down our chimneys in a few days' time.

Cory Weeds on saxophone, Denzal Sinclair on drums and vocals, Chris Gestrin on Hammond organ and Bill Coon on guitar turned standard and frankly staid Christmas carols into groovy improvised renditions that swung, rocked and always surprised.

A quartet of Vancouver jazz musicians that come together for this Christmas gig only, they recorded an album "A Cellar Live Christmas" in August of 2004 with Cellar Live Records. Cellar Live Records is Weeds' company, as is The Cellar Restaurant and Jazz Club, where We B3 Kings routinely sells out in the holiday season.

There's a good reason why.

They are all fine musicians and their arrangements are so unusual and inventive. Then when solo time arrives, each shows his chops with aplomb.

The most distinctive sound came

from the Hammond organ provided by Gestrin.

A little internet research found an awesome site — [www.hammond-organ.com](http://www.hammond-organ.com) — that explained why that sound was so familiar.

The Hammond organ was patented in 1934, but the B3 model, designed with percussion capabilities, really soared when created in 1955.

Besides my memory of the musician and singer hired to entertain at the revolving restaurant and supper club high atop the Chateau Lacombe in Edmonton — every city had one of these, didn't they? — the sound is associated with both jazz and rock musicians of the '50s and '60s.

Gestrin uses two keyboards with Hammond organ simulators and an original Leslie speaker to recreate the sound. A real Hammond organ weighs around 400 pounds, not exactly an easy touring instrument.

Wittily opening with Jimmy Heath's Gingerbread Man, then sliding into Gordon and Lee's Christmas Dreaming with Sinclair's mellow vocals, and entering the funky groove of a very syncopated Do You Hear What I Hear opened up room for Weeds' tasty-as-shortbread solos and Coon's soulful acoustic guitar renderings.

A very laid back Little Drummer Boy, sung by Sinclair and accompanied by

Gestrin, with Coons providing fill, displayed what the Hammond organ was originally supposed to be: a low-cost pipe organ substitute. Sinclair's vocals made the favourite very personal while the organ offered spiritual support.

Opening the second set, a non-Christmas song, the familiar Bobby Timmins' Moanin, proved just how tight this quartet was.

If you could imagine the Adams Family theme song circa 1964 filtered through Tchaikovsky's Sugar Plum Fairy from the Nutcracker Suite, then the B3 Kings rendition was truly an original and just as creepy.

The concert also contained several chortle-out-loud-funny musical jokes, like Coon's James Bond theme. You can hear Salt Springers enjoying the concert on CBC Radio 2 on Canada Live between 8 and 10 p.m. on December 22.

What Child is This and Greensleeves beautifully melded and opened with a lovely duet with Sinclair on vocals and Coons holding him up with melodic subtlety.

Jingle Bells closed the concert. Mind you, I had to sing the verse under my breath to make sure that it was actually Jingle Bells, as the arrangement was so fresh. Endless invention, serious musicianship and obscure childhood memories: what more could one ask for from a Christmas concert?

## COMMUNITY MUSIC

# Fiddleworks AGM needs billet homes in January

Part of busy year for group

Islanders are being asked to consider hosting a fiddler or two for a special mid-January Fiddleworks Community Development Society event.

The group is holding its annual general meeting, along with a potluck and dance on Saturday, January 12, at Fulford Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend.

"Bring some food to share

and put on your dancing shoes," said Jaime RT of Fiddleworks, with Anne Glover calling the dances and a fabulous fiddle band playing live music.

Because several fiddlers will be attending from out of town, islanders are needed to billet the players for that evening.

Anyone who can provide accommodation is asked to contact Emilyn Stam at 538-7267 or [emilyn.stam@hotmail.com](mailto:emilyn.stam@hotmail.com).

According to its website, Fiddleworks Community Development Society is "a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing people together to share in the joy of music, develop life and leadership skills and build community."

Besides teaching music locally, Fiddleworks' main activities have in the past been an annual week-long fiddle camp in August and a program supporting music education for aboriginal

children in Canada's far north, initiated by Fiddleworks founder Jaime Rokeby-Thomas. Barn dances are also held on Salt Spring throughout the year.

This fall Fiddleworks initiated monthly community jams on the second Friday of each month at the United Church, and the Community Fiddle Orchestra led by Stam.

Fiddleworks welcomes new society members, and donations of instruments or dollars.

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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### ISLAND THEATRE

# New Graffiti talent on board

Salt Spring poised to become theatrical force

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Recent changes at Graffiti Theatre have members excited about the group and the future of theatre on Salt Spring Island.

Since the company began performing live theatre on the island 10 years ago, Amanda Spottiswoode always sought to bring high-calibre performances to the island.

Now, thanks to the hiring of two veterans of the performing arts world, the group's performances stand to finally make the leap from good to great.

"Our goal was always to aspire to the professional as opposed to the community," Spottiswoode said. "Here we go. We now have a whole new energy and suddenly it's huge."

Part of that excitement is due to the arrival of David Baughan as the company's associate director and Libby Mason as artistic director.

Since moving to Salt Spring from England via



Amanda Spottiswoode and David Baughan.

Toronto, Baughan has devoted much of his time to working at theatres in Cheltenham and Nanaimo.

Baughan's acceptance of the post as Graffiti's associate director gives him the chance to work with a very promising cast of characters in his new adopted hometown.

"I believe with the more professional approach that Graffiti now has, the very impressive kids that are coming through the Gulf Islands School of the Performing Arts curriculum, the new theatre season at ArtSpring and the general extraordinary quality of artistic production already established here that we are moving towards Salt Spring Island becoming a major attraction for the theatre arts," Baughan said.



if we consider them to be a problem."

Baughan and Mason have already begun work on Graffiti's 2008 season, which includes a spring presentation of *Born Again*, directed by noted Salt Spring Island-based director Mort Ransen. The play, a tale of Washington D.C.-style political corruption, has uncanny timeliness to current events, Spottiswoode said.

Because the play will consume so many of the group's resources, Spottiswoode said, the group will host a Shakespeare workshop to help aspiring actors learn the ropes.

"The buzz Shakespeare in the park started was really great, but we never really intended to only do theatre outside in the summer time," Spottiswoode said. "It's great but that's not all we want to do."

Baughan and Mason, she said, will not only help increase the range of Graffiti's performances, but also inspire the group to reach new heights.

For more information on Graffiti Theatre's upcoming season, visit [www.graffititheatre.ca](http://www.graffititheatre.ca).

**"We are moving**

**towards Salt Spring**

**Island becoming a**

**major attraction for**

**the theatre arts."**

DAVID BAUGHAN  
 Graffiti Theatre

"I believe it will soon be possible for theatre professionals to both live and work on the island and provide training and mentorship to others from across Canada."

As for the challenges of theatre on the island, Baughan added: "the disadvantages are only there



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## GLASS ART

# All that glitters is at Avanti Studio

From recycled plate glass to fairy queen jewels

The holiday season often brings a burst of colour into the gloomy winter landscape, and there are few places better to enjoy it than at Valla Eiriksson's Avanti Studio. Sparkling creations crafted by Eiriksson and guest artists liven up even the gloomiest day, and have the advantage of being both works of art and fully functional.

A visit to Eiriksson's Vesuvius studio is like stepping into Aladdin's cave. Jewel toned glass beads on sterling silver glitter in pendants, bracelets and necklaces. There is something so pleasing about the rich colours that to see them is like having a visual feast.

Eiriksson has become very advanced in her bead-making through years of practice and studying with a master flame-worker. Simple forms such as round or square lozenge drop earrings, square and diamond shaped pendants are classic yet contemporary in shades of emerald green, toffee orange, cherry red and amethyst.

On the so-good-you-could-eat-them note, glass beads shaped like chocolate truffles are both fun and lovely to look at. A more complicated pendant is made using an Italian technique using silver foil, resulting in rich patterns of iridescent colour.

Eiriksson's pieces contain several elements that make them unique, in addition to the artist's individual style. Her silver findings, in clusters of tiny silver balls, are ordered especially from Bali. She also uses high-grade Swarovski crystal from Austria.

"I like using Italian glass because of the colours,"



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Valla Eiriksson offers a variety of glittering gifts crafted by island artisans at the Avanti Glass Studio in Vesuvius.



Elizabeth Nolan

## ARTBEAT ON THE ROCK

Eiriksson explained, "because there's something quite magical about light and how it interacts with colour, and I've always worked with that."

New work at Avanti includes square dishes made from recycled plate glass, which she shapes and edges with gold or platinum — strong and completely functional, yet original designs. Also new are some fabulous necklaces of glass leaves and crystal beads. One in clear glass looks like it's carved from ice: fit for a fairy queen. Another in smoky blue/grey is equally magical.

Also currently showing at the studio is Hillcroft Designs by Audrey Wight-

man-Sidhick. Eiriksson says these jewellery pieces are "so unusual because she's lived all over the world." Delicate strands of gold-fill wire are twisted with semi-precious gems and crystals. Wightman-Sidhick uses a special technique of crocheting the delicate wire strands, which are then gathered in loops.

Another attractive aspect of Hillcroft Designs is the artist's ethical business practices. For her findings she uses only suppliers that use recycled gold and that belong to the World Workers Cooperative, so no one is exploited to make her jewellery.

Both Wightman-Sidhick and Eiriksson have created items that would make wonderful Christmas presents, and are affordable as well. Many of the Hillcroft Design pieces, which can also be viewed at [www.avantishop.com](http://www.avantishop.com), are on sale for 50 per cent off. Eiriksson's pieces range in style and complexity, but simple items are

amazingly well-priced, such as her single glass leave pendants that go for \$5 each, or \$35 including the sterling silver chain. Her princess rings, featuring bright baubles on sparkly glass bead and wire bands, are just \$15.

Another great gift idea is the jewellery making workshops for six to 12 year olds. For \$15, kids will receive a kit with elastic cord and enough glass beads for three projects, plus instruction. Take-away kits go for \$10. Workshops run on December 15 and again on the 29, so they could be either a place for kids to make gifts or the gift itself. Eiriksson is also teaming up with media artist Cindy Jacobsen to offer Christmas e-cards, which people can create at the studio.

Through the periodic bursts of winter, a visit to Eiriksson's warm and welcoming studio will definitely uplift the spirits. Avanti Glass is open from 11-5 daily at 163 Bayview Road.

## ISLANDS TRUST

# Public relations group gives nod to Trust book

A Place In the Islands has earned another award for the Islands Trust's mantle.

The project designed to provide information and generate awareness of the unique benefits and challenges of living on an island is among three campaigns that have received the first province-wide awards offered by the Canadian Public Relations Society.

The awards are offered by a partnership of the three B.C. chapters of the Canadian Public Relations Society in Vancouver, Victoria (CPRS VI) and Northern Lights in Prince George and

are bestowed on communications professionals who demonstrate the highest ethical and professional standards while performing outstanding work.

"The Vancouver Island award is shared by Laura Stringer, communications specialist for the Islands Trust, and Kathleen Foley, director of education and outreach of the San Juan Preservation Trust in Washington State, who coordinated the project. The public education tool is the result of a cross-border partnership between the two organizations, which share many issues in common."

The publication, which covers topics ranging from water conservation to green building practices, also received an honourable mention award earlier this year in the "best practices" category of the Community Excellence Awards at the Union of B.C. Municipalities convention.

"We have received many positive comments from islanders about A Place in the Islands and to be singled out for a second province-wide award is a wonderful tribute to this initiative," said Kim Benson, chair of Islands Trust Council.

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# What's On This Week

**Wed.**  
Dec 19

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Open Stage With Stephanie Rhodes.** At Shipstones. 8 p.m.  
**Fulford Community School Christmas Concert.** At Fulford Elementary. 7 p.m.  
**SSE Christmas Concert.** At SS Elementary. 7 p.m.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

**Carols for Christmastide.** All Saints. 10:10 a.m.  
**Zen Meditation.** Group meets at 210 Cedar Lane every Wednesday, 7-9 p.m. Info: 537-2831.

**Thurs.**  
Dec 20

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**The Light Returns.** Part ritual/part recital honouring the winter solstice. Lions Hall. 7 p.m.  
**One Night Stand with Matt & Tom.** At Shipstones. 8 p.m.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

**Expressive Drawing.** Thursdays at the Core Inn, 3rd floor. Drop-in. 2-4 p.m. Info: Gillian, 537-5833.  
**Bingo.** At Meaden Hall. 7 p.m. Early bird games at 6:30.

**Fri.**  
Dec 21

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Christmas Dance Party.** With DJ Matt J at Shipstones. 8 p.m.  
**Christmas on Main Street.** Children's musical at Community Gospel Chapel. 6:30 p.m.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

**Fulford Carol Singing.** In the Patterson Market parking lot, with warm refreshments and roasted chestnuts. Led by Valdy. 6:30 p.m.  
**Community Christmas Sing-Along.** With choirs and island musicians. Bring a food bank donation. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.

**Sat.**  
Dec 22

**ACTIVITIES**

**Gift-a-Light.** Lady Minto Hospital tree is lit, with carol singing and hot chocolate. 4:30 p.m.  
**Guided Creekside Rainforest Walks.** See subject of land purchase campaign on guided walks. End of Creekside at 107 Hillview Dr. 10 a.m.  
**Salt Springs Spa Resort.** Open House at 1460 North Beach Road. 3-6 p.m. Info: 537-4111.  
**Sixth Annual Nordic Yule.** Potluck feast, ceremonies & Father Yule visit. Beaver Pt. Hall. 5 p.m. to midnight.

**Sun.**  
Dec 23

**ACTIVITIES**

**Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.** All Saints. 4 p.m.  
**Christmas Open House.** At the Cheese Farm, 285 Reynolds Road. Music by Cantus early music choir. Hot apple cider and Christmas spirit. 1-3 p.m.  
**Community Christmas Celebration.** Living Nativity, Christmas crafts, snacks and more. Community Gospel Chapel. 6:30 p.m.  
**Guided Creekside Rainforest Walks.** See subject of land purchase campaign on guided walks. End of Creekside at 107 Hillview Dr. 1 p.m.

**Mon.**  
Dec 24

**ACTIVITIES**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.** Of Lessons and Carols. SS United Church. 7 p.m.  
**Christmas Eve Mass.** Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, carols at 6:30 p.m., service at 7 p.m. St. Paul's church in Fulford, carols at 10 p.m., service at 11 p.m.  
**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.** At Community Gospel Chapel. 7 p.m.  
**Christmas Eve Service.** At SSI Baptist Church. 3 p.m.  
**Family Eucharist & Living Manger Tableaux.** All Saints. 4 p.m.  
**Holy Eucharist.** St. Mary's Anglican Church. 7:30 p.m.

**Tues.**  
Dec 25

**ACTIVITIES**

**Christmas Day Mass.** Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church. 10 a.m.  
**Holy Eucharist.** St. Mark's Anglican Church. 10 a.m.  
**Gary's Christmas Day Community Dinner.** At Meaden Hall. 12 noon. Info: 537-5812.  
**Show & Tell.** At The Local. Bring your favourite gift. Noon to 6 p.m.

**Wed.**  
Dec 26

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Hey Boy Hey Girl.** Boxing Day Bash at Shipstones. 8 p.m.  
**Boxing Day Party.** Donny Brook & the Haymakers — AKA Matt Steffich, Dave Roland, Doug Rhodes and special guest. Moby's Pub.  
**DJs Cassidy & Virgil.** Spin the tunes at The Local. 7 p.m.



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**The Golden Compass** — Based on author Philip Pullman's novel, 'The Golden Compass' is an exciting fantasy adventure, set in an alternative world where people's souls manifest themselves as animals, talking bears fight wars, and Gyptians and witches co-exist. At the centre of the story is Lyra (played by newcomer Dakota Blue Richards), a 12-year-old girl who starts out trying to rescue a friend who's been kidnapped by a mysterious organization known as the Gobblers — and winds up on an epic quest to save not only her world, but ours as well. The cast includes Nicole Kidman, Daniel Craig, Sam Elliott and Ian McShane.

**CABLE TV**  
• **Attention Shaw Cable TV Channel 11 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. On the evening of Wed., Dec. 19 and during the day on Thurs., Dec. 20, watch a story about the Salt Spring Christmas Bird Count, including interviews with Robert Bateman and Gil Schultz. Also tune in for community messages, weather and news headlines. For further details about community programming, call 537-1335.

**EXHIBITIONS**  
• **Art for the Rainforest.** Exhibit and Silent Auction of world-class art works and more. ArtSpring daily, 10-5, until Fri., Dec. 21. Help purchase the Creekside rainforest property!  
• **Wintercraft** — work by more than 100 artists and guild members runs at Mahon Hall daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Sat., Dec. 22. Daily draw prizes and artist demos.  
• **Christmas Market in the Park** — it's summertime again (sort of!) but with a Christmas theme as vendors set up shop in Centennial Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 22.  
• **Salt Spring Vineyards** hosts a **Christmas craft sale** of island vendors' wares on Sun., Dec. 23 from noon to 5 p.m.  
• **Soul Food & Co.** is holding an art show & sale featuring gourmet breads and baked goods, paintings, photography, jewellery and spirit houses. **705 Beaver Pt. Rd., Sat., Dec. 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
• **"If Wishes Were Horses"** and a **Pony for Christmas.** Paintings by Mira Warrington and photographs by Wendi Gilson are showing at Barb's until the end of the month.  
• **"Party of Four"** — Gerry Scott, Joan Wrigley, Bev Lillyman and Ann Hignell show art in the ArtSpring lobby for the month of December.  
• **Avanti Glass Studio** — open studio and e-Christmas messages with Frog Talk Media. Daily until Mon., Dec. 24. Info: 537-9476.  
• **Salt Spring Coffee Shop** staff member **Christine Russell** is the featured artist for December at the Ro.Co.  
• **New life drawings** by Thomas McPhee are showing at Auntie Pesto's Restaurant.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY ANDREA RABINOVITCH

**IN PROCESS:** Salt Spring dancers get feedback from Danny McCusker, an instructor from Tufts University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, at an Antler Ridge Studio workshop. Part of ArtSpring's Dance Outreach program with Made in B.C. support, dancers will perform the workshoped piece in April 2008.

Happy Holidays Everyone!

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## ISLAND MUSIC SCENE

# Folk club fills for popular acts

Young fiddlers command encore while Todd Butler charms us again

BY MARIT MCBRIDE  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

"Back by popular demand" is an apt summary for the December 10 Salt Spring Folk Club show.

Carolyn Hatch and the Salt Spring Fiddle Troupe, composed of Ryder Bergerud, Robin Bulger, Sean Cunningham, Kaya Hunter, Sonja Kornelsen, Sarah Lundy, Clayton Upex, Emma Woodland, Braden Young, with piano accompaniment provided by Ele Brouard-John, returned to the Folk Club stage to the delight of the assembled Folk Club patrons.

From Scotland's lively Dashing White Sergeant, followed by the lilting Portland Fancy from England, we then embarked on the Road to Boston, which featured both bowing and plucking playing methods.

Makedonsko Devojce was a marvellous, gypsy-like song that reverberated with Europe's magnificent old-world atmosphere. Feet were set to tapping with Dill

Pickle Rag, followed by several creative seasonal offerings, highlighting a quartet from within the troupe. Valdy joined in on his guitar for Irish Washerwoman, where the musicians displayed unusual playing stances, such as over their head, between their knees or two playing each other's fiddles, while intertwined.

Orange Blossom Special was given a playful new twist with bird chirps, turkey in the straw, pig grunts, mule braying and even a funeral dirge. When a standing ovation demanded an encore, the players returned to the stage for an unlikely mix of Bonaparte's Retreat and Jingle Bells. For the most part, the young musicians appeared very serious, perhaps even stunned, as Carolyn remarked, but their obvious concentration did not detract from the talent they displayed.

The capacity crowd at the Fulford Hall was largely due to another repeat performer, Todd Butler. With the Festival Song, Green Steve, Prairie Surfing, Modern Urban Idiot (a play on Gilbert and Sullivan), Old John Deere, Sonic Tomato, A Fine Line and Tapped Out, just to name a few, Butler swept the audi-

ence through the evening with sets of soaring hilarity, punctuated with serious ballads that grounded his performance and exhibited his skills at songwriting and musicianship.

Butler explored many touchy subjects, such as global warming, increasing "green" popularity, Conrad Black, former prime ministers Mulroney and Chretien, elderly Victoria drivers, U.S. President Bush, SUV owners, leaky condos, fast ferries . . . really, the list is too extensive.

Bemoaning that there isn't a category for his style of entertainment at the Juno awards, Butler proved that he is nevertheless a winner. Overcoming the physical discomfort of a cold, and the blow of receiving absolutely no response from one of his jokes (we couldn't hear the punchline), Butler maintained his charm through to the last notes of his encore.

Dressed all in black, a la Leonard Cohen, and displaying a face that greatly resembled Stephen Harper, we can only wonder at the twisted brain that lies within, where auditory input is processed, mangled and churned out as something amusingly unique. A little

bit of Weird Al, a knowledgeable political and social commentator and a gifted singer/songwriter with a flair for comedy — that's Todd Butler.

Another "back by popular demand" evening at the Folk Club takes place on January 28, 2008, with performances from Alan Moberg and Ed Peekeekoot.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## FIDDLE REVIEW

# Fiddle fest decks the hall at Beaver Point

Hatchery kids join the pros

BY GREG MIDDLETON  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

They weren't just fiddling around. Violin students from the Fiddlers Hatchery strutted their stuff at Beaver Point Hall in a well-attended Sunday afternoon concert with some special guests. It was an afternoon of classical, Celtic and Christmas music featuring 24 students from the incredibly cute five and seven-year-old Osha Forman-Clarke and Cyrus Andress to the extremely accomplished

solo performer Sarah Lundy. The big treat of the afternoon was the Haydn Violin Concerto. Sarah Lundy was joined by Carolyn Hatch and professional musicians Jean Knight on violin and Paula Kiffner on cello. "It was just wonderful playing with them," Lundy said afterwards. Knight, on first violin, played in the London Philharmonic and Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and taught on Salt Spring for many years. Kiffner also played in the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and teaches at both the Victoria and

Nanaimo conservatories and plays professionally in the Galiano Ensemble in Victoria. Both are exceptionally accomplished musicians. "I think they did a fantastic job," Kiffner said of the students. Hatch's advanced students, the Salt Spring Fiddle Troupe, are becoming accomplished performers in their own right. They have taken their show on the road twice this year, once to Whistler and once to Bellingham, playing a number of venues in each place, as well as on the B.C. Ferries. They were the opening act at

the December 10 Folk Club concert (which is also reviewed in this issue of the Driftwood). One of the highlights of the afternoon was a Scottish Christmas Duet played by 11-year-old fifth-year student Nevan Young and Hatch, who has a fine arts degree in performance, as well as years of teaching. "It is very lovely the way he plays it," said Hatch. "It is a piece I like very much and he does a very good job." Hatch has played in the Calgary Symphony Orchestra and at least a dozen folk bands over the years. During the concert Hatch said that if she has a student ready to

perform Bach-Gounod's Ave Maria she likes to include it on the program. This year Kaya Hunter worked hard to perfect the piece that people know so well it has to be played very well indeed. "It is a beautiful song and it takes a great deal of skill to play it as beautifully as she did," Hatch said. For the students, getting up there in a group and rocking the house with a half dozen foot-stomping fiddle tunes (where you can get up there and break a few bow hairs) was probably the hit of the evening.

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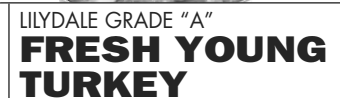




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 <p>ALL VARIETIES</p> <p><b>KRAFT MIRACLE WHIP</b></p> <p><b>2<sup>97</sup></b></p> <p>950 mL Jar</p>	 <p><b>HOLIDAY HOURS</b></p> <p>CHRISTMAS EVE - 8AM - 7PM</p> <p>CHRISTMAS DAY - CLOSED</p> <p>BOXING DAY - 9AM - 7PM</p>	 <p>ISLAND FARMS</p> <p><b>TRADITIONAL EGG NOG</b></p> <p><b>2<sup>97</sup></b></p> <p>2 Litre Ctn.</p>
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 <p>OCEAN SPRAY ★ WHOLE ★ JELLIED</p> <p><b>CRANBERRY SAUCE</b></p> <p>398 mL Tin</p> <p><b>2 FOR 3<sup>00</sup></b></p>	 <p>DARE CRACKERS</p> <p>★ BRETON ★ VINTA</p> <p>★ GRAINS FIRST</p> <p>200 - 250 Gram Box</p> <p><b>2 FOR 4<sup>00</sup></b></p>	 <p>CHILLED ASSORTED VARIETIES</p> <p><b>TROPICANA JUICE</b></p> <p>1 - 1.89 Litre Ctn. + Deposit</p> <p><b>3<sup>98</sup></b></p>
 <p>ASSORTED VARIETIES</p> <p><b>STOVE TOP STUFFING</b></p> <p>120 Gram Box</p> <p><b>98¢</b></p>	 <p>FRESH BAKED</p> <p>★ APPLE PIE</p> <p>★ PUMPKIN PIE</p> <p>8" Size Each</p> <p><b>2 FOR 7<sup>00</sup></b></p>	 <p>SELECTED VARIETIES</p> <p><b>ISLAND FARMS ICE CREAM</b></p> <p>1.89 Litre Tub</p> <p><b>4<sup>98</sup></b></p>
 <p>LAY'S ASSORTED VARIETIES</p> <p>★ POTATO ★ STAX</p> <p><b>CHIPS</b></p> <p><b>3 FOR 5<sup>98</sup></b></p> <p>155 - 250 Grams Each</p>	 <p>★ REGULAR ★ 25% LESS SALT</p> <p><b>HEINZ TOMATO JUICE</b></p> <p><b>2 FOR 3<sup>00</sup></b></p> <p>1.36 Litre Tin + Deposit</p>	 <p>★ SOFT ★ 1/4 SQUARES</p> <p><b>IMPERIAL MARGARINE</b></p> <p><b>2 FOR 5<sup>00</sup></b></p> <p>1.36Kg/3 Lb Pkg.</p>

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

# ArtSpring's carol blitz runs Friday

Food bank donation part of the tradition

Christmas on Salt Spring without ArtSpring's annual community Carol Sing-Along would be as lacking as Santa without his sleigh, the Wise Men without their star, or a pudding without its holly.

So producer Jill Tarswell has lined up a packed evening of musical cheer featuring local singers, musicians and other performers, as well as lots of opportunities for everyone to sing popular Christmas carols.

The sing-along happens at 7 p.m. on Friday, December 21 in the ArtSpring theatre.

Salt Spring fiddler and recording star Jaime RT will perform, as will Barbara Slater and several island choral groups, including The Scrooge Singers led by Sue Newman, the Salt Spring Vocal Quartet, Tuned Air, Indigo and the early music ensemble Cantus.

Trish Corry, a celebrated lyric coloratura soprano who is scheduled to present a full recital concert at ArtSpring in January together with her Salt Spring-resident sister Leslie Corry, will also join the vocal lineup.

A brass quintet from Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) call Brass Age — which was very popular at last year's sing-along — will be back. Also from GISS, drama teacher Jason Donaldson is bringing a group of students to demonstrate improv and give dramatic readings.

Jan Rabson, producer and director of Live Radio Theatre, which is part of ArtSpring's theatre season on January 19 and 29, will also provide spoken-word variety to the evening.

Interspersed with the display of local talent are lots of opportunities for the audience to join in singing all their old Christmas carol favourites.

Hot cider and cookies will follow in the lobby after the evening's performances. The evening is free of charge, but people are asked to bring along non-perishable food items for the food bank.

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Shaw	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	13	14	15	16	18	19	20	21	22	23
ExpressVu	257	120	268	400	255		251	250	254	256	253		290	288	287	291	502	289	552	407
Starchoice	308	702	354	400	358		336	321		389	359		382	380	379	383	390	381	543	419

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19**

5 PM	The Simpsons	Pieds dans la marge (N)	Timothy/ (15) Mama (35) Babar	(4:30) NHL Hockey - Los Angeles vs. Detroit (Live)	CHEK News	Full House	Early News	CTV News	Punjab Times	A Channel News at 5	The Ellen Degeneres Show (N)	Wife & Kids [Part 2 of 2]	Malcolm [Part 2 of 2]	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	Jimmy Neutron	(4:30) Poker After Dark
	Arrested Development	L'Union fait la force (N)				King of the Hill	Global National		Phoenix World News		CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	ABC World News				CBS Evening News	SpongeBob SquarePants	Pratt & Taylor
6	News	Le Téléjournal	Kratts' Creatures		News	The Simpsons Friends	News	News			CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	A Year Without Santa	NBA Basketball - Phoenix vs. Dallas (Live)
			Popular Mechanics								CTI News	Vancouver Report	CityNews International	That '70s Show	Family Guy			KING 5 News		
7	Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer	La Petite Vie	Meerkat Manor	SportsCentre	EI News	According to Jim	Entertainment Tonight	Degrassi [Part 1 of 2]	Hong Kong Express	Bravo!Fact Presents	Wheel of Fortune	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune	Evening Magazine	Rick Steves' Europe	Walt Disney: Once Upon a Time	Entertainment Tonight	Santa Claus Is Coming to Town	
		L'Épicerie	Noël Noël		The Insider	The Simpsons	Ent. Tonight Canada	Etalk (N)	Pure in Heart	Friends	Jeopardy	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Jeopardy	Inside Edition	Wired Science (N)	Oregon Field Guide			
8	Frosty the Snowman	"Shrek" (Animé, '01) Voix de Mike Myers.	Riddles of the Dead (N)	Off the Record	Clash of the Choirs (N)	Home Improvement	Back to You	Duel (N)	Vancouver Nights	Smallville Fierce	Dave Gerry Special	Crowned Momma Needs a New Swimsuit (N)	Back to You	Duel (N)	Clash of the Choirs (N)	Mormon Choir (N)	CBC News: The National	Frosty the Snowman	Prank Patrol Rap Star	
						Home Improvement	'Til Death		Iranian Pop				'Til Death						Frosty Returns	Fries With That?
9	A George Canyon Cmas (N)		Light Energies of Light	Varsity Inc. (N)		The Standard	Deal or No Deal Canada	Criminal Minds 3rd Life (N)	Sabor Latino	"The Twelve Days of Christmas Eve" ★★	"Eve's Christmas" ★★ (Dra, '04) Cheryl Ladd.	Gossip Girl Roman Holiday (N)	Kitchen Nightmares Mixing Bowl	Private Practice			CBC News: The National	Criminal Minds 3rd Life (N)	Futurama	Sportsnet Connected
				ESPN House		Ustat													Pinky Brain Snowball	
10	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	Taking Care of Elvis	X Games	FANatical	Cold Case Static	Journeyman Perfidia (N)	CSI: NY Happily Never After (N)	Hola Que Tal	(Com, '04) Steven Weber.		Seinfeld The Subway	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	A Holiday Celebration at Ford's Theatre (N)	Journeyman Perfidia (N)	Christmas at St. Olaf (N)	Walt Disney: Once Upon a Time	CSI: NY Happily Never After (N)	Naruto	Sportsnet Connected
				Motoring 2008	Be Real							Seinfeld							Shadow Raiders	
11	(05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal	Season Child How Come You Walk Funny?	SportsCentre	News	It's a New Day	News	News	TV Patrol	News	RAW	Frasier	Family Guy	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Mystery Hunters	Sportsnet Connected
																			Prank Patrol Super Dad	
12 MID	(05) Arrested	La zone	Real Country House	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	International Laser Clinic	(05) Ent. Tonight	(05) TMZ	Jai Fiji	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live		South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live		The Hour	With David Letterman	Futurama	Pratt & Taylor	
	(35) Hour 22 Mins	(45) "Le Club de la..."	Great Artists	Hockey	(35) Late, Late Show	PR Maxx	(35) E.T. Canada	(35) The Daily Show	Caribbean Beat	(35) Conan O'Brien		South Park	M*A*S*H The Party	(35) Conan O'Brien	Masterpiece Theatre		(35) Late, Late Show	Malcolm in the Middle		

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 20**

5 PM	The Simpsons	Match!	Timothy/ (10) Mama (35) Babar	NFL Football - Pittsburgh vs. St. Louis (Live)	CHEK News	Full House	Early News	CTV News	Punjab Times	A Channel News at 5	The Ellen Degeneres Show	My Wife and Kids	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	Danny Phantom	(4:30) Poker After Dark
	Arrested Development	L'Union fait la force (N)				King of the Hill	Global National		Phoenix World News		CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	ABC World News				CBS Evening News	SpongeBob SquarePants	Pratt & Taylor
6	News	Le Téléjournal	Mentors Humbug		News	The Simpsons Friends	News	News			CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Fairy Odd Parents	Sportsnet Connected
			Reach for the Top								CTI News	Vancouver Report	CityNews International	That '70s Show	Family Guy			KING 5 News	Donner	
7	Coronation Street	Martin sur la route L'appel de l'original	Profiles of Nature Specials (N)		EI News	According to Jim	Entertainment Tonight	Degrassi: Next Gen.	Hong Kong Express	Bravo!Fact Presents	Wheel of Fortune	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune	Evening Magazine	Rick Steves' Europe	Christmas Confidential	Entertainment Tonight	Charlie Brown	Pool World Championships
					The Insider	The Simpsons	Ent. Tonight Canada	Etalk (N)	Pure in Heart	Friends	Jeopardy	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Jeopardy	Inside Edition	Ask This Old House		The Insider	Garfield	
8	"Miracle on 34th Street" ★★ (Dra, '94) Lord	Tous pour un	A History of Britain The Two Winston (N)	SportsCentre	Clash of the Choirs (N)	Home Improvement	"Recipe for a Perfect Christmas" ★★ (Com, '05) Christine Baranski.	Duel (N)	What's in Vancouver?	30 Rock	Biography Reese Witherspoon	Smallville Fierce	Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader? (N)	Duel (N)	Clash of the Choirs (N)	Walking the Bible	CBC News: The National	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Living Doll	Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer	
						Home Improvement														
9	Richard Attenborough	Bons baisers de France	Poking to Paris [Part 2 of 4]	Varsity Inc. (N)	"Christmas Caper" (Com, '07) Shannen Doherty.	The Standard	Messages	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Dead Doll	Teri Meri Duniya	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Supernatural Bad Day at Black Rock	Supernatural Bad Day at Black Rock	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Grey's Anatomy Let the Truth Sing	My Name Is Earl	Nova Missing in MIG Alley (N)	CBC News: The National	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Dead Doll	Futurama	Best Damn Sports Show Period
				ESPN House															Pinky & the Brain	
10	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	Heaven on Earth Wild at Heart	Boxing The Contender - Gomez vs. Tackie	Cold Case The Key	Deal or No Deal Canada	Without a Trace Desert Springs	Mor Deo Koi	Barenaked for the Holidays	Across the River Walk Like a Man	Seinfeld	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	Private Practice	The Office Fun Run	America at a Crossroads Campus Battleground	Christmas Confidential	Without a Trace Desert Springs	Naruto	Sportsnet Connected	
											Seinfeld The Susie							S. Raiders [Part 1 of 2]		
11	(05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal	Canvas of Conflict	SportsCentre	News	It's a New Day	News	News	TV Patrol	News	Realty Television	Frasier	Family Guy	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Mystery Hunters	Sportsnet Connected
																			Prank Patrol	
12 MID	(05) Arrested	(15) "La légende du pianiste sur l'océan" ★★	Life Isn't All Ha Ha Hee Hee	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Saved by the Bell	(05) Ent. Tonight	(05) TMZ	Punjabi Vibes	Desi Rhythms	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live		The Hour	With David Letterman	Futurama	Pratt & Taylor	
	(35) Can. Reflections			Motoring 2008	(35) Late, Late Show	PR Maxx	(35) E.T. Canada	(35) The Daily Show	Desi Rhythms	(35) Conan O'Brien		South Park	M*A*S*H	(35) Conan O'Brien	Smart Travels Paris		(35) Late, Late Show	Malcolm in the Middle		

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 21**

5 PM	The Simpsons	Match! La vie après	Timothy/ (10) Mama (35) Babar	(4:30) NHL Hockey - Philadelphia vs. Buffalo (Live)	CHEK News	Full House	Early News	CTV News	Punjab Times	A Channel News at 5	The Ellen Degeneres Show (N)	My Wife and Kids	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	"All I Want for Christmas" ★★ (Com, '91) Jamey Sheridan.	(4:30) Poker After Dark
	Arrested Development	L'Union fait la force (N)				King of the Hill	Global National		Phoenix World News		CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	ABC World News				CBS Evening News		Pratt & Taylor
6	News	Le Téléjournal	Canada en amour		News	The Simpsons Friends	News	News			CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News		Sportsnet Connected
											CTI News	Vancouver Report	CityNews International	That '70s Show	Family Guy			KING 5 News		
7	Coronation Street	Martin sur la route L'oe des neiges	The Canadian Brass	NHL Hockey - Dallas vs. Calgary (Live)	EI News	According to Jim	Entertainment Tonight	Degrassi [Part 1 of 2]	Hong Kong Express	Bravo!Fact Presents	Wheel of Fortune	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune	Evening Magazine	Rick Steves' Europe	the fifth estate	Entertainment Tonight	Rocko's Modern Life	The Page
					The Insider	The Simpsons	Ent. Tonight Canada	Giller Prize Profile	Pure in Heart	Friends	Jeopardy	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Jeopardy	Inside Edition	KCTS Connects		The Insider	Pinky & the Brain	CMI: Chris Meyers
8	"The Santa Clause 2" ★★ (Fam, '02) Tim Allen.	Simplement... Mario Jean	A Child's Christmas in Wales		The Singing Bee	3D Dialogue	Island Vets	Duel (N)	Weekly News Forum	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Biography Martin Short	Friday Night Smackdown (N)	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Duel (N)	The Singing Bee	NOW	CBC News: The National	A Home for the Holidays (N)	Ren & Stimpy Invader Zim	The Ultimate Fighter 5
					The Singing Bee										The Singing Bee	Washington Week				
9	Richard Attenborough	Bons baisers de France	Christmas in Vienna	SportsCentre	Murder Club Grannies, Guns and Love Mints	The Standard	Largo Winch Love Hurts	Moonlight No Such Things as Vampires	Hwang Jin Yi	Next Great Am. Band 3 Cut to Winner (SF) (N)	"Alien vs. Predator" ★ (Hor, '04) Sanaa Lathan.	Next Great Am. Band 3 Cut to Winner (SF) (N)	Murder Club Grannies, Guns and Love Mints	Dateline NBC	Bill Moyers' Journal	CBC News: The National	Moonlight No Such Things as Vampires	Futurama	Best Damn Sports Show Period	
																		Gundam S Destiny		
10	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes	Boxing The Contender	20/20	Cold Case Fireflies	Deal or No Deal Canada	The Sopranos (SP)	Open Concert	Thank God You're Here	Seinfeld The Fix-Up	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	20/20			the fifth estate	Numb3rs Longshot	Death Note	Sportsnet Connected	
											Seinfeld The Pothole							Bleach		
11	(05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal	Wild Goose Chase	SportsCentre	News	It's a New Day	News	(10) News	TV Patrol	News	Pink Planet III Key West	Frasier	Family Guy Viewer Mail 1	News	News		CBC News: The National	News	Eureka Seven	Sportsnet Connected
								(40) CTV News	CTI News	(35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	CityNews International	Frasier	King of the Hill	(35) News Nightline	(35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno			(35) The Late Show	Storm Hawks	
12 MID	(05) Arrested	(15) "Les visiteurs" ★★ (Com, '92)	National Geographic	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Saved by the Bell	(05) ECW Wrestling	(15) CSI: Miami Bloodline	Vancouver Masala	Music Bank	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live		The Hour	With David Letterman	Futurama	Pratt & Taylor	
	(35) Kenny vs. Spenny			Hockey World Junior A Chall.	(35) Late, Late Show	Kingstar						South Park	M*A*S*H (P)	(35) Conan O'Brien	Tavis Smiley	(35) Late, Late Show	Invader Zim			

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ExpressVu	257	120	268	400	255		251	250	254	256	253		290	288	287	291	502	289	552	407
Starchoice	308	702	354	400	358		336	321		389	359		382	380	379	383	390	381	543	419

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 22**

5 PM	(4:00) NHL Hockey - Toronto vs. Florida (Live)	La magie continue (P) (N)	Miss BG/(-15) Dive, Oly Christmas Orange	NFL Football - Dallas vs. Carolina (Live)	CHEK News	Home Improvement	Family Guy Death is a...	First Story	(4:30) Swiat Polskiej	Star Trek: Voyager Threshold	Electric Playground Reviews on the Run	Star Trek Tomorrow Is Yesterday	Raymond Crazy Chin	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Christmas at the Hollywood Palace	Antiques Roadshow Compilation	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer ..."	(4:00) EPL Soccer - Teams TBA	
		Le Téléjournal	Meerkat Manor	News	News	Eagle Com Time Sale	Global National	First Story	Xin Tan Ren	Bravo!Fact Presents	Speaker's Corner	That '70s Show	Friends	ABC World News	NBC Nightly News	The Lawrence Welk Show Christmas	Saturday Report	News	"Call Me Claus" ★★ (Com, '01) Whoopi Goldberg.	FSN Pro Football Preview	
6 PM		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News				KCTV This Week	Inside Edition	Fashion Television	That '70s Show	Friends	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Mansbridge One on One	Gamer Revolution [Part 2 of 2]	Entertainment This Week			
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News					Inside Edition	Fashion Television	That '70s Show	Friends	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Mansbridge One on One	Gamer Revolution [Part 2 of 2]	Entertainment This Week			
7 PM	NHL Hockey - Vancouver vs. Phoenix (Live)	La Petite Vie Blind date	National Geographic Raising the Hunley	Final 24 (N)	Diya	Santa Claus Parade	W-FIVE Presents	Entrepreneurial Leader	The New Canoe	Making It	CSI: Miami Just Murdered	2 1/2 Men Anteaters	Wheel of Fortune	NW Backroads	Rosemary and Thyme Memory of Water	Gamer Revolution [Part 2 of 2]	Entertainment This Week				
		Le Téléjournal	"Nez Rouge" (Rom, '03) Patrick Huard.	Heartbeat Give Peace a Chance (N)	SportsCentre	Tales From the Neverending Story (N) [Part 1 of 2]	Islam in Focus	Andromeda The Dark Backward	"Luna: Spirit of the Whale" (Dra, '07) Adam Beach.	Phoenix Gathering Satrang	Kool Countdown	Battlestar Galactica Exodus	The King of Queens	Cops	"Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events" ★★ (Adv, '04) Jim Carrey.	"Moll Flanders" ★★ (Dra, '96) Robin Wright Penn.	Antiques Roadshow	Let's All Hate Toronto	"EIP" ★★ (Com, '03) Will Ferrell.	"Crazy for Christmas" ★★ (Dra, '05) Andrea Roth.	Ultimate Fighter
8 PM		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
9 PM		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
10 PM	Hockey: After Hours (Live)	Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
11 PM	Hockey Night in Canada: Replay	Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
12 MID		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 23**

5 PM	The Muppet Christmas Carol" ★★ (Mus, '92) Michael Caine.	Oniva	(4:30) The Bear (3:55) George Shrinks	(15) NFL Football - Washington vs. Minnesota (Live)	CHEK News	Home Improvement	Family Guy	W-FIVE Presents	Spazio Libero	Star Trek: Voyager Meld	Electric Playground Reviews on the Run	Girlfriends	American Idol Rewind	KOMO 4 News	(15) NFL Football - Washington vs. Minnesota	(4:00) Nutcracker	The Fallen Soldiers	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Blizzard" ★★ (Fam, '03)	NHL Hockey - Vancouver vs. Colorado (Live)	
		Chant'Ouest	(3:55) George Shrinks	(15) NFL Football - Washington vs. Minnesota (Live)	CHEK News	Home Improvement	Family Guy	W-FIVE Presents	Spazio Libero	Star Trek: Voyager Meld	Electric Playground Reviews on the Run	Girlfriends	American Idol Rewind	KOMO 4 News	(15) NFL Football - Washington vs. Minnesota	(4:00) Nutcracker	The Fallen Soldiers	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Blizzard" ★★ (Fam, '03)	NHL Hockey - Vancouver vs. Colorado (Live)	
6 PM		Chant'Ouest	(3:55) George Shrinks	(15) NFL Football - Washington vs. Minnesota (Live)	CHEK News	Home Improvement	Family Guy	W-FIVE Presents	Spazio Libero	Star Trek: Voyager Meld	Electric Playground Reviews on the Run	Girlfriends	American Idol Rewind	KOMO 4 News	(15) NFL Football - Washington vs. Minnesota	(4:00) Nutcracker	The Fallen Soldiers	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Blizzard" ★★ (Fam, '03)	NHL Hockey - Vancouver vs. Colorado (Live)	
		Chant'Ouest	(3:55) George Shrinks	(15) NFL Football - Washington vs. Minnesota (Live)	CHEK News	Home Improvement	Family Guy	W-FIVE Presents	Spazio Libero	Star Trek: Voyager Meld	Electric Playground Reviews on the Run	Girlfriends	American Idol Rewind	KOMO 4 News	(15) NFL Football - Washington vs. Minnesota	(4:00) Nutcracker	The Fallen Soldiers	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Blizzard" ★★ (Fam, '03)	NHL Hockey - Vancouver vs. Colorado (Live)	
7 PM	How the Grinch Stole Christmas	Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
8 PM	"National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" ★★ (Com, '89) Chevy Chase.	"Trouver Nemo" (Animé, '03)	Inspector Morse Daughter of Cain	SportsCentre	Zoe Busiek: Wild Card	Ground Level Arie Lavy	(Act, '04) Tobey Maguire.	The Amazing Race Now, This Is Forever (N)	"Christmas Rush" ★ (Dra, '02) Dean Cain.	Everybody Hates Chris	The Story of Santa Claus	(Act, '04) Tobey Maguire.	Duel (F) (N)	"The Santa Clause 2" ★★ (Fam, '02) Tim Allen.	Dateline NBC The Last Days of a Secret Agent	Masterpiece Theatre Prime Suspect: The Final Act [Part 2 of 2]	Princess Diana: Her Life in Jewels	The Amazing Race Now, This Is Forever (N)	Charlie Brown	Ultimate Fighter	
		"Trouver Nemo" (Animé, '03)	Inspector Morse Daughter of Cain	SportsCentre	Zoe Busiek: Wild Card	Ground Level Arie Lavy	(Act, '04) Tobey Maguire.	The Amazing Race Now, This Is Forever (N)	"Christmas Rush" ★ (Dra, '02) Dean Cain.	Everybody Hates Chris	The Story of Santa Claus	(Act, '04) Tobey Maguire.	Duel (F) (N)	"The Santa Clause 2" ★★ (Fam, '02) Tim Allen.	Dateline NBC The Last Days of a Secret Agent	Masterpiece Theatre Prime Suspect: The Final Act [Part 2 of 2]	Princess Diana: Her Life in Jewels	The Amazing Race Now, This Is Forever (N)	Charlie Brown	Ultimate Fighter	
9 PM		"Trouver Nemo" (Animé, '03)	Inspector Morse Daughter of Cain	SportsCentre	Zoe Busiek: Wild Card	Ground Level Arie Lavy	(Act, '04) Tobey Maguire.	The Amazing Race Now, This Is Forever (N)	"Christmas Rush" ★ (Dra, '02) Dean Cain.	Everybody Hates Chris	The Story of Santa Claus	(Act, '04) Tobey Maguire.	Duel (F) (N)	"The Santa Clause 2" ★★ (Fam, '02) Tim Allen.	Dateline NBC The Last Days of a Secret Agent	Masterpiece Theatre Prime Suspect: The Final Act [Part 2 of 2]	Princess Diana: Her Life in Jewels	The Amazing Race Now, This Is Forever (N)	Charlie Brown	Ultimate Fighter	
		"Trouver Nemo" (Animé, '03)	Inspector Morse Daughter of Cain	SportsCentre	Zoe Busiek: Wild Card	Ground Level Arie Lavy	(Act, '04) Tobey Maguire.	The Amazing Race Now, This Is Forever (N)	"Christmas Rush" ★ (Dra, '02) Dean Cain.	Everybody Hates Chris	The Story of Santa Claus	(Act, '04) Tobey Maguire.	Duel (F) (N)	"The Santa Clause 2" ★★ (Fam, '02) Tim Allen.	Dateline NBC The Last Days of a Secret Agent	Masterpiece Theatre Prime Suspect: The Final Act [Part 2 of 2]	Princess Diana: Her Life in Jewels	The Amazing Race Now, This Is Forever (N)	Charlie Brown	Ultimate Fighter	
10 PM	CBC News: Sunday Night	Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
11 PM	CBC News: Vancouver	Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
12 MID	A Gospel Christmas	Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																

**MONDAY DECEMBER 24**

5 PM	(4:00) "Jingle All the Way" ★★	Kif-kif	Timothy/School (10) Mama	NFL Football - Denver vs. San Diego (Live)	CHEK News	Full House	Early News	W-FIVE Presents	Punjab Times	A-Channel News	The Ellen Degeneres Show	Wife & Kids (Part 1 of 2)	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer ..."	(4:30) Poker After Dark	
		Kif-kif	Timothy/School (10) Mama	NFL Football - Denver vs. San Diego (Live)	CHEK News	Full House	Early News	W-FIVE Presents	Punjab Times	A-Channel News	The Ellen Degeneres Show	Wife & Kids (Part 1 of 2)	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer ..."	(4:30) Poker After Dark	
6 PM		Kif-kif	Timothy/School (10) Mama	NFL Football - Denver vs. San Diego (Live)	CHEK News	Full House	Early News	W-FIVE Presents	Punjab Times	A-Channel News	The Ellen Degeneres Show	Wife & Kids (Part 1 of 2)	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer ..."	(4:30) Poker After Dark	
		Kif-kif	Timothy/School (10) Mama	NFL Football - Denver vs. San Diego (Live)	CHEK News	Full House	Early News	W-FIVE Presents	Punjab Times	A-Channel News	The Ellen Degeneres Show	Wife & Kids (Part 1 of 2)	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer ..."	(4:30) Poker After Dark	
7 PM	"It's a Wonderful Life" ★★ (Dra, '46) James Stewart.	La Petite Vie	Christmas Glory From Wales	SportsCentre	"Now & Forever" ★ (Dra, '01) Mia Kirshner.	Living Truth	"Road to Christmas" ★ (Com, '06) Jennifer Grey.	"Spirit Bear: The Simon Jackson Story" ★★ (Doc/Dra, '05) Mark Rendall.	I Luv New York	Magpakailanman	Monk	Dave Gerry Gets Away	Seinfeld The Keys	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	"It's a Wonderful Life" ★★ (Dra, '46) James Stewart.	Antiques Roadshow Savannah	CBC News: The National	How I Met Your Mother	Malcolm in the Middle	Ultimate Fighter	
		La Petite Vie	Christmas Glory From Wales	SportsCentre	"Now & Forever" ★ (Dra, '01) Mia Kirshner.	Living Truth	"Road to Christmas" ★ (Com, '06) Jennifer Grey.	"Spirit Bear: The Simon Jackson Story" ★★ (Doc/Dra, '05) Mark Rendall.	I Luv New York	Magpakailanman	Monk	Dave Gerry Gets Away	Seinfeld The Keys	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	"It's a Wonderful Life" ★★ (Dra, '46) James Stewart.	Antiques Roadshow Savannah	CBC News: The National	How I Met Your Mother	Malcolm in the Middle	Ultimate Fighter	
8 PM		La Petite Vie	Christmas Glory From Wales	SportsCentre	"Now & Forever" ★ (Dra, '01) Mia Kirshner.	Living Truth	"Road to Christmas" ★ (Com, '06) Jennifer Grey.	"Spirit Bear: The Simon Jackson Story" ★★ (Doc/Dra, '05) Mark Rendall.	I Luv New York	Magpakailanman	Monk	Dave Gerry Gets Away	Seinfeld The Keys	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	"It's a Wonderful Life" ★★ (Dra, '46) James Stewart.	Antiques Roadshow Savannah	CBC News: The National	How I Met Your Mother	Malcolm in the Middle	Ultimate Fighter	
		La Petite Vie	Christmas Glory From Wales	SportsCentre	"Now & Forever" ★ (Dra, '01) Mia Kirshner.	Living Truth	"Road to Christmas" ★ (Com, '06) Jennifer Grey.	"Spirit Bear: The Simon Jackson Story" ★★ (Doc/Dra, '05) Mark Rendall.	I Luv New York	Magpakailanman	Monk	Dave Gerry Gets Away	Seinfeld The Keys	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	"It's a Wonderful Life" ★★ (Dra, '46) James Stewart.	Antiques Roadshow Savannah	CBC News: The National	How I Met Your Mother	Malcolm in the Middle	Ultimate Fighter	
9 PM		La Petite Vie	Christmas Glory From Wales	SportsCentre	"Now & Forever" ★ (Dra, '01) Mia Kirshner.	Living Truth	"Road to Christmas" ★ (Com, '06) Jennifer Grey.	"Spirit Bear: The Simon Jackson Story" ★★ (Doc/Dra, '05) Mark Rendall.	I Luv New York	Magpakailanman	Monk	Dave Gerry Gets Away	Seinfeld The Keys	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	"It's a Wonderful Life" ★★ (Dra, '46) James Stewart.	Antiques Roadshow Savannah	CBC News: The National	How I Met Your Mother	Malcolm in the Middle	Ultimate Fighter	
		La Petite Vie	Christmas Glory From Wales	SportsCentre	"Now & Forever" ★ (Dra, '01) Mia Kirshner.	Living Truth	"Road to Christmas" ★ (Com, '06) Jennifer Grey.	"Spirit Bear: The Simon Jackson Story" ★★ (Doc/Dra, '05) Mark Rendall.	I Luv New York	Magpakailanman	Monk	Dave Gerry Gets Away	Seinfeld The Keys	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	"It's a Wonderful Life" ★★ (Dra, '46) James Stewart.	Antiques Roadshow Savannah	CBC News: The National	How I Met Your Mother	Malcolm in the Middle	Ultimate Fighter	
10 PM	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
		Le Téléjournal	Wild at Heart	What Happened?	News																
11 PM	The Hour Holiday Music Special	Le Messe de la nuit	Why Democracy?	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Celebrate Christmas	(05) Ent. Tonight	"A Christmas Carol" ★★ (Fant, '51)	Kurd TV	Wiadososci	"Chasing Christmas" ★★ (Com, '05) Tom Arnold.	South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(05) News Nightline	(05) NW Backroads	Christmas at Belmont	CBC News: The National	(35) Marble Church C'mas (N)	Bob and Margaret	Plays of the Year
		Le Messe de la nuit	Why Democracy?	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Celebrate Christmas	(05) Ent. Tonight	"A Christmas Carol" ★★ (Fant, '51)	Kurd TV	Wiadososci	"Chasing Christmas" ★★ (Com, '05) Tom Arnold.	South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(05) News Nightline	(05) NW Backroads	Christmas at Belmont	CBC News: The National	(35) Marble Church C'mas (N)	Bob and Margaret	Plays of the Year
12 MID	"Scrooge" ★★ (Dra, '51) Alastair Sim.	"Monsieur Destin"	Why Democracy?	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Celebrate Christmas	(05) Ent. Tonight	"A Christmas Carol" ★★ (Fant, '51)	Kurd TV	Wiadososci	"Chasing Christmas" ★★ (Com, '05) Tom Arnold.	South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(05) News Nightline	(05) NW Backroads	Christmas at Belmont	CBC News: The National	(35) Marble Church C'mas (N)	Bob and Margaret	Plays of the Year
		"Monsieur Destin"	Why Democracy?	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Celebrate Christmas	(05) Ent. Tonight	"A Christmas Carol" ★★ (Fant, '51)	Kurd TV	Wiadososci	"Chasing Christmas" ★★ (Com, '05) Tom Arnold.	South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(05) News Nightline	(05) NW Backroads	Christmas at Belmont	CBC News: The National	(35) Marble Church C'mas (N)	Bob and Margaret	Plays of the Year

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 25**

5 PM	(4:00) "Miracle on 34th Street" ★★	Kif-kif	Timothy/School (10) Mama	Poker 2007 World Series	The Island Farm Santa's Light Parade	Full House Spellbound	King of the Hill	Global National	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	
		Kif-kif	Timothy/School (10) Mama	Poker 2007 World Series	The Island Farm Santa's Light Parade	Full House Spellbound	King of the Hill	Global National	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
6 PM		Kif-kif	Timothy/School (10) Mama	Poker 2007 World Series	The Island Farm Santa's Light Parade	Full House Spellbound	King of the Hill	Global National	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
		Kif-kif	Timothy/School (10) Mama	Poker 2007 World Series	The Island Farm Santa's Light Parade	Full House Spellbound	King of the Hill	Global National	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
7 PM	An Audience With Coronation Street	La Petite Vie	princesse 2 : les fiançailles royales" ★★ (Com, '04) Anne Hathaway.	World Christmas	Boxing The Contender	Be Real	Joyful Expectations	Falcon Beach	Schauplatz Europa	Inside Edition	In Fashion	Frasier	Family Guy	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	
		La Petite Vie	princesse 2 : les fiançailles royales" ★★ (Com, '04) Anne Hathaway.	World Christmas	Boxing The Contender	Be Real	Joyful Expectations	Falcon Beach	Schauplatz Europa	Inside Edition	In Fashion	Frasier	Family Guy	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	
8 PM	"Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl" ★★ (Adv, '03) Johnny Depp.	Le Téléjournal	"Tout le monde dit I love you" ★★ (Com, '96) Drew Barrymore.	Bach's Christmas Oratorio [Part 2 of 2]	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Celebrate Christmas	(05) Ent. Tonight	TMZ													

# CHRISTMAS STORIES



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**SEASONAL SINGING:** Fernwood Elementary School choir members perform at a Christmas concert. Fulford and Salt Spring Elementary schools hold their events tonight.

## STORY CONTEST

# Dragons, trolls, good and evil form Christmas story plots

Young writers' creativity comes through again

The Driftwood's annual Christmas Story Writing contest proved once again that the Gulf Islands can boast a Santa sack full of literary enthusiasm among its young people.

A total of 148 stories were received from children aged four through 12 this year and categories were drafted depending on the number of entries collected from writers of each age.

Of note this year is that five pairs of siblings appear in the winners and honourable mention list.

As always, the Driftwood's trusty troupe of retired teachers and literature aficionados, coordinated by the inimitable Alex Mitchell, handled judging duties.

Winners and writers of stories receiving an honourable mention from judges are as follows:

Age 4-6: First place, Josephine O'Donnell; second

place, Alistair Hayne; honourable mention, Sophie Gold and Liam McGuire.

Age 7: First place, Joely Welsh; second place, Jimmy Steel; honourable mention, JJ Pomeroy and Aidan Sutherland.

Age 8: First place, Zoe Cullen-Lahay; second place, Lyyli Kennedy; honourable mention, Hannah Grant, Oliver Roveda, Genevieve Lightfoot, Catelyn Creswick, Alexandra Barnes, Shael Lampard and Aidan Haigh.

Age 9: First place, Norees Gasper; second place, Harry Yardley; honourable mention, Nicholas Howe and Nixie Palm.

Age 10: First place, Olivia Hayne; second place, Sebastian Howe; honourable mention, Owen Twaites, Jenna Aston and Jared McGuire.

Age 11-12: First place, Hannah Pearson; second place, Elise Pearson; honourable mention, Ari Neville and Emily Dunsmuir.

First and second-place stories appear in this issue of the Driftwood, with some honourable mention stories

published as space permits this week and next.

Winners may also pick up their cheques (\$30 for first place and \$20 for second) at the Driftwood office.

Another winner is the Grade 2-3 classroom of Shelly Johnson at Fulford Elementary. Driftwood Publishing Ltd. will provide \$100 to a charity of the class' choice.

All classes achieving 100 per cent participation in the contest were entered in the random draw.

This year that included all three Salt Spring Centre School classes, ranging from students in kindergarten through Grade 5, plus Jim Lightfoot's class of Grade 4-5 writers from Fulford Elementary, and the Grade 4-5 students of Stella Weinert and Marie Mullen at Salt Spring Elementary.

The charity prize was introduced in 2003 to encourage more participation in the story contest, and several classrooms have risen to the challenge every year since.

# GISS art contest winners named as well

Winning artwork in the Driftwood's annual Christmas cover contest is also featured in this section of the paper.

In addition to the first place winner (submitted by Umi Inoue) on Page A1, second and third place covers can be found on Page B13, plus more favourites on Page B27.

# Trouble with the Abominable Snowman and the Yeti

BY JIMMY STEEL  
AGE 7 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

Once there was an Abominable Snowman. Nobody liked him except the Yeti who lived in a cave in the Snow Village. Every Christmas the Abominable Snowman never got anything, except a lump of coal. So he tried to think of a plan. He thought of a brilliant plan.

He went over to the Yeti's house and told him his plan. It was, "You, Yeti, find some rope to fit around Santa, put it just over the roof of the little girl's house on Salt Spring

Way. Santa will get stuck!"

But little did they know Santa was watching and he told his elves to make him bigger.

That night was Christmas Eve. Santa was going to go to the little girl's house and put the trap where the Yeti and Abominable Snowman were hiding and catch them instead of him! It worked perfectly. But out of the blue came a new Abominable Snowman and a new Yeti!

"Oh no," said Santa. But he knew what to do.

He pressed the button on his nose. He went down the

chimney. Little did Santa know, the Yeti had gone down the chimney with him, but the Yeti got stuck in the chimney. When the little girl's mom lit the fire, his behind got burnt! Santa said, "Ha! Ha! Ha!"

When Santa got home he had a big party. He invited everyone in Snow Village except the Yeti and the Abominable Snowman. From then on the Yeti and the Abominable Snowman never hurt anyone because they knew what Santa would do to them, and you know too. (If you read this story.)



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The Salt Spring Island Conservancy sends the warmest of holiday greetings to all of our wonderful volunteers, directors, members, supporters, and partners. Your work to benefit Salt Spring's natural world is greatly appreciated.



**Salt Spring Island CONSERVANCY**  
538-0318  
ssiconservancy@saltspring.com



## RECYCLING DEPOT Holiday Hours



SUNDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 16	MONDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 17	TUESDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 18	WEDNESDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 19	THURSDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 20	FRIDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 21	SATURDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 22
SUNDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 23	MONDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 24	TUESDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 25	WEDNESDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 26	THURSDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 27	FRIDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 28	SATURDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 29
SUNDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 30	MONDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 31	TUESDAY <i>Closed</i> Jan. 01	WEDNESDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 02	THURSDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 03	FRIDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 04	SATURDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 05

**Regular hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 5 pm 349 Rainbow Road • 537-1200**  
The Recycling Depot is operated by SSI Community Services Society.

# Second Chance? (or third!)

**Snowed out Salt Springers will be at SALT SPRING WINERY Sunday, December 23 12 noon - 5 pm**



**If you missed the opportunity to shop for Salt Spring made gifts, please join us.**



**653-9463**



## CHRISTMAS STORIES

# Buttercup's Rescue

**BY HANNAH PEARSON**  
AGE 12 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

Copper nickered softly as he saw Joe making her way over to his stall. Joe lugged all her tack over to Copper's warm, cozy stall where he and Buttercup (her brother's little mare) were munching on hay and enjoying their carrots. She tacked up quickly for a nice ride in the trails.

As Joe rode, her mind wandered with the excitement of Christmas the next day, so that she could hardly concentrate. She was dreaming of all her presents. She did not realize that snow was coming down hard, that it was getting late and darker outside, and Copper was getting tired.

She didn't realize she was going off trail. She didn't even hear her own stomach growl. She didn't notice that she should soon be at home having her Christmas Eve dinner with her family, until she was awoken from her thoughts by a flock of birds.

Joe pulled Copper to a halt and looked around.

Where was she? Joe knew she had to get back soon. She decided to just follow

her tracks home and it all would be fine. It was fine until Joe came to a blank canvas of snow. A thick, fresh coat covered Copper's tracks.

Joe's heart raced. She reached into her pocket to find her mom's cell phone missing. Suddenly Joe remembered she hadn't even told anyone she was leaving. She looked at her watch. Officially late for dinner. Cold, tired and hungry, Joe hopped off Copper to look around.

By now, Joe could only see a few feet in front of her. Surely not safe to ride. Joe led Copper around for what seemed like hours, but didn't seem to get anywhere.

Snow was really coming down hard. While Joe walked, she thought about how easily she would give up all her Christmas presents for her and Copper to be home safe with her family.

She realized that the true meaning of Christmas to her was just being with her family and doing typical family traditions, and celebrating! Joe missed everything about Christmas,

even having millions of pictures taken of her every few minutes. It was really daydreaming of presents that got her into this mess.

Joe pouted softly and wrapped her arms around her shivering pony's neck.

"I just want to go home," Joe called out.

Her own voice startled her. Copper's ears suddenly lurched forward. Joe heard the slightest little noise in the distance.

Copper whinnied loudly. The noise came again, then again, and again, each time closer and closer.

Copper whinnied even louder (if that was possible). Then Joe heard probably one of the happiest noises she ever heard: Buttercup's whinny (she knew that sound off by heart) and not too far away.

Joe cried out. She heard voices. Then she saw Buttercup, her mom, her dad and her brother. Joe screamed. Her whole body shivered, not from the cold but from happiness. She wasn't quite sure if this was the best Christmas ever or maybe even the worst. . . but thank goodness for horses.

# GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

## WEEKENDER

www.gulfislands.net

**THIS WEEK:**

**Santa's here!!**

**free at the following locations:**

Admiral's  
Apple Photo  
Barb's Buns  
B-Side  
Café El Zocolo  
Calvin's  
Chamber Office  
Core Inn  
Creekhouse  
Dagwoods  
Embe Bakery  
Fitness Friends  
Fulford Inn  
Fulford Ferry  
Golf Course  
GISS  
Greenwoods  
Golden Island  
GVM  
Hospital  
Harbour Foods  
Harbour House Hotel  
Harlan's  
Home Hardware  
Island Savings  
Island Star Video  
Jana's Bakery  
Library  
Love My Kitchen  
Long Harbour Terminal  
Moby's  
Meadowbrook

Morningside-Fulford  
Movie Gallery  
NE Fitness  
Raven St. Market Café  
ReMax  
Royal LePage  
Rock Salt  
Rogue's Café  
Senior's Centre  
Seabreeze Motel  
Seaside Fish & Chip  
Sotheby's Realty  
Salt Spring Coffee Co.  
Salt Spring Books  
Salt Spring Inn  
Salt Spring Physio  
Sears  
Shipstones  
Skin Sensations  
Sports Traders  
Studio One  
The Local  
The Fritz  
Thrifty's (Flower Shop)  
TJ Beans  
TLC  
Transitions  
Uptown Pizza  
Uniglobe  
Vesuvius Store  
Vesuvius Ferry on Board

## Wishing you Peace this Holiday Season

**Our sincere thanks go out to each and every person who supports us throughout the year.**

Island Women Against Violence is a non-profit society dedicated to helping women and children affected by violence and abuse.

**Our programs:**

- Salt Spring Island Transition House
- Women's Outreach Services
- Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women
- Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling
- "Transitions" Thrift Store

"Transitions" Thrift Store thanks the wonderful volunteers who give their time and talents to the store, the generous folks who donate goods and our loyal customers. We could not do this without you.

Special thanks to Ace Courier for their extraordinary volunteer efforts in support of "Transitions".

"Transitions" is a fundraising venture owned and operated by IWAV since 1997. Profits go towards supporting our services for women and children.

Island Women Against Violence

## Toby's Christmas

**BY ELISE PEARSON**  
AGE 12 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

Toby snuggled closer to his mother, blocking himself from the cold. Her fur was covered with snow, but he was cozy, warm and safe.

His mother and sister were sleeping quietly, while he was restless and wanted to play. He nudged his sister's tummy, trying to wake her.

"Come play," he whispered. Clara stirred but did not wake.

Millions of stars filled the sky, and looking up at them, he felt like the only bear on earth. He got up and walked around, the stars clouding his thoughts.

Toby began to wander away from his mother and sister, after seeing a flash of light. His mother had told him about the northern lights, but he had never seen them this close before. He loped for a long time until he was right under them. He stared up, bewildered by their brightness and beauty.

Then he saw something out of place: flying reindeer and a big brown thing behind it, with bright colours on it, and a small pink and red animal he had never seen before.

At first, he was frightened and turned to run back to his mother. However, she

was not there. He looked all around him but all he could see was white prairie. Fear surrounded him like a black hole. He called out, so caught up in his own thoughts that he didn't see the sleigh land only 30 metres away, or a jolly man dressed in red get out and walk towards him.

Toby had his back turned to the man and was so worried about how he was lost that he didn't even see the man walk towards him. The man was only a metre away and the sound of his boot crunching against the snow brought Toby back to reality.

Toby turned his head towards the man, so afraid he couldn't move.

"You look lost, little feller. My name is Nick, you can call me Santa," the man said.

Toby shuddered under the sound of the man's voice. Santa picked up the little polar bear and carried him back to his sleigh.

Even though Toby was frightened, he couldn't help feeling content, for the man was warm and gentle, and his strength overpowered the little bear. Up, up, they went into the chilly night sky. Toby fell fast asleep.

When he woke, it was day and his sister was jumping and playing around him.

Toby didn't know if it had all been a dream. . . but he would never forget the man's kindness, and the best Christmas of his life.

## The Puppy Who Found Christmas

**BY JOELY WELSH**  
AGE 7 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

When Buster was a little puppy he had to leave his mother. He went with some people. They all said, "Good dog!"

But Buster grew out of being good. They all said, "You are more trouble than you are worth."

One dark night they took Buster to a place in town he didn't know. The cars' headlights shone like fierce eyes at Buster. He got scared and ran across the road. The drivers rolled down their windows and yelled at the puppy.

He started to walk up driveways, but every driveway he went up, nobody wanted him.

He saw some carollers so he went with them and they walked up a driveway.

The door opened and a handful of cookies reached out. The carollers said, "Thank you, Mr. Marlan."

Mr. Marlan said, "One for you and one for you."

A little girl said, "And one for the little puppy!"

Buster was very happy living with Mr. Marlan.

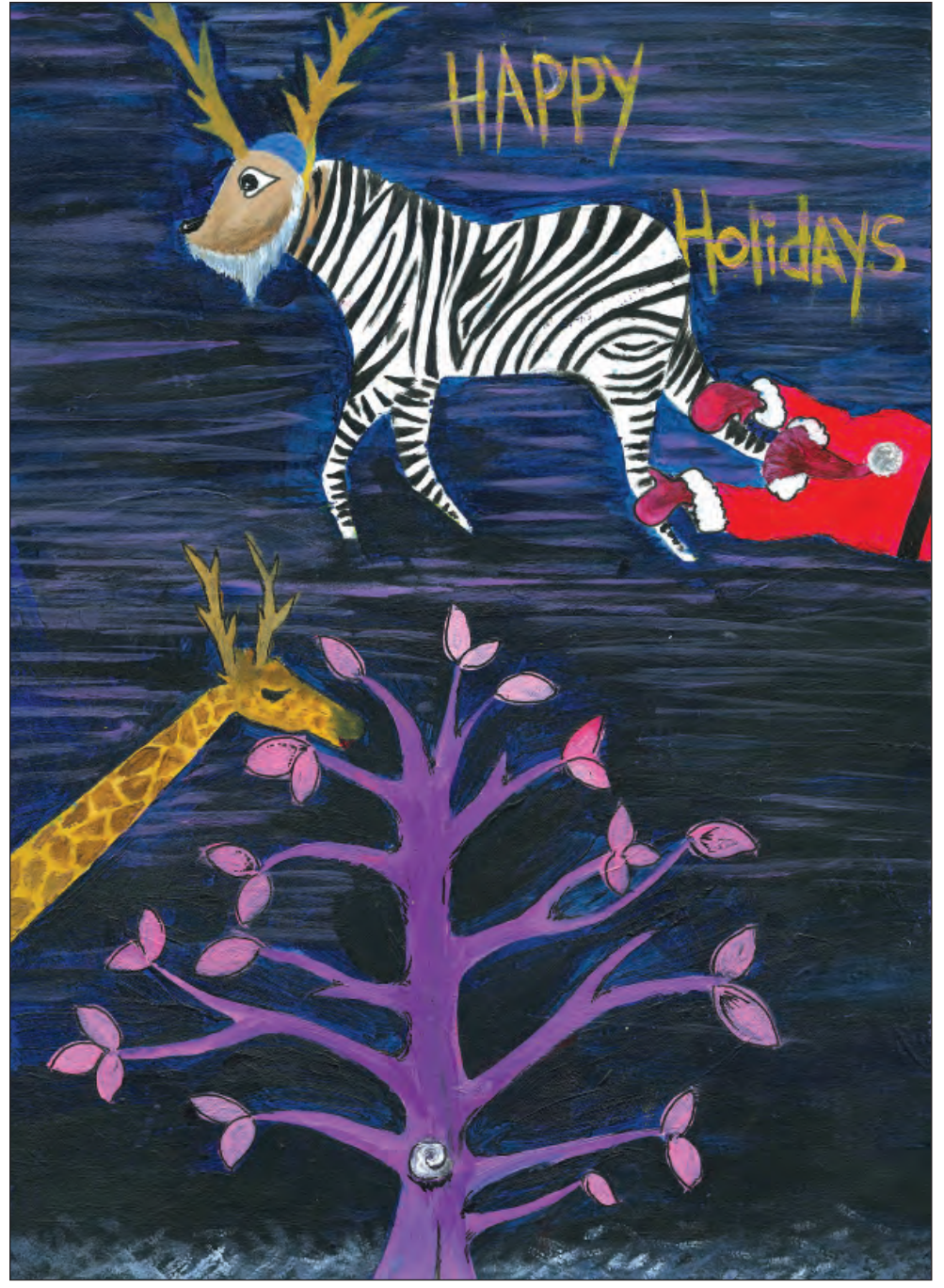
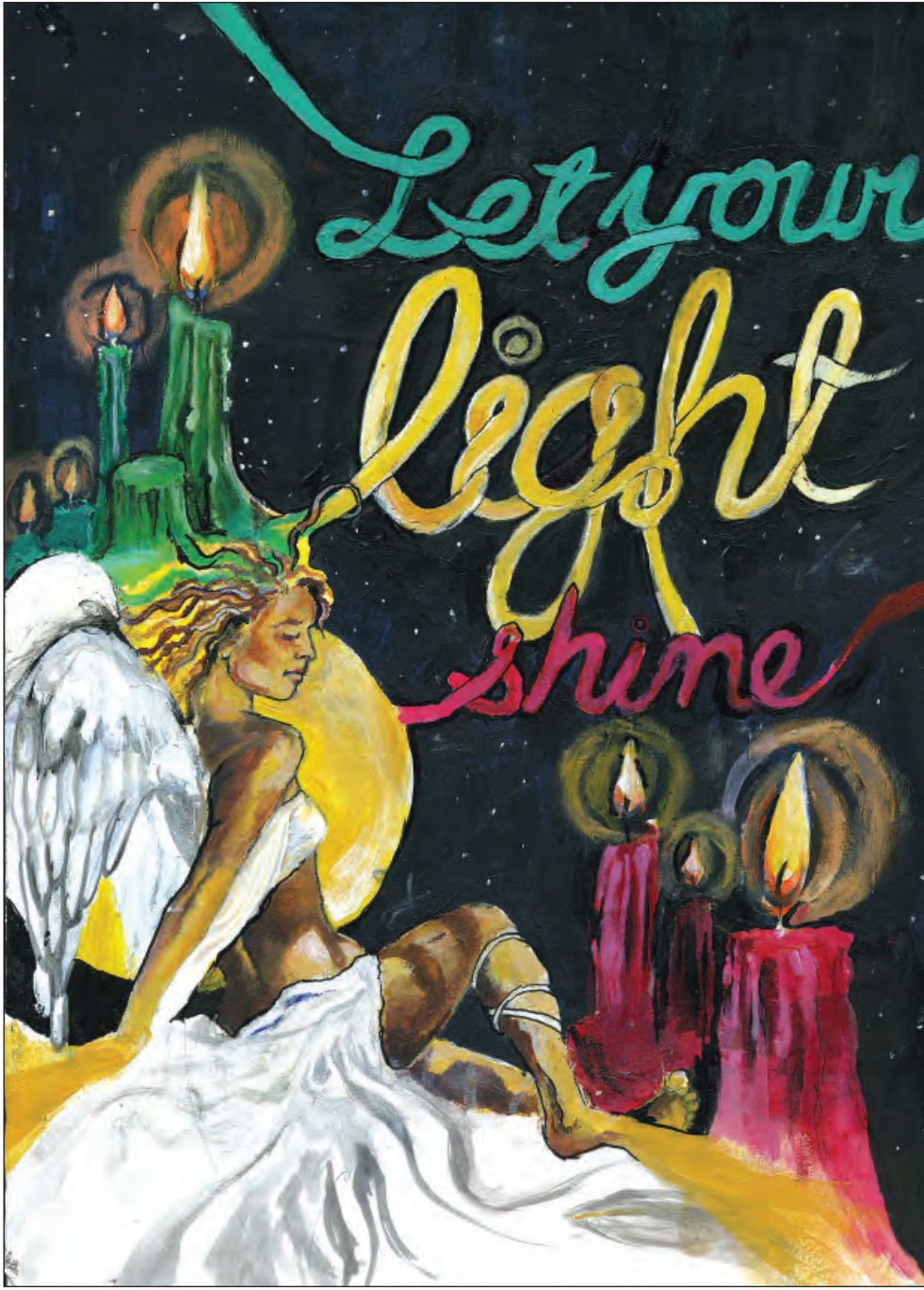
## Emma's Christmas Adventure

**BY JOSEPHINE O'DONNELL**  
AGE 4-6 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

It was around Christmas. Emma got on a plane to the North Pole by mistake. She walked on ice until she saw a big building full of elves. The elves put her in a big box of presents because they thought that she was a toy. It had her name on it.

Then she opened a present. She found a doll. Then the box got shipped to her house and when her mom opened the box Emma was there! Her mom was so happy.

# CHRISTMAS STORIES



**MORE COVER ART:** Second and third place winners in the Driftwood's annual cover art contest went to two Grade 11 students. Above left, is Danica Lundy's candle theme submission, while above right is a whimsical "jungle" theme by Jasper Snow Rosen. Runners-up can be found on Page B27.

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## CHRISTMAS STORIES

## Christmas Surprise

BY NOREES SOPHIE  
GASPER  
AGE 9 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

In a small town in Florida there was a small house with a pointy roof and straight green curtains. This was the home of 11-year-old Hanna Richards. She had long brown hair and always wore it up in braids.

Hanna was getting ready for bed on Christmas Eve. She had put out the cookies and milk, and then she put on her sleeper and climbed into bed. It was the middle of the night and lightning flashed outside. Hanna couldn't sleep, so she decided to go to her mom and dad's room. But when she got there the bed was empty!

But the closet was open so Hanna walked over to the closet and looked into it. There was a big big big slide! As she climbed onto the slide, she wondered where it went and if it were safe. Her stomach gave a flip as she zoomed down it. The closer she got to the

bottom the colder it got.

"That's weird," said Hanna. She closed her eyes tight, which was a good thing because Hanna's stomach gave another flip as she crashed into the snow. "What in the world?" she cried.

As Hanna uncovered herself, she saw a sign that said, "This way to Santa's workshop."

"Oh my gosh, I'm in the North Pole!" Hanna looked down, and to her amazement she was wearing snow boots and snow pants. "I guess Santa really is close by."

So Hanna stood up and started on her way. Then a thought hit her. What if her parents didn't want her there? All of a sudden Hanna got very nervous and started to panic. Without knowing what her legs were doing, Hanna started to run as fast as she could towards a red-dressed man.

Soon Hanna ran out of breath because the snow was up to her waist, but strangely the man was moving quickly and swiftly. As

he came closer she realized that he was Santa Claus.

"Oh my gosh, it's him?"

"Are you cold, my dear?" Hanna realized how cold she was as she climbed into Santa's sleigh. "Where do you live?" he asked.

"I'm not sure, but my name is Hanna Richards."

"Oh, your parents work for me," said Santa.

"Yes," said Hanna. "Now I know."

"Let's go," said Santa. They flew over cities and towns. They got to Hanna's house and she got off onto the roof.

"Thanks," she said.

"No problem," said Santa.

She hugged all the reindeer.

"You're welcome to come any time," Santa said, and then Hanna watched Santa fly away. She climbed down the dark sooty chimney. Hanna hadn't slept much that night but in the morning she opened presents and laughed with her mom and dad about her adventure.



Driftwood cover art judges were amused by this submission from Grade 12 student Niko H. Nilsson. Cover art finalists can be found on Pages B13 and B27.

Christmas Overload,  
Help Wanted!

BY SEBASTIAN HOWE  
AGE 10 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

"We have a system overload," the loudspeaker blared. "Repeat, we have a system overload. The assembly line is shutting down."

"Drat!" the head Santa swore as he heard the announcement.

"Tell the Santa clones to order their elves to hand-make the toys, double their hours and halve their coffee breaks. And hurry."

"Yes, sir," said His Royal Chubbiness, the head elf. "What?!" Colonel Elf said, as he was told by Santa #437 to double the elves' hours.

"What?!" Commander Elf said, as he was told by Santa #93 to halve the elves' coffee breaks.

Everybody was in an outrage.

Santa murmured to himself, "This will never get finished in time. I guess I have to press the big red button. Well, here goes." Then he lifted the safety latch, pushed the button and a metallic voice said, "ABDUCTO-BOTS ACTIVATED."

Meanwhile, Bill was woken by a strange whirring noise.

The room was lit up with a green light. Then he started to float like he was in water.

A bright white light flashed and enveloped the green light and he found himself in the middle of a small square white room.

There was a door in one wall and a piece of paper on the floor.

He started to wonder what to do when out of a small black box in one of the corners came a robotic voice.

"You are one of 300 children especially chosen

to help Santa manufacture toys. You will be paid in free toy coupons. Do not worry, your parents have been told that you have won a free trip in a contest, so they won't miss you. You will find full instructions on the piece of paper on the floor. BEEEP!"

Still in shock, Bill picked up the piece of paper and read the directions. "1. Exit the room. 2. Follow the arrows. 3. Go into room 19. 4. Await instructions."

Bill opened the door and walked into a hallway with bright green arrows along the wall and the sound of "Jingle Bells" all around.

On either side of him other children were doing the same. There were numbered doors along the hallway.

He soon found and entered room 19 where three other children were waiting.

There was also a minuscule elf sitting on a tall stool with a stepladder down the side like a mini lifeguard chair. The elf, in a high-pitched voice, chirped, "Observe," and started working on a block of wood with a strange tool.

"We will be making toy trains."

After a 15-minute lesson, they set to work.

The little elf helped them and gave them helpful tips.

After hours of work, the clock chimed twelve and the elf gave them three toy coupons and sent them back to the small white rooms.

In a flash of green and white light, Bill was back home.

When Bill woke the next morning, he wondered if it had been just a dream.

But in his stocking he found a note saying, "Thank you! Signed, Santa."

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## CHRISTMAS STORIES



Zoe Bentley makes purchases at a shopping event Monday at Fernwood Elementary School.

### The Dragon and the Snow Bunny

BY ALISTAIR HAYNE  
 AGE 4-6 CATEGORY  
 SECOND PLACE

It was Christmas Eve. The stars were bright and the moon shone down.

I looked outside and I saw a snow bunny! It was a magical bunny! I picked it up and took it home. I made a wish. I wished for a baby dragon. He was my favourite dragon. I took him outside and he liked it. He really, really liked me and he loved my home so we went inside. We hung up our stockings and we made our beds. Then, we went to sleep.

In the morning we went down to see what was inside our stockings. In my stocking was the snow bunny!

In the dragon's stocking was a little note. It said, "You have won a treat! Here is some skunk cabbage for you!"

There was another note that said, "Look under the Christmas tree . . ." The dragon looked and there were jet wings to help his wings fly faster! I got a jet pack too so we could see lots of different kinds of birds together. We flew over to see Santa to thank him.



PHOTOS BY DERRICK LUNDY

Miles Gillett helps his mom (Sarah) organize and run a table at Fernwood Elementary School's Reduce, Reuse, Recycle shopping fair held Monday.

### The Puffle's Adventure

BY ZOE CULLEN-LAHAY  
 AGE 8 CATEGORY  
 FIRST PLACE

Once upon a time there was a puffle. He lived all alone in Iceland.

One day he got mail. He almost didn't notice the tag on the side of his package, which said, "Do not open until 5 o'clock." Luckily he did so he opened it then.

When he was finished opening his package he looked in and all he saw was a ball of paper. "All of that work for nothing," he said. Then he picked up the ball of paper and opened it. Inside was a piece of gold. He looked at it for a long time and noticed a little thing on the back of the piece of gold. It said, "Greenland gold: magical."

The little puffle was so happy to have the piece of gold. But suddenly Iceland

began to shake. Then a piece of Iceland broke off! The puffle was all alone on the piece of ice. Then all of a sudden a big table appeared from nowhere. On the table was a glass of eggnog and a plate with cookies.

Then a strange little animal appeared. The animal looked like a monkey. The puffle was afraid, but he wanted to know what was going on, so he asked the animal, "Hello, who are you?"

"I'm Mister Christmas," said the animal. "Actually, I'm George. I control Christmas. I was the one that gave you mail, and I was also the one that gave you the eggnog and cookies."

"But where am I going?" said the puffle.

"You're going to Greenland."

"But why?"

"Because there's a mystery to figure out."

"But what kind of mystery, and why do you want me?"

"You need to figure it out yourself and you're the only one," said the animal.

"Okay, I'll do it. Bye."

"Bye."

Then the animal disappeared and the puffle fell asleep. He woke up and found he was on a different island. It was Greenland. He was scared. He didn't know what to do. He looked around and as he was walking he fell into a hole. He was trapped! He looked around and found a rope and a lot of wire. So he decided to make a grappling hook. When he was finished he came out and found he was in a mine. That's probably where the gold came from.

So he looked around and found a person. The puffle thought the person probably had something to do with the mystery. The person didn't see him, but the puffle saw the person. So the puffle ran away and climbed on the piece of ice and drifted back home. Luckily the eggnog was still there, and the cookies. Then George appeared so the puffle asked him, "What was the mystery?"

"There was no mystery!" said George. "I was joking."

The puffle was upset and disappointed.

When he got home he was hungry for dinner so he got his hat and his fishing rod and caught lots of fish. He got 198 fish and he ate them all and he went to bed and fell asleep. He dreamed of all the fun he would have tomorrow.

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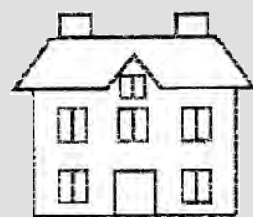
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# CHRISTMAS STORIES

## The Christmas Problem in Fander

BY LYLYI KENNEDY  
AGE 8 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

In a small town named Fander in California, in a small house, lived Sarah Buckwheat. She had never been outside of California before, but she still had a great life. She was a very kind and thoughtful person, but not everyone liked her. She had a secret between Santa and herself: she was Santa's helper. It was two days until Christmas. She had to go Christmas shopping with her mother. The next morning she woke up. She ate her pancakes, brushed her teeth, got dressed, grabbed her coat and ran out the door. She and her mom drove to the mall and first went into the toy store. She was looking and holding a magic eight ball and when no one was looking she got sucked into the ball! It was Santa that pulled her away. Surprised, she landed right in front of Santa's desk. She saw him sitting in his

armchair, reading a Christmas list. Santa said, "Hello. Sarah, we've got a problem. Some of the elves are sick this year and we don't have enough presents." "So what are we going to do?" "I was thinking that I could give you \$500 and you could take the magic eight ball and buy 20 presents with the money I have given you, and you could put each present into the magic eight ball, and it will go straight to me," Santa said. "So, are we going to do that?" said Sarah. "Indeed, we are. Here is the money. Be careful with it," Santa said. "I will." Santa sent Sarah back out of the magic eight ball and she was back in the toy store. Her mother saw her and said, "I've bought all of the Christmas presents. It's time to go to another shop." "Okay, one minute. I've got to get something," Sarah said. Then she

ran to get her magic eight ball and grabbed it. They went to a variety of other stores and bought all of the presents. Then Sarah stuffed them into the magic eight ball and a faint "thank you" floated from it. They went home, had dinner and went to bed. The next morning was Christmas morning, but the only thing Sarah found under the tree was a note that said, "Look in your wardrobe." Sarah ran upstairs, opened her wardrobe and saw a whole new set of tons of beautiful tops, pants, skirts, etc. Then she went over to her dresser and saw four rectangular pieces of paper. It turned out they were four tickets to Hawaii! "Yippy!" shouted Sarah, as she ran downstairs. "We are going to Hawaii!" she shouted down to her parents. They got so excited that they started to jump up and down. They had their usual pancakes for breakfast and then they went back to bed and Sarah thought about Santa and next Christmas.



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TO ALL OUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBOURS.  
GOD BLESS YOU ALL.  
*Bill & Dorothy Hitchcock*

## An Elf Stole Christmas

BY HARRY YARDLEY  
AGE 9 CATEGORY  
SECOND PLACE

Once on the 23rd of December, all the elves had made loads of presents and they were so tired they went to bed early. They had made 60,000,000 presents for all the kids in the world. But a bad elf stole all the presents when everyone was sleeping.

He hid them in the basement of the workshop. It took him all night of the 23rd. When everyone woke up they were shocked to see all the presents gone. They called 912 for the special North Pole investigators to look for DNA evidence, fingerprints, saliva, hairs and footprints. So they looked in the basement and found the

bad elf with all the presents. They captured the bad elf and put him in elf prison. Santa visited him in the prison to see why he had stolen the presents. The elf said, "It's because you're so jolly, Santa, and I wanted to be jolly like you and I thought the presents would make me happy." Santa said, "It's not the presents that make me jolly,

it's the joy of seeing the children happy when they get the presents. Why don't you come with me to deliver the presents and see the happy children?" So Santa talked to the police and investigators and they let the bad elf go with Santa. From then on he wasn't called the bad elf, he was called the Jolly Elf and he never stole presents again.

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23 12-5	24 CALL AHEAD CALL AHEAD	25 CALL AHEAD	26 CALL AHEAD	27 CALL AHEAD	28 CALL AHEAD	29 12-5
30	31					

# ARTSALE FOR THE RAINFOREST

## & Silent Auction

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- Janet Dwyer
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- Tamar Griggs
- Susan Huber
- Shari Macdonald
- Theresa Mackey
- Osman Phillips
- Karen Reiss
- Samantha Sanderson
- Kevin Steinke
- Phyllis Webb



Photo by Andrea Collins

This exhibit will include art created by children after they walked along the magical paths of the rainforest.

The Silent Auction will offer a varied selection of items --from fabulous feasts cooked by gourmet chefs to dry, seasoned firewood and bookart (closing at 5pm Dec. 21).

**SAVE SALT SPRING ISLAND'S CREEKSIDE RAINFOREST**

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## CHRISTMAS STORIES

# Sarah's Perfect Day

BY OLIVIA HAYNE  
AGE 10 CATEGORY  
FIRST PLACE

It is winter on Salt Spring Island. The sky is dark and grey. The sun has not been seen for weeks. The first downy flakes of the season have started to fall.

As we walk from the shedrows through the falling snow, Sarah's ears pick up the slight sound of sleigh bells coming from the field. She remembers when she was a filly being harnessed up by her owner for a sleigh ride one Christmas.

As we walk on she becomes more excited as she knows she will be harnessed up again. She likes the sound of the jingling sleigh bells and the smiles on the children's faces.

As my friend Kate draws nearer,

Sarah whinnies and neighs for she knows that her friend Megan is coming too. I go to the car to get my dog Maisie and she jumps out to greet Kate's dog Freckles. The horses don't mind the dogs. They just stand clear.

As the dogs jump into the sleigh I go and get Sarah's harness and reins. Her brass bells tinkle as she runs her nose along the harness, remembering the smell of the leather harness from when she was young.

As I slip her harness over her head and bring the reins back into the sleigh, I call Maisie and Kate calls Freckles, we load up and holler, "Walk on."

The snow is deep and cold and the crunching noise of Sarah's hooves hitting the snow overtakes the jingling of the bells.

Into the depths of the woods we travel, in search of the perfect Christmas tree. On our way we pass a group of carollers in the village, singing beneath the sparkling village lights. The moonlight falls on the new fallen snow, making it look like diamonds. We find our Christmas tree and load it up on our sleigh, then head back for the stables to unharness the horses. I place the jingling harness on its post, knowing that there will be another day like this next year. The twinkle in Sarah's eye tells me so.

We walk the horses back to their stall and give them fresh hay. Arriving back home, we decorate the tree and drink hot cocoa and biscuits while the horses have their hay. We all munch away, thinking that this has been the best day ever.

## Rainbow Christmas

BY SOPHIA GOLD  
AGE 4-6 CATEGORY  
HONOURABLE MENTION

It's a beautiful day because it's not snowing and the sun is out and also a big rainbow.

My mom and dad are standing under the rainbow with my two brothers and me.

We're looking for the end of the rainbow, and at the end of the rainbow there was a big pot filled with

presents. We all got a bunch of presents, enough for everyone we know on Salt Spring, because it was a very big pot.

The pot was so big, because the rainbow was so big. Then we celebrated Christmas by unwrapping our presents and sharing them — if we don't share them, Christmas won't be so fun.

Then Santa brings presents just for our family.

## Christmas Riddles

BY J.I. POMEROY  
AGE 7 CATEGORY  
HONOURABLE MENTION

Once upon a time there was a troll. He lived in the forest. A boy wanted to go over the troll's bridge, but he had to answer three riddles first. The riddles were:

1. What makes a zebra run?
2. What does a rhino eat? And
3. What does a monkey eat besides bananas?

The boy answered: bones, meat and banana peels. He was right! The boy got to walk across the bridge and down the path.

He met an evil dragon on the path. He had to answer a question about dragons or the dragon would eat him. The question was, what colours are dragons? He answered: blue, red and green. He was right again and he walked all the way home.

When he got home it was Christmas Eve. He woke up the next day and there were presents and he saw a shining light. It was a giant golden Santa! Behind it the monsters were there! Santa gave the monsters presents too. They turned into nice monsters.

## Santa's Missing Sled

BY AIDAN SUTHERLAND  
AGE 7,  
HONOURABLE MENTION

Santa's sled was gone and he looked for it everywhere. He asked his elves and they said they had not seen it.

He went outside to ask his

reindeer. They did not see it.

He asked his wife and she did not know where it was.

Then Santa went outside. There was his sleigh. The elves had washed it nice and clean to surprise him.

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Photo solutions by John Cameron: 537-5830

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## NOTICES

### 6 DEATHS

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## 9 SEASONAL GREETINGS

**MERRY CHRISTMAS** and Happy New Year to all my friends and acquaintances on Salt Spring. From Margot Caspar.

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**SQUARE FOOT** Charlie would like to wish Happy Holidays to all the contractors and home owners who made 2007 a very prosperous year. Have a safe Christmas Season and a Happy New Year. Look forward to a successful new year. Thank you SQFC.

## 9 SEASONAL GREETINGS

*The office of*  
**DR. KAREN BERG**  
*wishes you*  
*Happy Holidays*  
*& the best in the*  
*New Year.*

## 20 COMING EVENTS

**FOR A complete calendar** of coming events check the Driftwood Community Calendar, in our office in the Upper Ganges Centre, 328 Lower Ganges Road, or on our website at www.gulfislands.net. Use the calendar for event planning and to make sure your date doesn't conflict with someone else's.

**NIGHTGOWNS BY GILLIAN** cozy flannelette and soft cotton Granny gowns and nightshirts. See them at Wintercraft in Mahon Hall, Dec. 7 to Dec. 22, or call 653-9475.

## 20 COMING EVENTS

**TREAT YOURSELF** Painting classes (water colour or acrylics): new sessions for Feb. - mid April. Beginners & intermediates welcome. Call Val Konig 537-4660.

**JANUARY ENROLLMENT** Salt Spring Centre School has openings in Kindergarten (possible pre-K spots, as well), and Intermediate (grade3/4/5) for January start. Phone 537-9130 for more info.

**GIVE THE GIFT** of language, French, Spanish Habla! Gift certificates. Mom-n-tots, kids intro classes start on January 11, 08. Happy Holidays, Felizes Fiestas, Joyeuses Fetes. 537-9382, 1298 Beddis.

**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE** at the Cheese Farm. 1 - 3 pm Sunday, December 23. Come listen to old world music by the Cantus Choir. Sit by the tree and enjoy hot apple cider. Santa's carriage will be there weather permitting. Come and enjoy some Christmas spirit. 285 Reynolds Road.

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**SUNDAY, DEC. 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
Advent 4 Worship Service  
10:00 AM  
Burgoyne Carol Service  
2:00 PM

**MONDAY, DEC. 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols  
7:00 PM

**TUESDAY, DEC. 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Gary's Christmas Day Community Dinner (at Meaden Hall)  
12:00 PM

**SUNDAY, DEC. 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Worship Service with Rev. Al Tysick  
10:00 AM

**Phone 537-5812**  
for more info

## JOAN ASTILL (NEE: BASKOTT)

Joan Astill died peacefully at home following a lengthy illness. She was 86. Joan was born in Coventry, England. As a young woman she loved the outdoors and was a member of the Coventry Cycling Club where she met Cyril, her partner for the next 65 years. They subsequently moved to Canada with their young family and settled in Deep River, Ontario, where she indulged her other passion as a fabric artist and ran North Star Fabric and Crafts, a business which prospered because it offered women the opportunity to come together around the cutting table to work and talk. Joan's warmth and common sense approach to life provided the right atmosphere for the sharing of intimacies and the exchange of feminine wisdom and mutual support.

On Cyril's retirement in 1982, Joan moved again to the west coast and finally settled on Salt Spring in 1990. During that time, she was an active member of the Knit Knuts, a Victoria women's group dedicated to the art of machine knitting, and she became a well known presence at the Fulford Craft Fair and other craft fairs in the area. At home, her kitchen was always open to the many visitors who popped in to buy eggs or flowers from Cyril's greenhouse and to linger over a cup of coffee and a sample of her famous baking skills. She loved her Fulford Valley home and her wisdom and love for her family will endure in the legacy of caring she provided for her piece of this global landscape. She truly has left her heart and her footprint in the Fulford Valley.

Joan is survived by her husband, Cyril; three children, David Astill, Susan Astill and partner John Marko of Salt Spring Island; and Josephine Harris of Burlington, Ontario. Also, a small flock of grandchildren and great grandchildren including Andrew McNish and his wife Debra and great grandchildren, Liam and Emily, of Salt Spring Island; Deborah McNish and her partner Mark Stone of Portland, Oregon; Kim Stanger and husband Brad of Whistler, B.C. and great grandchildren Kaden and River; and Heather Harris and Jeff Reid and great grandchildren Madelaine, Jude, Bishop and Saxon, also of Burlington, Ont. and Alexi Marko and his wife Andrea and great grandchildren Luca and Naomi of Vancouver.

Joan's wish is that we remember her well and that we celebrate her life by looking after each other. There will be a private memorial in the spring when all of her family will come together and plant a tree in her memory on the Fulford Valley farm she loved so much. Donations can be made in her name to Lady Minto Hospital and the Bessie Dane Foundation with grateful thanks for the help and support of hospital staff and especially the Home Support Nurses and those very special Community Health Workers.

*Merry Christmas & Thanks to all our faithful customers & suppliers. Have a warm, healthy & Happy New Year!*  
*Paul & Val Konig, former owners of Konig & Sons Firewood.*

## 6 DEATHS

### DANGEROUS DON

(Donald Napier) died peacefully in his sleep on Dec. 5th, 2007.

Don moved to Salt Spring one year ago to battle ALS, which he did with great courage.

All those who met him will remember his warmth and charismatic smile.

He leaves us with a sense of humour that will not be forgotten.



## TOKARYK, Sonia Marianne

passed away at the Lady Minto Hospital, Salt Spring Island on December 10, 2007. She is lovingly remembered by her daughter, Marlyn (George) Freibergs; and her sisters, Lillian and Sylvia (Carl).

Born on July 5, 1916 in Witkow, Saskatchewan, Sonia moved to Ottawa in 1941 and relocated to Salt Spring Island in the 1990s.

Prayers will be offered at McCall Bros. Floral Chapel, Johnson & Vancouver Streets on Thursday, December 20, 2007 at 7:00 pm

A funeral service will be held at McCall Bros. Floral Chapel on Friday, December 21, 2007 at 10:00 am. Interment will follow at Royal Oak Burial Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Lady Minto Hospital, 135 Crofton Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1T1.

Condolences may be offered to the family at www.mccallbros.com



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### 20 COMING EVENTS

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- Christmas on Main Street - Children's Musical Dec. 21 at 6:30
  - A Community Christmas Celebration & Living Nativity Dec. 23 at 6:30 pm
  - Christmas Eve Candle Light Service Dec. 24 at 7:00 pm
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### JANUARY ENROLLMENT

Salt Spring Centre School has openings in Kindergarten (possible pre-K spots, as well), and Intermediate (grade 3/4/5) for January start. Phone 537-9130 for more info.

### 20 COMING EVENTS

**Salt Spring Island Baptist Church CHRISTMAS SERVICES**  
**Sunday, Dec 23**  
 Sunday Morning Service at 10:30 am  
**Monday, Dec 24**  
 Christmas Eve Service at 3:00 pm  
*Come celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.*  
 250 Lower Ganges Rd  
 For more info call 537-2222.

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### 34 NOTICES

DR. CRICHTON'S OFFICE  
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### SPECIALS ENDING SOON!

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### 34 NOTICES

## SALT SPRING INN

"Country Comfort & Hospitality in the Heart of Ganges"

- Monday, Dec. 24 • Christmas Eve • 8 am - 3 pm
- Tuesday, Dec. 25 • Christmas Day • Closed
- Wednesday, Dec. 26 • Boxing Day • Closed
- Monday, Dec. 31 • New Year's Eve • 8 am - 3 pm / 5 pm - LATE
- Tuesday, Jan. 1 • New Year's Day • 10 am - 10 pm

"See you at The Inn!"

132 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island 537-9339

### EMPLOYMENT

#### 50 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

WORK AT HOME ONLINE - Start a real home-based business. Work when you want. Apply online and start today! www.wfhbc.com.

#### 55 HELP WANTED

SALT SPRING Centre of Yoga is looking for a residential office manager/staff coordinator to oversee operations, procedures and computer systems. Background in Yoga is required. Deadline for application Jan. 2. Job begins March 2008. Please apply to yoga@saltspring-centre.com.

#### NOW HIRING BUS DRIVERS

Salt Spring Transit is kicking into gear, drivers with at least a Class 4 unrestricted license are needed for approx. 26-27 hours weekly. Dependable, courteous, friendly personality desired. Please call Ineke immediately at 537-6758.

SEAMSTRESS REQUIRED for ongoing casual position. For further information and to apply call 653-9549.

STRAIT CONSTRUCTION is looking for a certified carpenter. This is a long term position for a committed employee. Call 537-7350.

CONTRACTOR LOOKING for part-time labourer. Must have common sense and be willing to work hard. Wage conditional upon experience. Phone Grant @ 538-7077.

#### FULFORD INN

Full/ part time housekeeper & maintenance man. 653-4432.

FEMALE CAREGIVER required for home and community support, previous training or experience working with adults with a disability and good driving record is required. Send cover letter and resume by January 4th to GIFTS at 152 McPhillips.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: be part of the solution! Quesnel Shelter and Support Society seeks qualified applicants for the position of Executive Director for a 14-unit shelter and transitional housing development. As Executive Director, you will provide leadership & use your experience, values, skills & education to help set up & operate a new shelter, housing & support services model in Quesnel, a growing community in the heart of the beautiful Cariboo. Among your duties will be the operational management of the Society & overseeing the daily housing operations, including the implementation of policies & procedures, hiring & managing staff, undertaking outreach to the community, etc. You are passionate about reducing homelessness, a superb communicator, well-organized & an innovative thinker. Previous non-profit experience, ideally in a transition house or shelter, is desirable. Deadline for receiving resumes is December 31st, 2007. To apply, please send your resume, including salary expectations & three references to: Board of Directors, Quesnel Shelter and Support Services Society, 146 Carson Ave., Quesnel, BC V2J 2A8.

CLASS 1 LOG HAULERS/chip haulers, High Prairie, Alberta. Required immediately. Competitive wages. Room supplied - first come first serve basis. Call Dan at 780-523-0911 or email resume to: ddeynaka@buchananlumber.ca.

WAREHOUSE JOBS: morning/afternoon shift. Annacis Island. Hiring: 1 Shipper, 1 Receiver, 1 Picker. Competitive wages based on previous experience. Fax resumes to 604-540-0266.

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNICIANS, \$28 - \$40 per hour. Busy expanding Chrysler dealership requires journeyman technicians. Wages to commensurate with skill level and experience. Small town living, lower cost housing, lower cost of living all within commuting distance to Edmonton. Medical plan, pension plan. Apprentices considered. Apply in person or writing to: Dale Marshall, Service Manager, Brown's Chrysler Ltd., 10447 - 104 Ave., Westlock, AB T7P 2E4. Phone: 1-888-349-5566. Fax: 1-780-349-6493. Email: dalem@brownchrysler.com.

CHEAPER THAN SCROOGE! Telephone reconnect - first month only \$24.95 + connection fee. Free voicemail with connection! No credit checks, fast connections! Phone Factory Reconnect, 1-877-336-2274; www.phonefactory.ca.

### 60 WORK WANTED

EXPERIENCED, DEPENDABLE roofer available for work. Cedar shakes, metal, Duroid. New roofs, repairs, renovations. References. 25 yrs. experience. Rick, 537-6988.

#### THISTLE HANDYMAN SERVICES

No job too big or too small. New projects or I can finish what the other guy started. Competitive rate. Give us a call. 653-9604.

#### I'M YOUR HOLIDAY HELPER

I am willing to clean, cook, organize, bake and make your holiday smooth. Fair prices, youthful & energetic. Call me, Leah 537-9129.

### 55 HELP WANTED

## HARBOUR ASSOCIATION OF SALT SPRING ISLAND

is accepting applications for the full-time position of Harbour Manager.

Resumes may be mailed or submitted to: Harbour Association of Salt Spring Island, Attention Chairman of the Board, Harbour Office, 127 Fulford-Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2T9  
 harbour@hassi.ca



Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island

### CAREER OPPORTUNITY

**BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., a full service investment firm is currently looking for an enthusiastic individual to work in the capacity of full-time Sales Assistant in our Salt Spring Island office.**

The successful applicant will possess, but not be limited to the following skills:

- Strong administrative background with a preference for those applicants having experience working in the financial services sector.
- Strong PC Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel and Maximizer experience would be an asset.
- Completion of the Canadian Securities Course, CP, or willingness to complete within a specified time frame.
- Excellent organizational, interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability to work well under pressure and with minimal direction.

Please submit your resume in confident to:

**Natalie Peters, BMO Nesbitt Burns, Suite 1000, 730 View Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 3Y7**

### SERVICES

#### 100 ACCOUNTING

#### FULL SERVICE BOOKKEEPER

with over 35 years of experience in Simply Accounting & Quick Books  
 References available.  
*Create balance in your life, hire a bookkeeper!*  
**Call 538-0171**

#### 102 ARCHITECTS/DESIGNERS

JONATHAN YARDLEY, Architect. Islander for 33 years. Custom West Coast designs. Personalised home renovations. Heritage conservation. 653-4931. www.yardleyarchitect.com.

## LET'S GET STARTED!

Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.

**PLEASE CALL HELSET DESIGN 537-1037 & ask for Jim**

#### 118 COMPUTERS

CALL BOB McIvor for troubleshooting, software and networking support. We do housecalls. 537-2827 or (cell) 538-7017. Please go and back-up your important data now!

### 130 HEALTH

#### Anne May R.M.T

Registered Massage Therapist  
*Myofascial-Visceral-Deep tissue*  
 55 Health Centre  
 130 McPhillips Ave  
**538 - 7251**

### 132 LAWYERS/LEGAL SERVICES

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE is a public service program that matches people with legal concerns to a lawyer in their area. Lawyers who participate in the program offer an initial consultation of up to 30 minutes for \$25 plus taxes, and regular lawyer fees follow if you both agree to proceed. Phone 1.800.663.1919. DIAL-A-LAW is a free automated service that offers general information on a variety of topics on law in BC. Phone 1.800.565.5297 or www.dialalaw.org.

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.

#### 138 MISC. SERVICES

DELUXE GIFT wrapping. Don't have time? Hate doing it? \$4 approx. shoe box size, \$3 for smaller, \$5 for bigger. Everything included from paper to gift tags. 537-9366.

#### 140 MUSIC LESSONS

PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, friends! Enrich a whole lifetime. Pre-school music class, 3 1/2 to 6 year old with companion. Songs, games, rhythm, band. 537-5131 Melissa.

#### 173 TRAVEL

TIMESHARE FORECLOSURES—save 60-80% off retail! Best resorts & seasons! Call for free Timeshare Magazine! 1-800-597-9347. Browse online for over 400 worldwide properties—www.holidaygroup.com/bc.

### 26 LEGALS

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS & OTHERS RE: THE ESTATE OF ALBERT LANTINGA, DECEASED, formerly of 648 Southwind Road, Galiano Island, British Columbia

Creditors and others having claims against the Estate of Albert Lantinga, Deceased, are hereby notified under section 38 of the Trustee Act that particulars of their claims should be sent to the Executors at Henley & Walden, #201-2377 Bevan Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia, V8L 4M9, on or before January 24, 2008, after which date the Executors will distribute the said Estate among the parties entitled thereto, having regard to the claims of which the Executors then have notice.

William George Thompson Ross and CIBC Trust Corporation, Executors

By their solicitors:

HENLEY & WALDEN, Barristers and Solicitors  
 201 - 2377 Bevan Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia V8L 4M9

### 29 LOST AND FOUND

BLUE/BLACK SCARF found in Thriftys parking lot on Wed., Dec. 5. Owner may claim by calling 537-1798 and identifying pattern.

FOUND CANOE on Cusheon Lake, 537-4868.

LOST: A PINK & black Samsung cellular phone. Lost in the snow a couple of weeks back during the snowfall. Call 537-2068 if found.

LOST: BRIGHT orange tabby cat with loud purr. North end area. Please call 537-4327.

FOUND: THE person who left an electric hand mixer and a large Corning Ware bowl on my doorstep at 533 Isabella Pt. Rd. Please come back, you got the wrong house!!!

### 34 NOTICES

IF YOUR Driftwood subscription label has the date highlighted, now is the time to renew!

MOUAT'S KITCHEN Centre now carries a fine selection of homemade preserves from Angel Cottage Studio (Julie's Pantry).

#### NEED A SUBARU?

We have a one year lease on a Forester from Saunders Subaru that we're giving away. If you would like to have your name entered in the draw - simply renew your subscription to the Driftwood before Jan 15th, 2008. There are also 4 early bird draws of \$250 gas certificates from the Payless, Johnson's, Patterson's and Save-on. Drop by the Driftwood Monday thru Friday, we're open from 8:30 til 4:30, or give us a call at 537-9933. Renew today!

## NOTICE

Salt Spring Garbage Transfer Station at 360 Blackburn Rd. will be increasing the drop off rate to \$3<sup>00</sup> PER BAG (CAN) effective Jan. 1, 2008  
 537-2167

### 34 NOTICES

The office of DR. KAREN BERG welcomes VAL FRASER as office receptionist.

We all wish Susan congratulations & best wishes in Barbados.

The office of DR. KAREN BERG will be:  
 Closed Dec. 24 - 28  
 Open Dec. 31  
 1 - 5 pm  
 Closed Jan. 1 & 4  
 Open Jan. 2 & 3  
 Regular Hours

## Fulford Inn Holiday Hours

PUB CLOSED DEC. 22 - 27.  
 OPEN FRI., DEC. 28

STORE CLOSED 4 PM ON 24 & ALL DAY DEC. 25.

Staff and Management thanks you for your patronage. Wishing everybody the very best.

Wishing you Peace and Prosperity

Thank you for another great year!  
 Full schedule through the holidays.  
 Closed Dec. 25, 26, 31 and Jan. 1 & 2.  
 Gift certificates & Solstice Soother still available.

**gangesyogastudio.com 537-2444**

## 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!

Events for the whole Family!!  
 See a live reenactment of the Nativity Scene!!

- Live entertainment • free coffee & snacks • crafts for kids • live animals • Christmas carols & more...

**December 23 - 6:30 pm**  
**Community Gospel Chapel,**  
**147 Vesuvius Bay Rd.**

Inquires:  
 call Michele @ 537-9501

## ONGOING ART SALE

Internationally known, awarding winning artists support  
**Salt Spring's Rainforest**  
**ArtSpring 10 am - 5 pm**  
 Local youth artists on display  
**PLUS**  
**SILENT AUCTION**  
 Everything from feasts to firewood.  
**3 MORE DAYS OF ENCHANTMENT!**

## GIFT-A-LIGHT

Make a donation to support our Community Hospital when you go through the cashier at the GVM! Every donation made to the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation lights up the Christmas Tree and Supports Excellent patient care on Salt Spring Island! Join us on December 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Tree Lighting with Hot Chocolate & Carols at 4:30 pm!

# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS – 537-9933

classified@gulfislands.net

## 173 TRAVEL

ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGES - book online at [www.canadatravels.com](http://www.canadatravels.com) and save more on your vacations. Use code NCA74327 for discount or call us toll-free at 1-800-563-5722.

## MERCHANDISE

### 310 BUILDING SUPPLIES

DOUBLE SIDED see through fire-place (black trim) and approximately 24 feet of air cooled chimney. Three years old, very limited use. Lennox part number CST-38 documentation and specs available at [www.lennoxhearthproducts.com](http://www.lennoxhearthproducts.com) <<http://www.lennoxhearthproducts.com>> \$250 OBO. 653-4758.

#1 A STEEL BUILDING SALE! Save up to 60% on your new garage, shop, warehouse. 6 colours available! 40 year warranty! Free shipping, the first 20 callers! 1-800-457-2206. [www.crownsteelbuildings.com](http://www.crownsteelbuildings.com).

### SEE US FOR A FAST QUOTE ON ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS!

- Flooring
- Heating
- Eaves
- Plumbing
- Roofing

For all your building requirements, large or small!



804 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 537-4978

## 350 MISC. FOR SALE

EXPERT CLOCK repair and restoration - antiques my specialty. Free estimates, reasonable rates. Free house calls for shut-ins and heavy clocks. Mark's Clockworks, 537-0957.

ANTIQUÉ IMPORTED wrought iron fence panels, gates, etc. 70-100 years old. Each piece unique, stock always changing. Photos [www.islandgatesandfences.com](http://www.islandgatesandfences.com). 653-4123.

MATTRESS BLOW Out! All '07 models, all sizes cheap! Holiday sale on dressers, hiboys, lowboys, beds, desks, bookcases, sofas, love seats, recliners, kitchen/dining furniture! No PST/GST on all tools. Buy & Save, 9818 4th St., Sidney. Website: [buyandsave.ca](http://buyandsave.ca). Visa, M/C. 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. SaltSpringSound, 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.

I'M BACK! Bulk water delivery and waterstorage tanks. Isles West Water, 653-4513 Bob. PS thanks Cal.

UNIQUE ENERGY enhancing gifts. How about a pendant containing bliss elixir, energized water, a fridge energizer, or sole (Himalayan Rock Salt Brine), containing 80+ trace minerals and energized water? Phone Brian for more info and ideas, 537-8964.

2 MICHELIN light truck snow tires. 225/70 R15 mounted. \$100. Set of snow chains for 15" tires, \$50. 537-4336.

## 350 MISC. FOR SALE

### FURNITURE, BUILDING SUPPLIES AND MORE

Matching sofa and arm chair, coffee table, kids pool/games table, round maple dining table and chairs, fish tanks, computer etc.. Plus temp. glass panels, fir beams, wood wire, pipe, wood stove, anchor ...and more. Reasonable. Sat at 10, before and after 653-9898.

FIREWOOD MADE EASY! Large or small operation, maximum production. See video at [www.apacheforest.com](http://www.apacheforest.com). Dealer inquiries welcome. 1-866-986-0067.

ADD AND SAVE on home phone reconnection. Bad credit - no problem! Up to \$30 off for new customers, plus lower monthly rates! Call Tembo 1-877-266-6398 or sign up online [www.tembo.ca](http://www.tembo.ca).

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, extension 170, for free brochure.

BUILDINGS FOR SALE! "Lowest prices of the year!" 25x30 now \$5100. 25x40 \$6400. 30x40 \$7400. 35x50 \$9990. 35x70 \$13,790. 40x80 \$16,900. Others. Canadian manufacturer...1-800-668-5422.

**SALT SPRING**  
**Mini Storage**  
 347 Upper Ganges Road  
*"When convenience and security matter"*  
**537-5888**



Prompt, courteous service since 1990

### NOW SERVING SALT SPRING

Heating Oil, Commercial and Farm Fuels  
 76 Lubricants, Tidy Tanks, Pumps & Accessories



TOLL FREE 1-877-715-1019 or (250) 715-1019

### 351 MISC. WANTED

WANTED TO buy: Queen size box spring & mattress, firm & in good condition. 653-0088 evenings & weekends.

WANTED: PHOTO albums, pocket type that will hold 6, 4"x6" each side. R Ball 537-5623.

### 360 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

FROM NEWMAN Family Productions, give the gift of musical instruments: Roland drum machine TR606 \$100. Fender Rhodes bass keyboard \$375. PAIA Strings 'n' Things 1550 \$150. Synthesizers: Roland E16 \$275. Juno/06 \$400. DC10 \$150. Yorkville amp \$150. Ray's horns: Cohn tenor sax 1500. Selmer alto sax 3500. Teac 2300S reel to reel recorder \$150. A-170 cassette recorder \$25. Technics Dolby/dbx cassette recorder. \$25. 537-5289.

### 370 PETS/LIVESTOCK

WANTED: TEMPORARY self board for three horses. Dec. 23 - Jan. 1. Please contact Vanessa 604-463-3076 or deaneas@telus.net.

### 379 FREE/RECYCLABLES

LOTS OF bubble pack, newsprint, etc for recycling at Salt Spring Books. 537-2812.

TWO-SIDED WOOD fireplace with short chimney and jetted tops. 653-9579 Hafiz or Ranji

FREE KING size mattress and frame. 537-9662.

FREE, DOUBLE sofa bed, 537-9629.

FREE, CHEST freezer, 8 cu. ft. Double bed, with book shelf head board and mattress. Chimney brush, old desk with drawers and small cupboard. 653-9263.

FREE 8' X 10' INDIAN wool rug. In good shape, just needs cleaning. Off-white in colour. 537-8726.

LIGHT FIXTURES: bricks, red & grey, chimney liners, wiring - long lengths, sliding closet doors, kitchen sink, toilet, bathroom sink and various kitchen cabinets. Call Martin. 538-8206.

IKEA DOUBLE fold out futon. All wood, good condition. You pick up. 653-4617.

TOO BUSY for a yard sale so now it's all free. Garage full of furniture and stuff. 181 Fort St. Sat. Dec. 22.

RICOH COPIER, free. 537-0888. Big and (probably) really efficient.

### 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).

## RENTALS

### 510 COMMERCIAL SPACE

## Upper Ganges Village Shopping Centre PRIME LOCATION

### UP TO 3300 FT<sup>2</sup>

Contact: Ferd Kallstrom (250) 701-3591

### 510 COMMERCIAL SPACE

450 SQ. FT. retail space for lease in Grace Point Sq. Ground floor. Excellent opportunity for sales in high traffic location. Call 537-9880.

IN GOVERNMENT bldg, 1357 sq. ft. for lease. Can accommodate variety of uses. Ample parking, wheelchair accessible. Richard, 537-2239.

### 500 APT/SUITES FOR RENT

FOR RENT: 1 bdrm. ocean front suite, \$1200 all inclusive. 537-6303. 2 BDRM, 1250 sq/ft lower suite, near town, W/D, F/P, NS, NP, \$1100. Also, 3 bdrm upper suite, \$1300. Feb. 1, long term. Take one or both. 537-9982.

ONE BEDROOM suite on Cushoon Lake, NS, NP, W/D. Long term renter wanted, references req'd. \$750/month. plus utilities. 653-4868.

LARGE: SELF-CONTAINED room with kitchenette in quiet character home. Private entrance, close to town, avail immed. \$500/ mo. NS, NP. 537-4723.

### 520 HOUSES FOR RENT

GREEN ACRES Resort, St. Mary Lake, fully furnished 2 bdrm cottages from \$650/ mo. plus power. NP, NS, call 537-2585.

2 BED HOUSE, Channel Ridge, 5 new appliances, hardwood flrs, sunny deck, view, long term. Jan 1. NS, NP. \$1350. 537-4746.

LARGE 3 BDRM, trailer for rent. Newly renovated, new washer, dryer, fridge, stove. Available Jan. 1. \$900/month. Call 537-6860.

NEAR NEW, one bdrm. ground level, furnished suite in Vesuvius, suitable for quiet, mature, couple/person, laundry, \$800/mo., hydro. incl. NS/NP. Refs. required. Avail. Jan 1, long term. 537-1970.

CABIN FOR rent \$375/ month. Wood heat, no electricity. Michael, 653-9565.

SUBLET JAN. 1 - Apr. 30. North end house with loving cat, \$500/mo plus utils. Laura 537-4077.

SMALL TRAILER in the Fulford Valley. Private, suits one or two people, \$450. 653-9396.

### 520 HOUSES FOR RENT

## ISLAND EXPLORER Property Management Ltd. & Real Estate Services

1 bedroom + den cottage, south end, fully furn., sunny, quiet & private location, no pets, avail. Nov. 1 - May 31 ..... \$1075

2 bedroom suite in Fulford Valley, avail. immed., long term..... \$975

1 bedroom Vesuvius, one person or couple only, avail. immed. long term ..... \$950

2 bedroom doublewide trailer in Fulford Valley, avail. immed., long term ..... \$750

**537-4722**  
**1-800-800-9492**

Island Explorer is a fully licensed, bonded management company under the laws of the B.C. Govt.

## ROYAL

Property Management Ltd.

**SOUTH END 88611**  
 avail now til Jun 08  
 2 bdrm 1 bath  
 oceanfront cottage  
 acreage 4 appl  
 NS NP  
 900.00 + % util

**MID ISLAND 105697**  
 1 bdrm 1bthrm  
 avail 1 Jan NS NP  
 partial kitchen  
 shared Property  
 1050.00 + % util

**MID ISLAND 105696**  
 1 bdrm 1bthrm  
 avail 1 Jan 4 appl  
 shared Property  
 NS NP  
 1275.00 + % util

**MID ISLAND 104792**  
 strata twnhse adult  
 2 bdrm 2.5 bthrm  
 5 appl gas fireplace  
 NS NP elect heat  
 1375.00. + Util

**NORTH END 104165**  
 Avail 6 Oct  
 5 appl gas fireplace  
 2 bdrm 2.5 bthrm  
 NS NP elect heat  
 1975.00. + Util

**MID ISLAND 103665**  
 month to month  
 avail 1 Nov - Feb  
 4 appl fireplace  
 1 bdrm 1bthrm  
 NS NP  
 1125.00+ Util

**NORTH END 79463**  
 3 bdrm 3 bthrm  
 lease assignment  
 avail 1 Dec  
 5 appl NS NP  
 1950.00 + Util

**MID ISLAND 98170**  
 4 bdrm 3 bthrm  
 avail 12 Sept  
 5 appl NS NP  
 1700.00 + Util

**MID ISLAND 96927**  
 2 bdrm 2.5 bthrm  
 new exec twnhse  
 5 appl gas fire place  
 pool/exercise facil  
 NS NP 1875.00 + util

See these Homes at [www.royalproperty.ca](http://www.royalproperty.ca)

**537-5577**

## Home Sweet Home

### 204 ARCHITECTS

**Neil Morie** architect  
[www.neilmoriearchitect.com](http://www.neilmoriearchitect.com)  
 4, Fulford Marina  
 ph. 653-4812  
 creative design responsive to site craft and client

### 220 CONCRETE



## GULF COAST MATERIALS

Serving the Gulf Islands  
 Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne, Penders

WE HAVE SANDBAGS!

- READY MIX
- WASHED GRAVEL
- REINFORCED STEEL
- BAGGED CEMENT

**537-2611**  
 345 Rainbow Road

### 236 FIREWOOD

## HONEST OL'S FIREWOOD

- GUARANTEED CORD Cut, Split & delivered
- Cedar fence rails

**653-4165**

## KONIG & SON FIREWOOD

Serving Salt Spring 25 years  
 Competitive & Reliable  
**FIREWOOD LOGS WANTED**  
**537-9531**

*Home Sweet Home*  
 call these professionals today!

### 525 RENTALS MISC.

400 SQ. FT. of clean, dry space available. Suitable for office, studio, storage. \$350/mo. 653-2374.

### 540 WANTED/RENTALS

YOUNG HYDRO employee looking for long term residence, suite or room. Available to move in Jan./Feb. Will consider a housesitting position. Phone 537-7851.

### 690 WEBSITES

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION for the Gulf Islands is a mouse-click away. [www.gulfislands.net](http://www.gulfislands.net).

## TRANSPORTATION

### 805 AUTO REPAIRS

## AIR MILES now here!



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

K1G THRMGLASS Sangster, 23 ft., 70 H. Merc., caulking, galvanized, trailer. Asking \$7000 obo. 537-1563, Cell 537-6724.

### 820 BOATS & MARINE SALES

## SUZUKI MARINE

VANCOUVER ISLAND'S NEWEST SUZUKI MARINE DEALER 2.5-300HP



730 Hillside Ave., Victoria 250-382-8291 [www.sgpower.com](http://www.sgpower.com) [jay@sgpower.com](http://jay@sgpower.com)

### 825 CARS, SALES

1994, ONE OWNER Volvo 940 Sedan, 4 cyl. auto, fully loaded, no accidents. Very nice \$6900. 250-737-1384 or 1-250-888-8602. DL #30748.

1995 MAZDA Protege, 4dr, standard, sunroof, 180,000 kms. Dependable, powerful, spacious. \$3400 obo. 653-9479.

1997 VOLVO 850SE, auto., 5 cyl., luxury sedan, like new condition, low 112,000 kms, tan leather, premium sound pkg., air, traction control, \$11,000. 537-1804.

1999 SUBARU Forester, AWD, good condition, fire engine red, all receipts, 169,000 kms, \$10,000. Comox. 250-339-7366.

2003 ECHO TOYOTA manual, 2 door, 100,000 km., excellent condition, \$10,000 firm. Phone 653-9280 evenings.

NEED A CAR or truck? Good credit, bad credit. Want a Visa? #1 success rate. Delivery in BC and Alberta. [www.drivemenow.com](http://www.drivemenow.com) or 888-501-1148.

### 825 CARS, SALES

AUTOLOAN SUPERSTORE APPROVALS!! Huge selection. Cars, trucks, SUV's, vans. Free delivery BC and AB. You work, you drive. 0 down programs, best rates. Largest family auto lender Western Canada. Forget the rest, deal with the best!! Good, bad or ugly credit approved!! Call 1-866-550-2279 or apply online. [www.carvilleautocredit.com](http://www.carvilleautocredit.com).

### 835 MOTORCYCLE/SCOOTER,

YAMAHA DIRT bike, runs good & extra parts, \$650. 538-7027 iv. message.



THE PERFECT ISLAND BIKE



730 Hillside Ave., Victoria 250-382-8291 [www.sgpower.com](http://www.sgpower.com) [marc@sgpower.com](http://marc@sgpower.com)

### 855 TRUCKS/4X4S

1992 TOYOTA SR5, 4 Runner, moon window, good tires and running condition, tow hitch. Can be used for a Jeep or Land Rover recovery vehicle, excellent vehicle in snow. \$5000 obo. 537-2053.

1995 JEEP YJ, 4x4, strong engine, body needs wrk, good winter vehicle, \$3000 obo. Call Dennis 537-4554.

BC'S #1 DIESEL TRUCK SUPERSTORE. "Zero down / cash back" oac. Guaranteed credit approvals. Trades, save thousands. Delivery anywhere. 604-897-7797 or 1-877-855-9499. [www.truckbuy.ca](http://www.truckbuy.ca). D30209.

EX-TRANSIT VEHICLES, mini buses & raised roof vans. Some wheelchair lift equipped & diesel powered. Starting at \$3900. Toll-free: 1-888-416-9333, local: 604-882-9333.

### 856 BUSES, VANS

1984 DODGE RAM van, 3/4 ton, long box. Motor shot, rest cool. \$200. 537-1252.

### 900 TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

GOTTA SELL your car, truck, boat, RV, trailer or motorcycle? Advertise it in the Driftwood for 8 weeks at only \$37.95. (Private party ads, 20 words, 1 vehicle per special, must be prepaid.) Call 537-9933 for details.

UNICEF CHRISTMAS Cards - every purchase makes a difference to the world's children - available now at "et cetera" ph 537-5115.

PLEASE NOTE: Too Late to Classify ads are accepted until 10:00 am Tuesday at the rate of \$13.25 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 proofread because of time constraint.

RED GINGER Clothing, closing out sale. All items in store now 50-70% off. Everything must go by Dec. 22. Organic cottons, great bras, shoes galore & holiday dresses!

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.

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WANTED TO buy: firewood logs. Konig & Son Firewood. Phone 537-9531.

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Join Brenda Akerman for Aquafit Classes at the Summerside Pool. Aquafit will positively impact your body, and your mood. Start each day feeling great! Drop in classes \$6. Regular classes, Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Walking low impact classes Mon, Wed, 10:30-11:30a.m. (Last class Wed., Dec. 19, will resume again Jan. 7). For more info, call Julie 537-9433.

**SAM ANDERSON** Appliance Repair. Hot water tank and appliance installation. Authorized warranty technician for all makes. Sears authorized warranty technician. 537-5268.

#### YOU COULD WIN!

Renew your subscription to the Driftwood before Jan 15th, 2008 and your name will be entered in a draw to win a one year lease on a 2008 Forester from Saunders Subaru! There are also 4 early bird draws of \$250 gas certificates from the Payless, Johnson's, Patterson's and Save-on. Drop by the Driftwood Monday thru Friday, we're open from 8:30 til 4:30, or give us a call at 537-9933. Renew today!

#### ESTHETICS BY PENNY

Gift certificates available at 501 Rainbow and Stuff & Nonsense...a caring gift for all. Call Penny 538-0307.

2 CATS NEED babysitting for 3 weeks in January. Nice, neutered brother and sister. Ph. 653-4812.

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HEALING & HEALTH massage. 1 hr., \$35 or 1 1/2 hrs. \$50. Your home or studio near Ganges. Clare 653-9898. See What's On.

#### FRITZ THE CINEMA CAT

is available at Wintercraft, Mahon Hall, and book shops in Ganges. The sequel "Fritz the Cinema Cat Gets his Wings" will be published in February. Watch for ads re: book signing at Sabine's. Happy Holidays to all.

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Give the gift of health! Summerside Pool Memberships, \$100/mo, includes pass to fitness area. Call Julie 537-9433.

31 X 10.5 R15LT SPORT KING a/t, steel radials with good tread on 15" Keystone rims. All 4 for only \$1500. 537-6745.

PART-TIME labourer needed to work on home construction project. Phone Grant @ 538-7077.

#### GULF ISLANDS OPTICAL

Novel gifts for eyeglass wearers. Perfect for last minute stocking fillers. Now in, our 2008 frame collection. Beautiful colours, unique styles. For the perfect look see Wendy at the Lancer Building. 537-2648.

#### POMODORO WISHES ALL OUR CUSTOMERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

We will be closed from Dec. 24 through Dec. 28 and Jan. 1.

GULF ISLANDS Optical 2 for 1 sale ends Dec. 25. 537-2648.

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DAD LOST his license! His loss is your potential Christmas gift. 1990 Dodge Dynasty, 140,000 km. Power windows, power seats, immaculate interior, this car has been faithfully serviced and is in great shape. Would be ideal for a college bound kid, or make a great second (or first) car. \$1395 obo. 537-9161.

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WANTING TO buy: large fish tank, 10 gallons or bigger. Please call Karen at 538-8340.

#### ELECTRIC SCOOTERS

Year -end sale. Save \$250 off all electric scooters and \$150 off all electric bicycles in stock. Sale ends Dec. 31. E V Riders 537-2840. www.evriders.ca.

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## SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR DEC. 19



### This Week's Horoscope by Michael O'Connor

#### Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

Reaching down deep to open your mind wide or vice versa is a current theme. You want answers and adventure. What is true and what is not? You want to merge both within - between your heart, mind and soul and probably with someone special. Your focus may be personal and romantic yet also philosophical and spiritual. Inner preparations for a whole new level of power in the world are underway. Shared visions and genuine purpose are motivating factors. A new level of training or apprenticeship will begin very soon unless you are really on the ball and it is already in motion. See a bigger picture without making promises or drawing conclusions. Identify your power potential.

#### Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21)

Sometimes it is good to take inventory to be aware of what is needed and what is outdated. Finding your place in the world means leaving behind what was or actively giving it away. Merging and combining energies, resources, visions and passions is a recipe for deepened relationships. Do you know what you need and what you want and the difference between the two? Clarify this distinction and it may save you a lot of time, energy, money and heart ache. Reclaiming former glory or previously acknowledged power finds you looking back. On the other hand, you want to explore new horizons and modes of expression. Alternate styles and approaches are attractive. Unleash more of your wild side.

#### Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

Some of your power potential is peaking. Along with it you may feel the pressures of new levels of responsibility. You may feel inspired to work with, and on teams. This trend will continue into the future. A search for what is truly inspiring, sustainable and equitable may be on your mind. This may include the facing of certain fears. Concerns about security for the future are implied. New realizations about what you actually need verses want are already coming in and will continue. Big news is shaking your world for better or for worse, perhaps both. Either way, you are challenged to exercise cool, calm detachment to keep the drama in check. Alternately, you will feel called to take action and shake things up.

#### Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

The world is changing quickly now and you are challenged to rise to the occasion. This includes using your imagination in healthy ways to see through and beyond problems to see creative solutions. To do so, you must control fearful reactions. Change is the law and it is coming your way. Being emotionally ready for it is ideal. If you need assistance, ask for it. A spirit or flexible, willing cooperation may be exactly what you need. The time is ripe to learn new angles and skills. Look into training, perhaps on the job site, or more formal education. Aim to do work you love or at least can enjoy, rather than direct your focus purely upon money. This is the trend of the times.

#### Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

A creative and expansive cycle continues to inspire you. You probably need this uplift to offset the otherwise weighted pull of Saturn. You have been in a restructuring phase and are now in a rebuilding phase. This implies healing at core

and foundational levels. Consequently, you may not have as much energy as you would like to make the most of this upward spiralling sub-cycle. Flowing with the momentum, take time out as you can and attend to this inner work. Rest as necessary yet also exercise discipline and courage to do what you feel you must to fortify your foundation whether in your body, mind, emotions and/or your outer reality. Balance the highs with the lows and make the best of it

#### Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

Nestling in close to home is the call now. Wherever you are this is a good time to re-charge your batteries. Nurturing yourself with good food, rest and with inspiring visions and philosophies will keep your spirits high. Striking a balance between giving and receiving is implied. Fortunately, a new creative wave is coming in and will lead you to diversify your energies and focus for the sake of greater returns. This is a good time to entertain the possibilities that this implies. Even if you are simply preparing mentally and emotionally you are on the right track. You will be ready to launch in February especially. Get ready because you are on the verge of a whole new scope of creative power.

#### Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

Tuning-in to the reality of the times continues. The point of power is in the moment. You may feel a little stretched these days with changes, duties and responsibilities. Fortunately, a new quality of confidence is coming your way. It will include a more sober assessment of who you are and what is the quality of your actions, yet it will prove empowering. These will be followed by even larger moves and changes that will affect both your living situation, your career and social status in general. This is probably not a good time to take on too much in terms of extra responsibility and the energy it will require. Use this time to plan and to get ready emotionally for this change.

#### Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

Expanding and consolidating go hand in hand; as we increase the load we have to increase the foundation upholding it. The big questions are: how, and is the volume actually sustainable or worth attempting to uphold? The ability to answer such important questions often requires careful consideration. Returns for past efforts are coming in; are they what you aimed for? What is needed to feel secure? Often people believe they need much more than they actually do. Does your life feel balanced? Where is there too little and where too much? As you get clearer about this important question, you will also gain clarity about what you can do to create a new quality of balance. Aim for sustainability.

#### Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

Whether by inspiration, desperation or both, you are taking new leads and strides. Responsibilities surrounding your health, finances and your

actual (verses desired or imagined) skills and talents, are weighing on your mind. The time has come to bring forth more of your wisdom concerning what is balanced, fair and just. This will create a stir in your home environment. Perhaps you want to create a home office or studio or perhaps you feel the need to move altogether. Outline your goals so that you can focus upon them. Meeting the needs of others, your family and perhaps your community will require more of your time, energy and attention very soon. Prepare inwardly by associating pleasure to realistic and genuine service.

#### Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

Drawing plans, attending to administrative realities and making preparations behind the scenes continues. The time is right to prepare for new initiatives. This may well include longer term educational pursuits and interests. Creating new associations and increasing your network is part of the plot. You are both attracting to and aiming to attract to you people of means, talent and creative energy. By next week you will take even more deliberate actions and by February you will be very intent upon expressing the full measure of your power. Keeping an open mind and being willing to see yourself and the world, and yourself in the world in new ways are keys to success.

#### Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

Deep thoughts and considerations about freedom are on your mind. You are also interested in both experiencing and creating a higher state of culture. This includes balance and social justice. Your challenge is to transcend the old ways. As people in a culture we are influenced by the collective and that influence currently implies massive consumption of things we don't really want, let alone need. Of course, this trend is unsustainable and is setting the stage for cultural, economic and spiritual revolution. Are you aware of and ready for this shift? Hopefully you are because ready or not, here it comes. Look to the larger needs of our times and offer your allegiances.

#### Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

You are riding the crest of a big wave. This process requires concentration, commitment and determination. Do you feel you have the energy to sustain it? Do what you can to sustain an even pace and maintain your focus. This will require realistic attitudes and measures - not necessarily easy for dreamy Pisces. However, with vision and focus and determination you can beat the odds. Do what you can and must with steady and measured efforts, rather than attempting to go against the current as this will probably lead to rapid burn out. New levels of power and opportunity are coming and will be evident as early as late winter. Hold steady and follow through gracefully.



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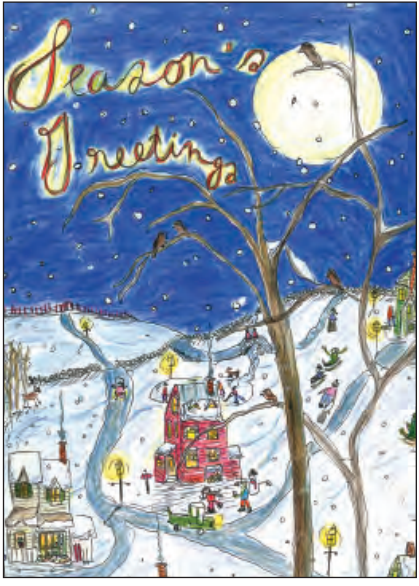


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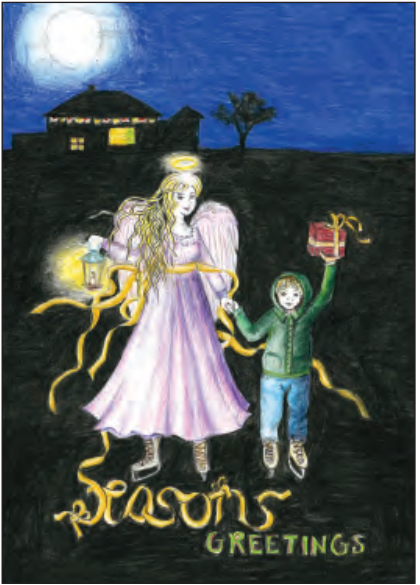
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537-5568

# PEOPLE & COMMUNITY



From left to right is Christmas cover art by Emily Wypkema, Sara Anstis and Zenah Rippindale. At right is Salle Wiltshire's art.



From left to right is Christmas cover art by Sarah Stubbs, Sierra Lundy and Connor Berkman.

## Runner-up cover art winners

All of the artwork on this page were among the favourites of the dozen or so people who judged the Driftwood's annual Christmas cover contest this year. All pieces were also among those highlighted by Gulf Islands Secondary School art teacher Sandra Lockie, whose grade 9-12 students entered the competition. The Driftwood was impressed by the variety of submissions and — in keeping with the “subjectivity” of art appreciation — very few judges selected their favourites in the same order. In looking for a Driftwood Christmas cover, judges consider many things, including reproduction potential, colour and immediacy. Winner this year was Umi Inoue's colourful and unique Christmas scene. Other artwork can be found on Page B13, and the images here are in no particular order.



At left is art by Kyla White, while above, from left to right are submissions by Justin Taylor, Katelyn Girard and Christina Fletcher.

## The Driftwood could put you in the driver's seat of a new Subaru



Renew or purchase a subscription before January 15th, 2008 and your name will be entered for a chance to a one year lease on a

# WIN 2008 Subaru Forester!



Jennifer Lee accepts a \$250 gas certificate from Claudia French. Jennifer was the winner of the November Early Bird Draw

**WIN... \$250 worth of GAS**  
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December 30



# PEOPLE & COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY  
Candles at a recent advent ceremony on Salt Spring light the dark of winter with a seasonal touch.

## VIOLENCE PREVENTION

# Lower membership fee decision aims to boost R+R support

\$10,000 still needed to complete classes this year

SWOVA members hope a smaller membership fee will help the society deliver its award-winning curriculum to Gulf Islands classrooms this year.

At its annual general meeting last month, SWOVA (Salt Spring Women Opposed to Violence and Abuse) voted to lower fees to \$5 a year from \$25 in order to make membership more accessible to those wanting to show support for the program.

Former SWOVA board chair Leslie DeAthe announced the decision, adding the society hopes this will give those unable to join before an opportunity to support

the award-winning violence prevention work the organization is known for provincially, nationally and internationally.

According to press material, a SWOVA membership supports "a local, proactive violence prevention initiative that is gaining international recognition as a means of reducing violence in our communities and teaching healthy relationship skills to youth."

Membership includes the SWOVA newsletter ROAR, which gives up-to-date information about all of SWOVA's activities, including the schools-based Respectful Relationships program.

Membership is open to women and men, adults and youth, organizations and businesses.

SWOVA issues charitable donation tax receipts for gifts of \$20 or more.

People can also donate gifts of stocks, bonds and mutual funds to SWOVA and benefit from tax savings.

Though Gulf Islands students are presently receiving the R+R curriculum, SWOVA is still short \$10,000 to complete classroom delivery this school year.

Further information is available through 537-1336 or [www.swova.org](http://www.swova.org).

## ISLANDS TRUST

# OCP review now entering its next phase

A spokesperson for Islanders for Self-Government recently voiced the need for more hearings to discuss changes to the island's official community plan (OCP).

"The meetings in the fall were useful and well run but were dominated by those half-dozen hot-button issues," said Denis Russell at last Thursday's Trust committee meeting. "Now that

most of those have been resolved, we think it would be a good idea to have some more meetings."

He encouraged trustees to seek out how other communities in the province have dealt with their plan reviews.

Trustees said Islands Trust staff will prepare and streamline recommendations before more public sessions are scheduled.

"Once we receive the staff analysis we will be in a position to make proposals to the public and to get more input from them, specifically on some of the bigger issues such as amenity zoning, density transfer, energy use and secondary suites," Ehring said.

A schedule of OCP meetings seeking public input will be advertised early in the new year.

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