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2008
The whole scoop
SEE PAGES B1-11

ELECTION 2008



Driftwood

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Wednesday, November 12, 2008 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 48TH YEAR — ISSUE 46 **\$1.25** (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

A TIME TO REMEMBER: Salt Spring war vets and members of the RCMP are among those taking part in Salt Spring's annual Remembrance Day parade. The event was part of the Remembrance Day ceremony which occurred in Centennial Park on Tuesday.

PASSAGES

Island pioneer dies at 96

Bob Akerman defined old-timer generation

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

In island history books, Bob Akerman is noted as a skilled sportsman and legendary islander, but to his son Pat he'll always be remembered as a proud and loving father.

"He definitely taught me respect for elders, discipline and a strong work ethic," said Pat, a few days after his father passed away at his home at the age of 96 on Nov. 7. "Everybody always had their row to hoe."

Many islanders knew Bob as the caretaker of the Akerman museum or as the co-author of *The Akerman Family: Grow-*

AKERMAN continued on A6

Election countdown

Salt Spring voters are sharpening their pencils for local election day on Saturday, Nov. 15, along with people in the rest of the province.

Those who won't be on the island to vote on Saturday can mark their ballots at the advance poll at the Ganges Fire Hall today (Wednesday) from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. or at the Mary Winspear Centre in Sidney.

See our special election section — the first 11 pages of B section — which includes candidate Q&As, a story from the Fulford all-candidates debate, voting venue details and summaries of the two Salt Spring referendum questions.

As well, people can watch reporter Amy Geddes' three-SET TO VOTE continued on A2

HISTORY

WWII vet remembers historic moments

Ken Williams returns to site of Montgomery surrender acceptance in Europe

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The date May 7, 1945 has gone down in history as marking the official surrender of the Germans during World War II. General Eisenhower, chief commander of the Allied forces, arranged the signing at his headquarters in Reims, France.

Just a few days earlier, however, another important document was signed that precipitated the general surrender and marked the crucial first step in the surrender process. In a village near Luneberg in Lower Saxony, Britain's Field Marshall Montgomery accepted surrender of "all German armed forces in Holland, in northwest Germany, including all islands, and in Denmark."

Salt Spring resident Ken Williams was active in the events leading up to this initial surrender, and helped repair and heal some of the brutal horrors he witnessed at the war's end. Although a modest man without any desire to be in the spotlight, Williams' memories contribute an important link to living history that Canadians would do well to ponder at this time of Remembrance.

Now a spry 87, Williams was just 25 when Europe's part in the war officially ended. He was a member of the British Army's Royal Engineers, and the youngest major west of the Rhine at the time of surrender. The young officer landed in France just after the storming of Dunkirk in 1944, and stayed on duty six months after the sur-

render to help organize the logistics of housing displaced prisoners of war and concentration camp survivors.

During his time with the Royal Engineers, Williams was often "mentioned in despatches," a military term for a commendation included in an official report by a senior officer to his superiors. Several mentions warrant a commemorative oak leaf in silver or bronze; both his wife Jean and his daughter Jennifer received an oak leaf from Williams in past years.

Recalling his time in Europe during an interview at his home, Williams gave a sense of the immensity of the human involvement in the Second World War. Williams was part of the 8th corps, which was in charge of the 11th armoured division, as well the 6th airborne division, including a division of Canadian parachutes.

WILLIAMS continued on A2

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SALT SPRING EMERGENCY PROGRAM

POD Captain Meeting
Nov. 19th - 6:00 pm
Community Gospel Church

Earthquake Awareness Session by
Pacific GeoScience Centre

The Salt Spring Island Emergency Program will be hosting a meeting of all persons involved in or are interested in the POD Captain Program.

The POD Captain Program is dedicated to seeing all of the residents of Salt Spring Island are prepared for and know what to do in the event of an emergency.

Earthquake Session at 6:00 pm
Meeting at 7:00 pm
Community Gospel Church
147 Vesuvius Bay Road

Refreshments will be served
Meet our new POD Captain Coordinator Timothy Cahill

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WE	09:24	2.7 8.9	SU	00:11	-0.0 0.0	
	14:28	3.3 10.8		08:47	3.6 11.8	
	21:58	0.2 0.7		13:41	3.0 9.8	
13	06:07	3.4 11.2	17	16:57	3.2 10.5	
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	12:19	3.1 10.2				

NEWSBEAT

CALL GAIL, SEAN OR AMY IF YOU SEE NEWS HAPPENING - 250-537-9933

Finding an important spot in history

WILLIAMS

continued from A1

"I came two days after D-Day because I had all the maps of the area between Brest and Eindhoven," Williams said. The maps were important for finding airfields, which the engineers cleared and repaired.

In April of 1945 the engineers were occupied with the discovery of Belsen, a nearby concentration camp. Survivors were barely distinguishable from corpses, and a typhus epidemic brought many of the inmates to their death shortly after liberation.

One of Williams' jobs as an engineer was to help organize the burial of these tragic victims, in mass graves that eventually held 12,000 to 13,000 people.

Along with the horrors that Williams saw at Belsen, he was also on hand for the turning point in the German surrender.

He recalls that it was members of the 11th division who first saw the company of Germans walking down the road, carrying the white flag. They quickly informed command, and Field Marshall Montgomery ordered a removal of troops from the area that Williams helped organize.

While the Germans originally wanted to offer up

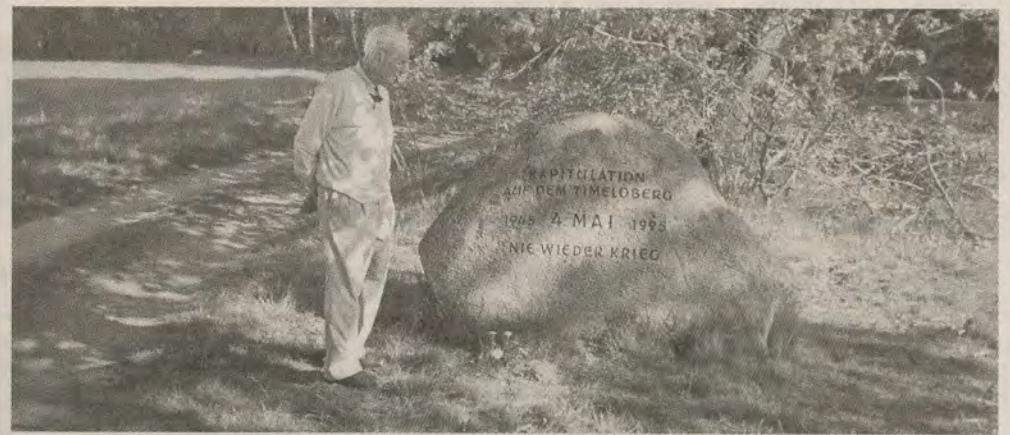


PHOTO BY ROBIN WILLIAMS

Ken Williams at commemorative rock near Luneberg, Germany in the spring of 2008.

just their three local armies, Montgomery demanded an unconditional surrender that would encompass of all the troops in north-western Europe. General Admiral von Freideburg agreed, which Williams says made possible the final surrender a few days later.

The moment was historically significant for important Canadians, too: General Harry Crerar, the commanding officer of the First Canadian Army, can be seen standing behind Montgomery in a photo of the document signing.

While most of Europe celebrated V-E day, Williams took a pint of beer and retired quietly to his bed. With so many people shooting guns into the air, the cel-

bration was as dangerous as the war itself!

After the surrender, Williams saw German troops pouring into the north of the country as they abandoned Norway, Denmark and Holland. There were four million POWs and most of them just wanted to stop fighting.

"I saw a whole group of Germans come in with their rifles, being led in by one British Tommy on a bicycle."

Williams and his son Robin recently returned to the area where that historical document was signed, and searched for the commemorative rock near where Montgomery's simple tent was pitched. The rock is situated in a copse of trees at the end of a quiet dirt

road, outside a small village some ways from Luneberg. The villagers know where it is, but there are few other references to its location.

It is somewhat surprising that a place of such historic significance is so difficult to find, but perhaps the Germans would rather move past those painful memories. (Montgomery took the original monument to Sandhurst, the Royal Military college, in 1958 after the bronze plaque was stolen several times.)

But for Williams and his family, the standing marker is an important testament to a history of cooperation between nations and between individuals: a history that should not be lost or forgotten.

Election results online

SET TO VOTE

continued from A1

minute candidate videos in the "News" section of the Driftwood's website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com. Letters to the editor and other opinion pieces are also posted there (under the Opinion tab), including some not available in the print version of the paper.

Election results will be posted to the Driftwood website as soon as they are available.

A website called www.saltspring.org, run by islander Larry Cross, will also have election results and currently contains a variety of local election-related material.

ISLANDS TRUST

Marina expansion plan in doldrums

Guarantees wanted

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Trustees want some form of reassurance that owners of the Salt Spring Marina will follow through with a promise to create a more environmentally friendly facility before giving first reading to an expansion proposal.

"I'd like to see something more than just an intention," said trustee Peter Lamb during November's local Trust committee (LTC) meeting at ArtSpring on Thursday.

While the applicant's intentions are laudable, Lamb said, he wants to see provisions to ensure the construction and operation of a marine pump-out station, maintenance of a public boat launch at affordable rates, compliance with best practices codes and the creation of dock space for local boaters get written into the development permit process.

According to the Salt Spring Marina application, the company's proposal would increase the marina's capacity to between 60 and 72 boats, representing an additional 4,000 lineal feet of docking space. The plan also calls for the creation of a floating breakwater that would cover Moneymaker rocks and the installation of a marine pump-out station.

In order to proceed with an expansion, the applicant must obtain an official community plan amendment, zoning amendment and a development permit.

The proposal involves only the water portion of the marina property. No changes are planned for the property's upland site on Upper Ganges Road.

Trustees' demands for reassurances follow a similar recommendation made by the island's Advisory Planning Commission on Sept. 18.

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PARKS

Dog walkers adjust to reduced Ruckle Park access

Prohibited areas to protect livestock deemed 'extreme' by some park users

BY AMY GEDDES
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Visit Ruckle Provincial Park any day of the week and hikers accompanied by their canine companions can be seen clipping along the picturesque trails. As of Aug. 31, however, "no dogs allowed" areas have restricted dog walkers to 18 per cent of the park's 15-kilometre trail network.

"Due to ongoing interactions with farm livestock, dogs are not permitted beyond this point," reads new trailhead signs that prohibit dog walkers — even dogs on leash — from more than 12,000 metres of trail.

The signs mean dog walkers are now confined to the short, high-occupancy trail loop from the park gate through the day-use and camping areas, and are forced to bypass the popular Grandma's Bay portion of the loop because it borders a sensitive livestock area.

The entire trail network north of Beaver Point Road, including the oceanside promenade from Beaver Point to Yeo Point, are now prohibited to dog walkers.

Park users who frequent the trails with their pets call the restricted areas "extreme."

"I think that's unfair," said Tara Hollingsworth, who frequents the park with her dog Canyon.

The decision made by B.C. Parks management came after park manager Mike Lane reported consistent and ongoing violations of the park-wide "dogs on leash" rule in the B.C. Parks Act.

Lane chose not to comment on the issue, but Joe Benning, B.C. Parks area supervisor for Saanich and South Gulf Islands, explained on Tuesday that dog walkers had been ignoring the signs and letting their dogs roam free, threatening the safety of livestock on the park's heritage farm.

Sheep, he said, are a vulnerable animal of particular concern.

"Some dog owners don't realize there is truly a mortality issue with the livestock involved," he said, noting that while canine-livestock encounters have not been formally documented at the park, "there certainly have been a number of instances over the years."

Pregnant ewes can abort if chased by dogs, he said.

But M. Newman, with her dog Bear by her side, said responsible owners who obey the leash rule are being penalized for the non-compliance of others.

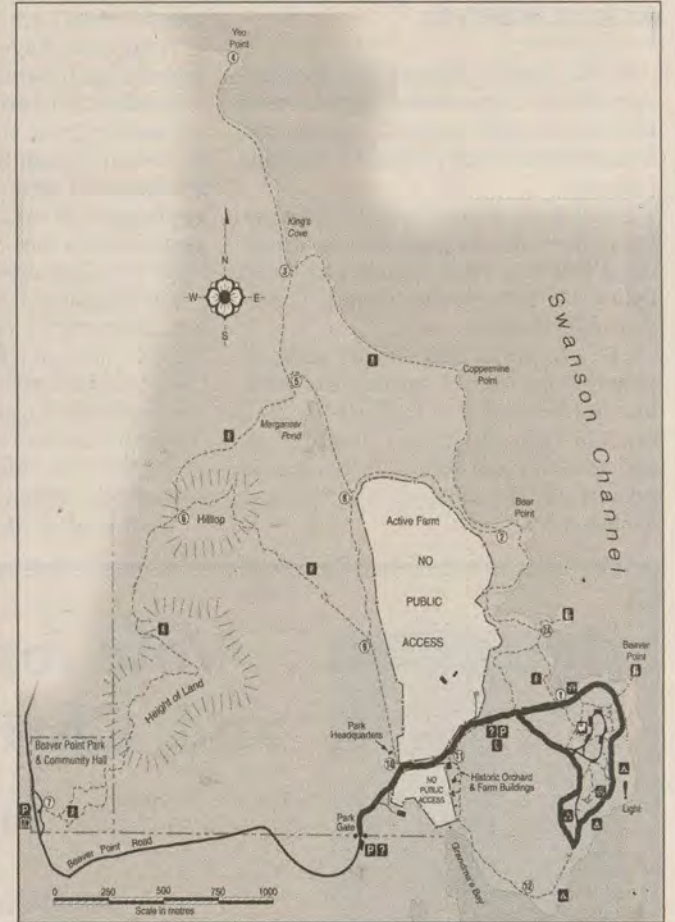
"I find [the restricted areas] extreme," she said. "But I hope it's a temporary measure and a good wake-up call for dog owners out there not being responsible."

For the first time in Ruckle Park's history, B.C. Parks has



PHOTO BY AMY GEDDES

Above, Ruckle Park hiker Janet Walker stops at a north-bound trailhead to examine one of the new park signs restricting dog access. At right, a B.C. Park map of Ruckle Park with high-lighted (dark line) area shows the small trail loop that remains open to dog walkers.



decided to prohibit dogs from certain areas — a decision Benning said came after diligent attempts by both K-2 Park Services and B.C. Parks to educate park users by "beefing up" signage and issuing warnings to violators.

"This wasn't just a 'snap' judgement," he said. "For a number of years we've not been getting effective cooperation from the public."

K-2 Park Services, which is contracted by B.C. Parks to enforce regulations on a day-to-day basis, said Ruckle Park is the first of the 25 parks it oversees in the southern Gulf Islands with a designated "no dogs allowed" area.

Yet owners letting their dogs off-leash, however, remains an ongoing problem in many of K-2's parks.

"Dogs running loose is getting to be a serious problem in all vehicle-accessible parks in the southern Gulf Islands," said K-2 Park Services co-owner Debbie King.

Competing interests make the issue of dog prohibition at

Ruckle Park a double-sided coin. The 485 hectares of land acquired from the Ruckle family in 1973 balances competing recreational and heritage farm conservation values.

"Dogs don't need access to 100 per cent of the island, especially in protected areas," said Allison Campbell at Ruckle Park on Sunday. While she declared herself an animal lover, she defended B.C. Parks' rationale for designating the new restricted areas.

Potential B.C. Park Act fines issued to Ruckle Park dog walkers found in the new restricted areas:

- \$86 failure to obey sign
- \$58 domestic animal in a prohibited area
- \$58 unrestrained domestic animal

News briefs

Spirit detours continue

With one of four main engines on the Spirit of British Columbia requiring an extensive overhaul, B.C. Ferries continues to run the vessel until its refit in mid-November.

Until then, passengers attempting to connect to the Swartz Bay-Fulford route via the Tsawwassen-Swartz Bay route, or vice versa, are advised to check for amended schedules on www.bcferries.com.

Schedule changes, such as those on the web for Nov. 13, 14, 15 and 16, are based on

anticipated tidal activity that require a 45-minute detour south of the southern Gulf Islands.

It is also up to the captain's discretion during a sailing whether excessive tidal conditions warrant such a detour.

B.C. Ferries spokesperson Deborah Marshall assures that aside from the pre-planned or discretionary detours, "the vessel can maintain its schedule on three engines."

Bill quandary

B.C. Ferries passengers wondering why their throughfare purchases read "Robbins Parking" on their VISA or Mastercard state-

ments can rest assured there's been no mistake.

The machine used to obtain the ticket on the Skeena Queen is managed by Robbins Parking on behalf of B.C. Ferries.

"These tickets," said B.C. Ferries spokesperson Deborah Marshall on Monday, "confirm for our Swartz Bay ticket agents that the customer indeed travelled on the Skeena and they are entitled to the throughfare rate to Tsawwassen, which is lower than the regular rate."

An island resident alerted the Driftwood to the issue after two Robbins Parking \$8.50 items appeared on her credit card statement. Identifying the source may have been easier, she said, if they were billed on the day she and her husband travelled on the ferry, but they weren't.

Customers will also see "Robbins Parking" on their statements if they parked in Swartz Bay, Duke Point or Departure Bay parking lots and used their credit card to pay for the service because these parking facilities are also managed by Robbins Parking for B.C. Ferries.

The trial of a Campbell River resident charged in connection with the death of a Salt Spring Island woman following a motor-vehicle collision in 2007 got underway in Victoria Monday morning.

McIvor trial begins

The trial of a Campbell River resident charged in con-

nection with the death of a Salt Spring Island woman following a motor-vehicle collision in 2007 got underway in Victoria Monday morning.

Brian McIvor, 58, pleaded not guilty to charges of impaired driving causing death, dangerous operation of a vehicle causing death and operating a vehicle while impaired in April 2008.

It is alleged that McIvor was behind the wheel when his Dodge pick-up truck crossed over the centre line and hit an oncoming vehicle on North End Road near St. Mark's Anglican Church on the afternoon of Oct. 24, 2007, killing the vehicle's lone occupant.

According to a spokesperson from the British Columbia Court Registry, the trial is scheduled to continue in Room 201 at the Victoria Law Courts on Nov. 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

FOR THE RECORD

A woman in a photo from the Salt Spring Vineyards Harvest Ball in the Oct. 22 issue of the Driftwood was incorrectly identified as Joan McIntyre, when in fact she is Joanne McIntyre.

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NEWSBEAT

ISLANDS TRUST

Public hearing for training ground plan

Salt Spring Coffee application also gets another look

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District rezoning application to upgrade and expand a south-end training facility will proceed to a public hearing.

Local Trust committee (LTC) members asked Islands Trust staff to schedule a hearing after giving proposed Bylaw 435 first reading during Thursday's LTC meeting.

The fire protection district seeks to rezone a portion of agricultural land, located behind the Fulford fire hall at 2470 Fulford-Ganges Road, to an agricultural zone variation that would permit construction of the training facility.

According to rules set out in the proposed bylaw, training times would be limited to between the hours of 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. one evening per week and for up to a maximum of six fire and rescue training camps per year of up to four full days each.

Trust staff have yet to schedule a date for the hearing.

In other Salt Spring LTC news: Islands Trust staff and applicants representing Salt Spring Coffee are in the midst of reviewing the company's application to rezone land for the construction of a new coffee roasting facility at 1501 Fulford-Ganges Road.

The applicant initially asked that the property be rezoned from Rural Neighbourhoods (RL) to Industrial and Commercial Services (I), though trustees have now suggested that it may be "in the interests of the neighbourhood" to consider rezoning the property to a commercial zone variation.

"Think of it as food preparation

instead of an industrial use," said trustee George Ehring.

If the nature of activities proposed by Salt Spring Coffee can be conducted on a commercial property, trustees said, neighbours could rest assured that the 1.09-hectare (2.69-acre) site would never host the type and scale of industrial activities over which neighbours have expressed concern in recent months.

According to the Salt Spring Coffee application, the new site would accommodate a two-storey building for company offices, bulk storage of coffee beans, roasting and packaging facilities, a "coffee laboratory" and tasting room, reception facilities, kitchen, commercial gardens and visitors' centre.

Trustees asked that once the application is updated, it be forwarded by staff to the Advisory Planning Commission and Environmental Advisory Committee for comment.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

GOT THE T-SHIRT: James Laughlin and Wendy Bissett attended the Salt Spring Metal Recycling open house and went home with T-shirts.



Vote for George Ehring and Christine Torgrimson

Islands Trust

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RECYCLING

Centennial Park recycling options

I-SEA pilot study digs into park-user recycling habits

BY AMY GEDDES
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With results in from a Centennial Park recycling pilot project, the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) is now taking a serious look at how to maintain permanent recycling facilities in the park.

The commission recommended at an Oct. 28 meeting that PARC staff liaise with Copper Kettle Community Partnership and other social agencies, as well as with recycling companies and organizations, to explore the potential of establishing a permanent recycling program.

Margery Moore, a director of the Institute for Sustainability Education and Action (I-SEA) group, presented the commission with the findings of a recycling pilot study launched in July.

Funded by a Capital Regional District (CRD) grant-in-aid, the goal was to determine — once and for all — how recyclables can be processed in the park on a permanent basis.

As it stands, no public blue boxes are provided in the park. Only small wire baskets attached to PARC garbage bins serve as bottle and can receptacles.

Moral imperative

An average of 2.4 bags of recyclables were collected by I-SEA summer students on Saturdays in July and August from eight "experimental" blue boxes they had placed around the park.

With such a small amount of recyclables being generated, commissioner Ben Goodman questioned at the meeting if Moore was "making a mountain out of a mole hill."

But Moore declared park recycling facilities "a moral imperative," whether they divert one or 100 kilograms of recyclables from the landfill.

During the pilot study, \$4, at most, was recouped from Encorp Bottling Depot



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY I-SEA

I-SEA summer student Christine Atkinson takes bags of materials from Centennial Park recycling stations to Laurie's Recycling during a summer pilot project.

"The CRD should come up with a new definition — this is ridiculous."

MARGERY MOORE
I-SEA

refunds each day. And, at times, no refundable recyclables were collected at all.

Recyclables collected from the park are considered "commercial" and therefore not accepted at the Rainbow Road Recycling Depot. The only option is to bring the items to Laurie's Recycling and pay the tipping fees — a process I-SEA estimates would cost \$10 a day to maintain on a permanent basis.

"The CRD should come up with a new definition — this is ridiculous," Moore said in a telephone interview Tuesday, finding the

"commercial" designation a stumbling block. Because such a small amount of recyclables are generated in the park, she believes an exception should be made to make returns more affordable.

Moore's report suggests PARC pay up to \$4,000 to cover tipping fees for Copper Kettle or another organization to administer a recycling program. The organization could in turn keep the refunds after sorting, collecting and taking in the recyclables.

The report deemed a collaborative approach with community groups as the option with the "highest possible success rating."

The group had also surveyed market vendors to gauge their willingness to help pay for recycling. Just over half the respondents said they would pay a fee ranging from \$1-2 a day, but they "clearly stated that they do not agree it is their responsibility to pay for recycling in Centennial Park ..." the report states.

Coffee cups

The pilot study found that paper coffee cups were the number one item being tossed into Centennial Park blue boxes.

Cups were unrinsed and soiled with beverage contents, rendering them non-recyclable, and were sent to the landfill.

"The use of paper cups is a big problem," Moore said at the meeting, adding that vendors should be educated about offering more sustainable beverage containers.

Her concern was echoed at the meeting by PARC commissioner Brenda Guiled.

"What about washable mugs that people pay \$5 for and get money back if they return the mug?" Guiled suggested.

Binner culture uncovered

The I-SEA study also unearthed another useful piece of information; they discovered a few "binners" informally mine the garbage for recyclables and make a living from refundable items.

"This is an important underground economy that should not be overlooked," the report states.

Moore suggests any long-term recycling system should provide binners with easy access to recyclables.

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ISLANDS TRUST

Beddis ALR exclusion sent to province

Trustees say they're taking "practical approach"

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An application to remove land from the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) for the construction of a new Slegg Lumber store and storage area along Beddis Road is headed to the province for consideration after trustees considered the matter at Thursday's local Trust committee meeting.

Beddis Developments Ltd.'s application originally sought to have the entire subject property at 201 and 205 Beddis Road removed from the ALR in order to facilitate construction of its new facility.

Though the property is split-zoned Industrial 3 (1.42 hectares/3.5 acres) and Agricultural 1 (3.6 hectares/8.9 acres), the site's topography makes building the new store on the industrial portion of the land impossible, the applicant argues.

Trustees recommended that the prov-

ince's Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) consider removing a total of no more than 3.5 acres from the ALR for the project in order to preserve the net amount of agriculturally zoned land on the property.

"If we are talking about 3.5 acres out of that total piece of land that would be zoned industrial, moving the area that is zoned industrial to the flat portion of the property does make much more sense to me," said trustee George Ehring.

Though he agreed to forward the application to the ALC, Ehring said the application must still undergo the rezoning phase before construction can begin.

"I want to be really clear about what we are dealing with here and that is just an application for exclusion of a portion of that land from the ALR," he said on Thursday. "This is not any part of the rezoning application or anything dealing with traffic patterns, the appropriate use of this property, its impact on Beddis Road, etc. . . Those things would be dealt with when we deal with the rezoning application, if the ALC decides to exclude the land."

need a ride to the polls?

phone: 250-537-1154

Let's show the rest of the Province that Salt Spring believes in democracy. Our aim is to have the highest percentage of voter turnout in B.C. Your vote matters!
VOTE - Saturday, November 15th
more info at: www.islandgov.org

"ride to the polls" is a community program from Islanders for Self Government

\$100 REWARD LOST

Yellow remote extension cable on blue reel,
18" dia. between Price Rd. and Rainbow Rd.

Call Gulf Coast 250-537-2611

Christine Torgrimson & George Ehring



**Elect an
effective
team for
the Trust**

Over the last few years, I have worked on several affordable housing initiatives and have experienced great support from the Local Trust Committee and Islands Trust staff. Our community has succeeded in developing about 65 units of affordable rental housing during this last LTC term.,

I believe our community has the capacity to solve our affordable housing challenges in a sustainable and responsible fashion, and I look forward to continuing this progress under the leadership of George Ehring and Christine Torgrimson. Their commitment to this principle has earned them my vote.

Janis Gauthier
Housing consultant

NEWSBEAT

Akerman life celebration on Sunday

AKERMAN
continued from A1

ing up with Salt Spring Island, though a vast majority most likely knew him as a friend and neighbour.

In the book's opening pages, Bob writes that living on an island "encourages us all to get to know each other a little better than we might have done otherwise" and, whether he was organizing a cross-island sports tournament or building up many of the Fulford landmarks that persist to this day, Bob certainly met a lot of people along the way.

Bob was born in the Fulford Valley in 1912 to Ted and Ellen Akerman. He and his wife Molly raised 11 children, many of whom remain on the island and are actively involved with the community. The family grew to include 30 grandchildren and 45 great grandchildren.

In a lifetime spent living off the land by farming, logging, ranching, fishing and hunting, Bob grew to symbolize what life in the south end was all about.

He began hunting when he was five, nabbing two pigeons in a nearby grain field with a 12-gauge Parker. Shortly after that early experience, his Grannie Gyves taught him how to rake herring in Fulford Harbour and collect clams off of what is now Isabella Point Road.

These skills served Bob and his family well during Salt Spring's early days and



Bob Akerman in a photo taken three years ago.

the Great Depression. While many people in the country were lining up for bread, Bob recalled that life on the island proceeded as usual, largely because the early pioneers never had much money to begin with.

"We had to make do with whatever we could find, but we were far better off than a lot of other Canadians. We hunted for game, grew fruit and vegetables and raised a cow for milk, but that wasn't any different from the way we had always lived — off the land," he wrote.

"When we got tired of hunting, we'd get fish, clams and crab. We always used to say, 'when the tide's out, the table is set.'"

Islander Marguerite Lee spent many an evening at Bob's family home where

she and the Akerman children enjoyed the family's "open-door" policy.

Everyone was welcome to grab a chair at the Akerman table and, Lee recalled, Bob always carried a smile wherever he went.

"I will certainly miss him," she said.

According to longtime island resident Bob Rush, "the valley won't seem the same without him."

Over the course of his life, Bob helped build, among other things, the Drummond Park children's playground, the Fulford Ball Park and multiple renovations to Fulford Hall. He was a founding member of the Salt Spring Rotary Club and Salt Spring's original Parks and Recreation Commission.

When it came to building

community, Bob wrote that he was only repaying the favour made by the generations that preceded him.

"I've enjoyed many dances, ball tournaments and picnics, among other events that were organized by volunteers who put in many hours of hard work for the benefit of the entire community," he wrote. "It was only natural that I'd pitch in my services when I could to return the favour and to ensure that the island remains an exciting and enjoyable place for us all to live."

Though the days of cougar hunts and bucking big timber in the Fulford Valley may be a thing of the past, the story of Bob's life can still remind us all about how things used to be, what remains important and what living on the island is all about.

It's a sentiment well captured in a section of his book wherein he recalls dealing with all the city folk who happened by the Akerman family museum.

"Those city folks are real good people and I wouldn't want to upset them, but when they can't understand why people would want to live on Salt Spring Island, I think they're just a little dumb in some ways."

A celebration of Bob's life will be held on Sunday, Nov. 16 at Fulford Community Hall starting at 1 p.m. All are welcome.

Islanders deserve effective change to our local government.

Change that still needs to be explored through a governance study. Lets carefully choose Trustee and CRD leadership who will follow through on the promise of a study that is fair and one that considers the option of Municipal governance. Lets insist on a referendum which could bring effective change.

Learn more at: www.islandgov.org
www.saltspring.org/elections.htm

vote NO to 4 trustees



ISLANDERS FOR SELF GOVERNMENT

support a local island government



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

RAINY ROADS: Emergency crews attend the site of an over-turned vehicle that slid in the S-curves on Vesuvius Bay Road, flipped and landed in the ditch on Saturday.

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ISLANDS TRUST

Trustees still demand Norton Road specifics

Affordable housing proposal remains deadlocked

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee deferred consideration of a proposed housing agreement required for an affordable housing project planned for Norton Road until trustees receive more information about the homes' initial selling price.

"It's a matter of establishing a framework," said trustee

George Ehring. "It is not rocket science."

A satisfactory housing agreement is required before rezoning Bylaw 407, permitting the construction of up to 26 housing units on the site, receives final adoption.

The bylaw was approved by the Islands Trust executive committee in Nov. 2005, although outstanding issues regarding the housing agreement have dogged the development.

While the applicant states in the current hous-

ing agreement that homes will be affordable to island residents with household incomes between \$51,000 and \$76,000, trustees want a specific indication of how much these homes will cost potential residents before proceeding.

"We are still dodging around this issue," said trustee Peter Lamb.

"This is a significant upzoning. These homes must be affordable [to moderate income earners.]"

The developer maintains

that providing final cost estimates more than a year before construction is set to begin places the project in a difficult financial situation.

"Economic conditions influencing the cost of construction can change significantly within one year; the proposed housing agreement's income-based approach makes it less essential for the housing agreement to set an initial sales prices," states the Islands Trust's own staff report.

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



Mondays All Winter

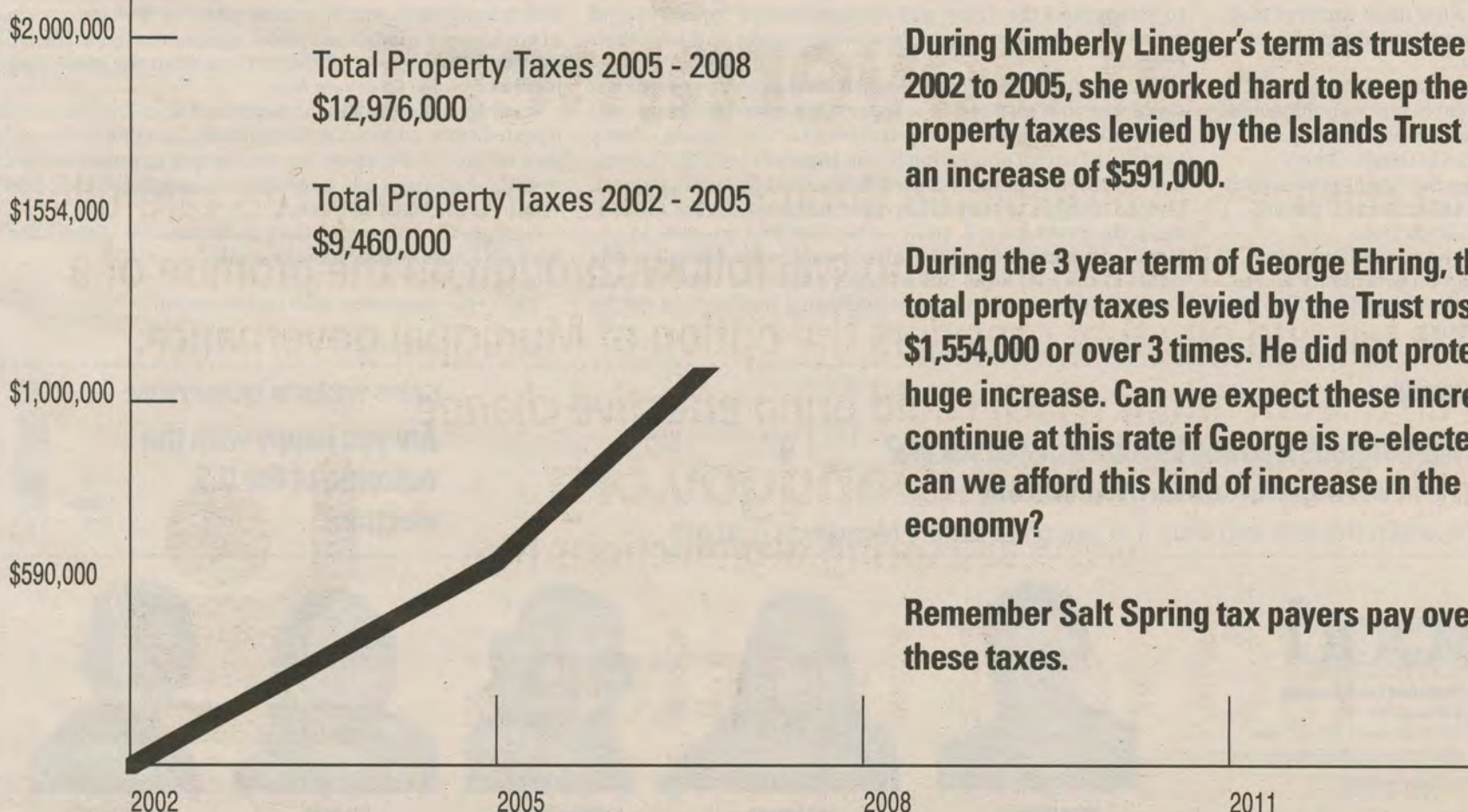
Chef Max Del Vecchio

presents *Pasta Fresca*

reservations 653-4833

Annual Islands Trust Property Tax Increases 2002 - 2008

All number taken from the Islands Trust Website
Budget History 1995 to 2008. Excluding Bowen Island.



During Kimberly Lineger's term as trustee from 2002 to 2005, she worked hard to keep the total property taxes levied by the Islands Trust down to an increase of \$591,000.

During the 3 year term of George Ehring, the total property taxes levied by the Trust rose by \$1,554,000 or over 3 times. He did not protest this huge increase. Can we expect these increases to continue at this rate if George is re-elected? How can we afford this kind of increase in the current economy?

Remember Salt Spring tax payers pay over 40% of these taxes.

Opinion

EDITORIAL

Where they vote

Oh the mischief three little words can cause when appearing in bold type and capital letters within a newspaper advertisement.

Last week's Islanders for Self-Government ad that declared Salt Spring does not need two additional trustees who "can not vote" — without adding "at Islands Trust Council" — as this week's ad clarifies, caused a mighty uproar, igniting the always smoldering fires of partisanship on the island.

In case anyone is still confused, here's the deal: the two new/extra trustees would vote on all Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (SSILTC) matters, such as local bylaws arising from rezoning applications and official community plan amendments, plus development variance/temporary use permits and the like. They would not vote

THE ISSUE:

Extra trustee voting confusion

WE SAY:

Both Trust and ISG to blame

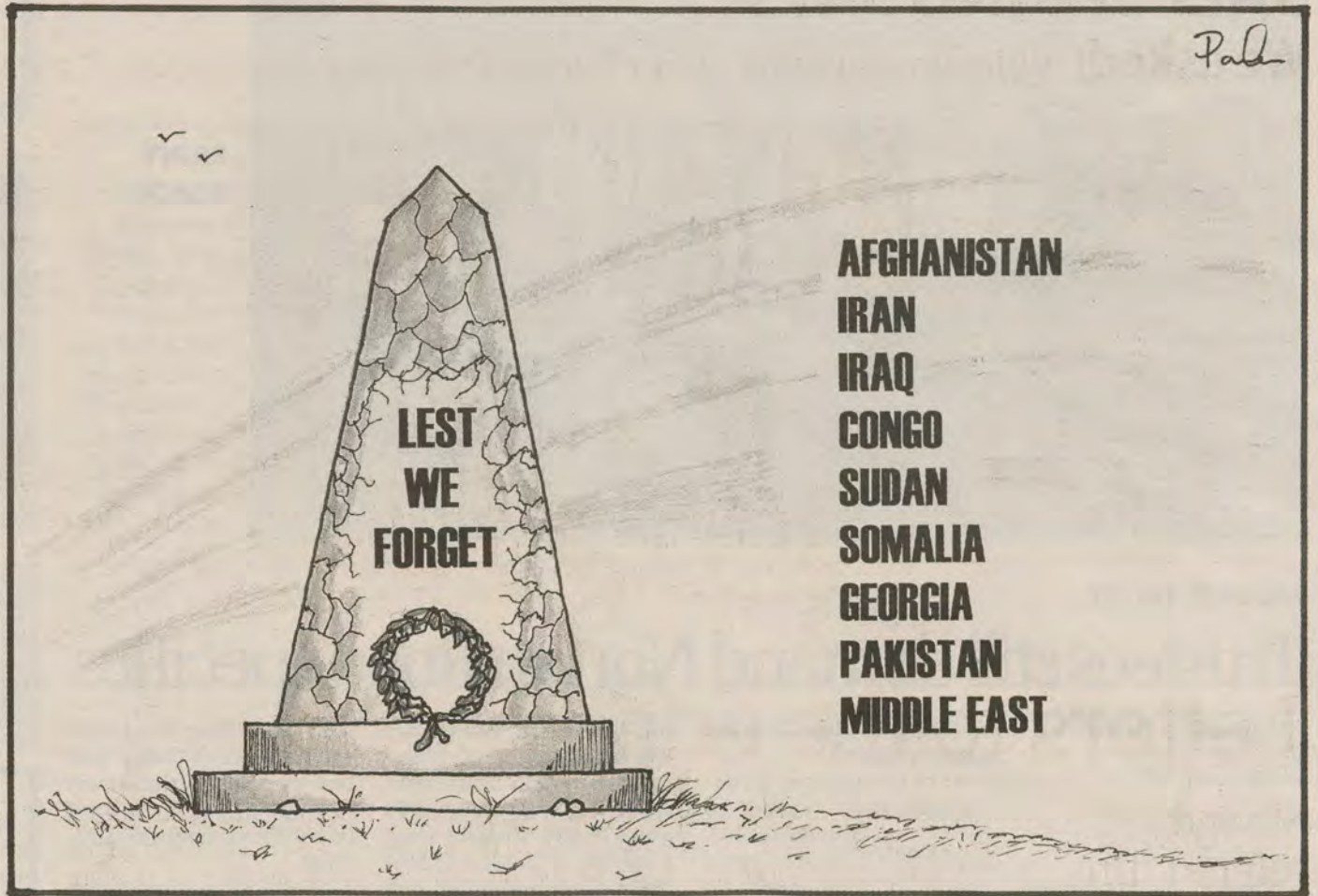
at Trust Council, where region-wide policy issues are decided, such as the content of protocol agreements with government agencies, and where the annual budget is voted on.

ISG president Ken Marr states in this issue of the Driftwood that his group felt it necessary to stress the trustees' lack of voting

power at Trust Council to counter Islands Trust advertising. The first Islands Trust ads stated "All five members of the SSILTC would have the same powers and authority on the committee" (meaning the local Trust committee) with no mention of their role at Trust Council. A revised version added: "Two of the four trustees would be members of Trust Council. The two additional trustees would be able to sit as members of Council committees and to participate in discussions at Trust Council, providing Salt Spring with more input into Trust Council decisions." Again, no mention of voting at Trust Council. By adding a few more words of their own, the Trust could have avoided any confusion (or advertising "retaliation").

On the issue itself, four trustees should mean an immediate improvement in representation and SSILTC functioning, however minor the impact would be in the big scheme of things. Others believe a "yes" vote will see Salt Spring governance issues shoved on a shelf in the closets of the provincial government and Islands Trust.

Either way it will always be up to islanders to communicate their feelings on governance and to keep seeking the changes they feel will make a real difference in their community.



Taking a study of the studies

BY DONNA COCHRAN

It's November 2008 and we are heading into an election — and another governance study.

Since 1993, five elections ago, there have been some eight studies related to governance. Some are more detailed than others but their overriding theme has been to improve the Salt Spring governance model in response to pressures of growth and development on the island.

The study with the broadest scope was the March 2000 "Strategic Perspectives Study" by Diana Butler. This led to the establishment of a two and a half year task force of 14 islanders chaired by David Wood which reviewed a wide range of options including: the status quo, a municipal structure, a commission, an Islands Trust regional area, a county government model (like the San Juan Islands'), abolishing the Trust and attachment to regional districts, re-examining/expanding Trust boundaries. The process ended with a referendum on incorporation in June 2002 resulting in 70 per cent of votes against and 30 per cent of votes for incorporation — a decisive "no."

Peter Lamb and George Ehring heard that "no" vote and ran in 2005 on a platform not to support incorporation, but to strengthen the Trust and its mandate to "preserve and protect." They were elected by a wide margin and kept their promise.

In 2006, the Islands Trust Council established a governance task force that resulted in a request for ministerial approval of an additional two voting trustees for Salt Spring. Partly because of strong opposition by the Islanders for Self-Government (ISG), the minister turned down Trust Council's request. Instead, subject to support by the community in the referendum, the province will allow us to elect four trustees to our local Trust committee (LTC), all of whom will have full voting rights at the LTC level, but will only allow two votes at Trust Council. We wanted more, but additional trustees will still be

VIEWPOINT

able to participate in Trust council committees and to speak at Trust Council.

Some of the 30 per cent who did not get incorporation in 2002 did not take "no" for an answer. They organized, formed the ISG and have expended considerable financial resources and volunteer hours to convince islanders that incorporation is the only option. For this election, they recruited and sponsored two candidates, Kimberley Lineger and Garth Hendren, to further their goal. There have been no statements from ISG about what their vision is for a "brighter incorporated" future. Rather their efforts have focussed on detracting community support for the Trust's unique governance model and strengths and undermining efforts to improve the Trust from within. And the question must be asked: If there is another referendum on incorporation and the answer is still "no," will that be enough to put an end to the ISG's subversive tactics?

Their single-issue focus and aggressive, misleading campaigning has led us to where we are now — another election with candidates promising yet another governance study. We have been here before. No matter who wins the election, the community faces another three years of division as a range of governance models are pitted against the ISG's "incorporation-only" mantra — all distractions from the more pressing local and global issues we face.

It is regrettable so much energy and so many resources are diverted from addressing these issues. Imagine if even a fraction of the efforts spent on promoting governance options over the past years had gone into working together to create a vision for the island's future.

George, Christine and Gary have positive visions for Salt Spring's future — they have my vote.

The writer is an artist and market vendor.

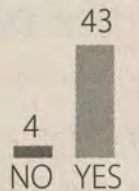
THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should B.C. follow Washington's lead and legalize assisted suicide? Yes No

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday at midnight or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you happy with the outcome of the U.S. election?



Driftwood

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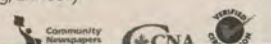


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SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What do you think about Ruckle Park's "no dogs allowed" areas near the farm?



LEE CARL

I think it's okay.



CHRISSY STEPHENSON-OLIVER

They wouldn't have to designate certain areas if there wasn't a reason for it.



KRISTY DARLINGTON

Those are the consequences we have to pay for owners who don't keep their dogs on a leash.



TREVOR COTTRELL

The livestock should be kept in pens.



CHAD COTTRELL

Leashed dogs is an acceptable rule, but no dogs allowed is ridiculous.

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.

Sludge referendum

It will benefit all of us if we vote "yes" on the referendum for Bylaw 3564, for rebuilding the sludge plant at Burgoyne. That is the plant that removes water from the sludge produced by the sewage treatment plants at Ganges and Maliview, and by our septic tanks. The Burgoyne plant has been cobbled together from a 1997 pilot plant. Much of it is still exposed to the weather. It is now stretched to its limits and must be properly rebuilt.

The referendum is about borrowing money, and almost all of it (85 per cent) will be used to rebuild the dewatering plant. Borrowing will not increase our parcel taxes, apparently, because some older loans are being paid off. Also, the plant gets half its income from fees charged for incoming sludge. The cheap parcel tax back in 1994 was because we were just dumping sludge and raw

septage into dug ponds — not a good idea.

A small amount of the loan (15 per cent) may or may not be needed to set up a composting plant. First, a pilot plant will try composting the solids for two years, after they have been dewatered by the sludge plant, and after wood chips have been added in a two-to-one ratio. If composting works, and if the product is safe, we will win in every way. A permanent composting system will then be built. It will cost \$300,000 but it will save us \$100,000 to \$150,000 a year in fees to truck dewatered sludge to the Hartland dump near Victoria. It is a great ecological idea to get compost back to the land, it will reduce greenhouse gases from truck fuel, and we will be civilized enough to look after our own waste on-island.

The worries about compost that were raised two weeks ago by Peter Lake are being looked after. As a lifelong professional on pollution and toxicology, I am

satisfied that the pilot-plant compost will be thoroughly tested for both ordinary and mysterious contaminants. Also, CRD promises a continuing public dialogue on progress. Even Peter Lake has said, "We have to say yes" to the referendum.

We have a world-class sewage treatment plant in Ganges, but we need a decent plant in Burgoyne to dewater the sludge that comes from it and from our septic tanks.

JOHN B. SPRAGUE,
SALT SPRING

Time to grow up

A very rewarding but also frustrating experience was my involvement in the development of the island's first supportive living facility for seniors known as Meadowbrook.

During the process I was often astounded by the overlapping, and sometimes contradictory, rules and regulations imposed by the

various levels of government and bureaucracy that control development in our community. One does not need to worry about "greedy developers" destroying our environment even if we are progressive enough to approve the establishment of a truly local government. Most of those controlling factors would still be in place in some form or other.

What local government could do would be to make changes and adjustments that were in the public interest and for the benefit of the community as a whole.

An organized community is like a business and should be run like one, not like a distant branch of a large corporation where decisions are often made with little regard for the local effects of the outcome. Two more Trust directors, without voting power, will not change things very much, except perhaps, to make us feel we are more strongly represented when in fact we are not.

The Islands Trust does not "govern" Salt Spring Island, no one does! The fact that things actually get done amazes me. Making the process simpler and better organized will save time and money.

It is time for Salt Spring to grow up and face the responsibilities of managing its own affairs!

GORDON ENGLISH,
GANGES

Machiavellian

As I read Peter Vincent's Nov. 5 column on strategic voting ("Political game time: strategic voting, checkers or chess?") I could swear that was Dick Cheney's face peering out at me. Cynical and libertarian, Peter is as usual mixing hearsay and fiction.

"Green Taliban?" How ridiculous! Is there something wrong with moving here to retire or to raise a family and wanting it to stay a beautiful, relatively natural place? None of us so-called greenies have a problem with Trust-controlled

development, but we do see the Islanders for Self-Government as a self-serving, right-wing group that is stubbornly heading in a direction that will ultimately destroy the Trust.

Machiavellian indeed was your ISG that lobbied relentlessly the former Minister of Community Services Ida Chong not to increase the number of Salt Spring trustees to sit on the local Trust committee or Trust Council

This election has nothing to do with grassroots democracy rising up against the tyranny of the Trust/CRD alliance — it is completely driven by money and politics.

Furthermore, removal of my nomination for trustee was obviously to avoid splitting the vote in a crucial election, but also to support George and Christine who are not cynical, not apathetic and not in denial to the environmental challenges ahead.

RICK LAING,
WILKIE WAY
MORE LETTERS continued on A10

Election day: don't miss a chance to tear a life apart

Yippee! Hurray! Here comes another election. I love elections. The more, the merrier, I say.

Now, some people claim that there are too many elections already. Many say elections are a waste of time, money and effort. Nonsense, I say. Why, if it were left up to me, we'd have an election every day. Our lives would be spent moving from one polling booth to another.

Why do I love elections? Are you kidding? Oh sure, there's all that stuff about "democracy in action," "will of the people," "vox populi," yada yada yada. That's only a small part of my affinity for the beast, however. Seriously, where else but at the ballot box do you get the opportunity to tear apart someone's life? When else but at election time can you subject people you may hardly know to future feelings of rejection, inadequacy and abject humiliation? And that's if they win!

What a season this has been already. This fall has been the veritable mother lode of all elections. Since October it's been wall-to-wall elections. We've been Harperized at the federal polling stations and then Obama-ated in the American vote count. We've even had a couple of provincial by-elections thrown in there just to keep us from getting rusty. And we're just getting started. Right on the horizon lie both province-wide municipal and school board elections.

For those of us lucky enough to live on Salt Spring and the outer Gulf Islands, we get to vote for the Islands Trust and the Capital Regional District director. As an extra bonus, we also get to "place our X" on a referendum or two.

Nobody asked me, but it seems obvious to anybody who's lived on this island for longer than five minutes that the only way to get any referendum approved here is to word the question so that "NO" actually means you support it. For instance, say you wanted to set up a nuclear waste dump on Salt Spring. If the question was worded, "Do you agree that a nuclear waste dump should not be established on the island?" then 90 per cent of the voters would cast their usual "NO" vote and, Bob's your uncle, Salt Spring would be glowing in the dark in no time flat.

Personally, I believe there should be a whole whack of referendum questions on the ballot. After all, we have more than a few pressing issues to decide. Do we want a real traffic light or do we stay pat with that wimpy facsimile in front of the school board office? Do we stop trucking our solid waste to Vancouver Island and use the garbage to build a floating parkade in Ganges Har-



Shilo Zylbergold

NOBODY ASKED ME, BUT...

bour? Do we cut runaway education expenditures by moving from a four-day week to a four-hour week? And finally, it's about time we made up our minds, one way or another: is it Saltspring or Salt Spring?

What if everybody had to run for election? I don't mean just politicians and public servants. I mean everybody: doctors, dentists, bus drivers, librarians, electricians, plumbers, drywallers . . . everybody. Moms and dads, you screw up on your kids' Christmas gifts just once and you're out pounding the pavement by New Year's. Teachers, the next time you assign your students any homework, you may find yourselves flipping burgers for minimum wage before your next Pro-D day rolls around.

What would a regular day look like if you had to run for election? The first thing you would do in the morning is prepare your platform. If you're a tradesman, you could make a few unrealistic promises, like you'll be back some time this century to finish the job. If you work for the ferries, you could glad-hand every driver as you motion each vehicle into your usual unfathomable parking patterns.

Whatever you do for a living, you will need to spend a good part of the day canvassing

door to door. Of course, you have to prepare yourself for the more often than not "door-slam-in-face," but it's important not to take these things too personally. These people love your inner core; they just can't stand everything else about you. Later in the day you will have to partake in the numerous town hall meetings, public question periods, political debates, and all-candidates forums. By the time you drag your worn-out butt back home, you'll need to debrief detox and then get ready to do it all again the next day.

At some point you may wonder how you ever got yourself into this mess. You will think wistfully back to the time you actually owned your life. You will swear up and down that you have finally learned your lesson and will be satisfied from now on living outside the spotlight of electoral limbo. Then one day you will skip a meeting of the Parents Advisory Committee or the Ferry Advisory Council or the Tofu Advisory Commission, and someone will nominate you in absentia for vice president. And it will all begin again.

Nov. 15 is election day. If you've read this far, you now know what the issues are. If you choose to stay at home and not vote, then you are letting the likes of me decide what the next couple of years are going to look like. Think again.

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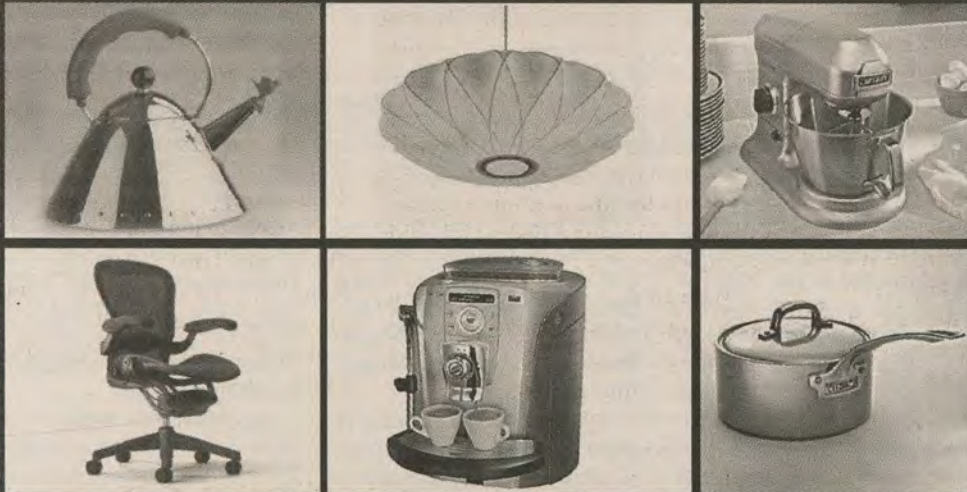


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OPINION

MORE LETTERS

continued from A9

Not what we need

If your child was struggling in mathematics and your teacher offered him or her an English tutor, would you accept that? Not likely.

If you loved painting, would you enrol in a course for sculpting clay? Probably not.

If you wanted improved governance of service delivery and co-ordination and accountable taxation, would you accept two extra non-voting trustees to assist in land planning decisions? No.

A governance study was published last year. It was commissioned by the Trust as an attempt to fulfill its commitment to improve governance on Salt Spring Island. The current trustees and CRD director were responsible for choosing the consultant and determining the scope and terms of reference.

The limitations imposed upon the consultant destined the study to be flawed and even at that, the trustees ignored his recommendations. Do you want the same people setting the parameters on the next study?

These proposed two new trustees will not have a vote at Trust Council in Victoria where the important financial decisions are made. Trust newspaper advertising fails to mention this. Salt Spring will continue to have

eight per cent of the vote while contributing over 40 per cent of the tax revenue.

If we accept this option, legislative changes will be required and the likelihood that Victoria will support further governance study and changes will diminish. We will be stuck with what we have for a while.

At the Trust presentation on this topic at ArtSpring on Oct. 29, Trust staff conceded that there would be absolutely no improvement in the governance of services for Salt Spring, except for land-use decisions. Even that improvement is debatable.

Trust senior staff and your current trustees are very supportive of this option despite the fact that this is not what they wanted a few months ago. These are the same trustees that recently changed their minds about a governance study and have increased your taxes by over 40 per cent or \$1.8 million in three years, compared to just over \$300,000 increased during the previous term. The current trustees have been very good at spending your money and they want to get bigger and spend more. Do you want another 40 per cent budget increase?

Please consider this carefully when you place your vote on November 15.

Vote "no" to four trustees and support the candidates for the Trust and CRD who truly want improved fiscal responsibility and governance in the areas you do.

KEN MARR,
PRESIDENT, ISLANDERS FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT

High-calibre candidates

When I vote on Nov. 15, I will be thinking of why I choose to live here. I think for most of us it is the same — the natural beauty, the seaside living and the healthy rural lifestyle.

I will vote for trustees that will support this. I will vote for trustees who are more concerned with preserving and protecting this beautiful place than undermining it. I will vote for trustees who have already worked countless hours to make this island a better home for all of us.

I will vote for trustees who are respectful, thoughtful, and who have the background information and continuity to get the best for us. I will vote for Christine Torgrimson and George Ehring because I trust them and because they have already shown through community involvement that they appreciate and value this community for its diverse values.

I will vote for Gary Holman for our CRD director because in the 37 years I have lived here I have never known another director to put so much into the job and get so many CRD dollars back into our community. He is accessible, has kept us informed and has huge integrity.

I will vote "yes" for four trustees because quite simply being a trustee on Salt Spring is a huge, time-consuming job and too much to expect two people to do. The trustees will all be able to

vote on local Salt Spring matters at local Trust committee meetings and they will be able to go to Trust Council and participate in all discussions. This gives Salt Spring Island an increased voice and resources to ensure that our two votes are representative of our wishes.

We are so very fortunate to have such high-calibre candidates. Christine, George and Gary are very deserving of our support.

DONNA MARTIN,
WALKER HOOK ROAD

Genuine article

I attended a neighbourhood gathering this past week to meet Christine Torgrimson, candidate for Islands Trust, and stayed longer than I planned.

I'll tell you, Christine Torgrimson is the genuine article.

Committed to serving her community, with a solid background in land stewardship that balances development with protection of land-based human economies and habitat. A good heart — though not immune to the more poisonous attacks lurking on a certain campaign internet site — with strong organizational skills in mediation and conflict resolution.

She knows how to manage complex issues at the community level, and move things forward. I learned things that evening.

Where's she been, you might ask. Turns out Christine's been here for years, doing yeoman's duties in the community as an advisor to the Healthy Ecosystems Healthy Community Initiative and the farmland trust project, and sitting as vice chair on the important Economic Sustainability, Jobs and Tourism focus group during the OCP review — not to mention being appointed by the province to the Island Trust Fund Board.

Well, I thought, she's just who we need to join George Ehring on the Trust, to complete the work on the OCP and bylaws, bring to fruition all the hours and hours of community input into the OCP review. And launch a community-wide study to improve local governance. She can do it.

I encourage you to vote for Christine and George, as well as Gary Holman for CRD.


PHIL VERNON,
ISABELLA POINT ROAD

Time has come

The Islands Trust could use another two trustees since the island population is getting bigger and bigger. I was long opposed to municipal incorporation but now the time has come to move past the rather passive leadership from the Trust, and move to a more dynamic (and visible) city council and mayor — like most other communities in B.C.

And I still think John Quesnel got shafted by the Trust.

PETER RAMSEY,
SALT SPRING




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Islanders for Self Government has members from all walks of island life, all of whom have different reasons to be concerned about the outcome of our current local elections. The following letters represent a sampling of our membership's viewpoints.

TIME SQUANDERED

For the past three years the local trustees have had the opportunity to deal with the deficit of industrial zoned properties on the island... an issue that is front and centre within their authority as a "land use planning agency". Instead, they have squandered that time in a futile study of issues related to "global warming" over which they can influence precisely nothing. Do we need three more years of the same? If not, Kimberly and Norbert are looking awfully good.
Andrew Storey,
SALT SPRING ISLAND

I AM AFRAID

At Monday night's All Candidates Meeting I listened closely while George Ehring and Christine Torgrimson repeatedly reminded me of how afraid they are (and how afraid we should all be) because of global warming and what's been happening lately to the economy. Maybe their concerns about "the economy" have to do with the stock market, and they have the luxury of putting global warming at the top of their list. But that's not what keeps me awake at night. Here's what I'm afraid of:

I'm afraid that my mother won't be able to stay in her own home as she gets older because she's not allowed to use part of the house as a secondary suite for a caretaker;

I'm afraid when I see that the Islands Trust budget has increased by over 40% in three years while my family's income has stagnated;

I'm afraid when I'm asked to pay "only" \$1,325 per year so that my family can use a pool paid for with our taxes;

I'm afraid that my children aren't going to be able to afford to live here when their time comes;

I'm afraid when I hear politicians who focus so much on preserving and protecting the island, but seem to have little concern for preserving and protecting the community.

Okay, George and Christine, you've convinced me that I have reason to be afraid. Of the status quo.
Sheena Bull,
SALT SPRING ISLAND

TRUST OUR COMMUNITY

After 38 years on this island, I have become increasingly concerned by the tone and direction of our political process. Ironically, most of the voices raised loudest in favour of "preserve and protect" are from people who are new arrivals; people who have some nostalgic image of a Salt Spring that hasn't existed for a long time, if ever it did. Do they really think that, if left to our own devices without the oversight of someone from Gambier or Lasqueti, the people of Salt Spring will ignore the habitat and let development run rampant? Do they really think that those of us

who have lived here for decades, and have raised children here, have less of an interest in the island's well being than they? Do they really think that "self-governance" is incompatible with environmental stewardship? If so, these same people who are so dedicated to "The Trust" seem to have very little trust in our community.
Jack Althouse,
SALT SPRING ISLAND

PROFESSIONAL STUDY

I consider myself a well-informed, reasonable voter. Therefore, to decide one way or another on a new form of governance for Salt Spring Island, I want unbiased, accurate, reliable facts and figures: a professional restructure study. The incumbent Trustees and CRD Director are giving only lip service when they say they will support a restructure study only if there is just local input. This simply does not make good sense. Of course there has to be local input, but the actual figures and facts have to come from professionals who will not deal in scare tactics and information that is predisposed by any factions.

One other point of great concern is this matter of four trustees. If all four cannot vote at Trust Council, this is NOT greater representation; it is simply increased cost to the tax payer.

On November 15th, reasonable, well-informed voters will say NO to four Trustees and YES to Kimberly Linegar, Norbert Schlenker, and Garth Hendren.
Patsy Siemens,
SALT SPRING ISLAND

SOLUTIONS INSTEAD OF OBSTACLES

We don't need someone with a Ph. D. in economics to tell us that Salt Spring is not and will never be financially self-sufficient. Whether it's feed for our dwindling supply of livestock or food for ourselves, building materials to house us or garments to clothe us, most of what we spend leaves this piece of rock we call home. If we hope to have a viable and sustainable economy in which young families can thrive, we need to develop and support businesses that attract dollars to our community. Tourism has played a major role over the last two decades, but we have candidates for the trust who seem to consider tourism a blight; we have businesses that provide employment, but no appropriate place in which to expand; we have entrepreneurs who are leaving, and a hospital and service-related businesses that can't attract suitable help. What we haven't had is the kind of governance that is willing to look for solutions instead of obstacles. It's time for a change.
Nancy Holt-Stefancsik,
SALT SPRING ISLAND

A BALANCED APPROACH

I am assuming that everyone of SSI strongly believes in preserving and protecting the environment of our beautiful SSI and the surrounding Gulf Islands. So, the question that arises at this election time is HOW TO DO THIS. There seem to be two political approaches on offer to the voters:

1. The first approach is almost a "single-issue" focus on reducing environmental negatives with little to no concern for the human impacts. This rather extremist approach is idealistically attractive but hugely unrealistic and of enormous potential damage to our already tenuous economy and jobs. Christine Torgrimson is the Chair of the quite extreme environmentalist group, Gulf Islands Alliance (check the website gulfislandsalliance.ca and click on "Advocacy Advice") and thus clearly falls into the "single-issue focus" category. George Ehring's record as a Trustee and Gary Holman's record at CRD suggests that they are closely aligned with this approach as well.

2. The other approach seeks to balance the needs to protect the environment with the needs to protect the economy and jobs. I would categorize this approach as a realistic stewardship designed to MANAGE growth, not STOP growth. Without a doubt, NO-GROWTH=ECONOMIC DECLINE. Managed growth can and should strictly, transparently and fairly control environmental impacts.

The philosophic approach and policies of Garth Hendren, Kimberly Linegar and Norbert Schlenker offer me a more balanced approach than that of the other fine people. Perhaps if we have more balanced representatives, SSI will not have to suffer the endless bitter battles caused by representatives focusing mostly on a single issue.

With regard to the referendums, I support the approval of the borrowing to finance the upgrade to the liquid waste facility simply since the alternative will eventually cost more, and this is the right thing to do.

However, the insulting offer from the Province to grant us two additional trustees who will have NO VOTE on the Trust Council is effectively a slap on the face of the Local Trust Committee and all of the people of Salt Spring. It is time we stood up and sent a clear message to Victoria that we insist on a much larger say (and VOTE) in the Islands Trust Council in view of the fact that we provide approximately 40% of the Trust's tax revenue while having only 7.7% of the votes. Do NOT accept this small crumb from the Victoria table. Tell them, by voting NO on 4, that we want a much bigger slice of the voting pie, not small crumbs. If we vote YES on 4, the Province will interpret this to mean that we are satisfied, and it will be a very long time before we have an opportunity to correct an unjust under-representation

relative to the proportion of our tax dollars supplied to The Trust by SSI. We must keep the Islands Trust financially healthy, but we should and must have more say in the way OUR money is being spent on other islands.
Happy Voting Day.
Brian McDermott
(NOT A DEVELOPER, REAL ESTATE AGENT, ETC, BUT MERELY A HAPPILY RETIRED GUY ON MY BELOVED SSI)

WE NEED A CHANGE

I've lived here on and off for 27 years, moving here permanently in 1999 with my wife, looking forward to starting a family and becoming part of the community. A lot of my friends are no longer here because of the lack of jobs and the cost of housing. Frankly, if I were trying to move here now, I wouldn't be able to afford it either, in spite of having a decent job with the ferries.

With all the talk about affordable housing, it seems that little has been done to address it. Granted, the Murakami project is off the ground, but it wouldn't exist if not for the generous donation by that family. Even then, there's nothing happening to develop housing that people can afford to buy; something like the Malview area with small lots and modest homes that allows people to have a permanent stake in the future of this community.

It seems to me that we need to have a centralized, coordinated system of government that has both the will and the ability to deal with the whole of the community's issues. Will a municipality be the answer? I don't know, but I want officials who are committed to getting all the information so we can get an answer. Will a municipality mean that our taxes go up? Again, I don't know, but at least if they do, it will be because the people of Salt Spring made that decision. We need government that's accountable to us, and we need it here, and we need it soon. While I appreciate the work done by our incumbents, I'm convinced that we need a change and will be voting for a new direction in our trustees and CRD.
Derek Sweet
176 CORMORANT CRESCENT

REGARDING THE REFERENDUM

The devil is in the details and the 4 trustee referendum is no exception. The actual language of the referendum seems innocuous enough, merely asking: "Are you in favour of increasing the number of locally-elected trustees that sit on the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee from two trustees to four?" A "no" decision will simply keep the status quo. A "yes" decision, however, presents a host of questions and issues that remain unanswered and unresolved.

It would create a unique and unequal class of trustees within the Islands Trust Act. Since this class does not currently exist the Act would need to be amended.

Until the language is created to bring this class of trustee into existence, there is no way of knowing what will be their rights, responsibilities, duties, and compensation.

Is their compensation to be shared by the Trust as a whole, or borne solely by Salt Spring?

What is the mechanism for their election in the future?

If it passes, will the Provincial government still be open to entertaining a restructure study, or will this have served to thwart a much needed examination of all the options?

In reality, passage of this referendum creates a level of complexity that demands to be carefully studied. The bottom line is at this point we have NO idea what will be created.

To make an important change like this to the Trust Act without first being fully informed is like "buying two pigs in a poke". Common sense tells me I have to vote NO.
Mark Lucich,
SALT SPRING ISLAND

FLIP FLOP

In an email I sent to our trustees, Peter and George, in late July of this year, I clearly asked them to include the question of an "incorporation study" in the referendum to be held along side the elections in November. An election asks the public who they wish to govern them; while this referendum asks how that process might happen. I pointed out that this was a good opportunity to get feedback from the residents, since the referendum mechanism was already in place.

In his reply, Peter Lamb assured me that neither he nor George felt there was any need for an "incorporation study" and that any governance concerns felt by residents would be best addressed by the referendum question of 2 or 4 trustees. Peter went on to say that these were the views of the Ministry of Community Services and Trust Council.

Which brings me to our current situation with George Ehring's and Gary Holman's timely "flip-flop" on the issue, and Ms. Torgrimson willingly following suit. I strongly believe that none of these candidates have any honest intention of allowing a meaningful and productive debate to develop from and updated incorporation study. Their sudden change of heart is merely a clever ploy to seem reasonable to voters, while the 2 extra trustees is simply an "end run" around the municipality issue. These people can barely say the word "incorporation" without choking on it! I, for one, will be voting "NO" to 2 extra trustees and "YES" to Norbert, Kimberly and Garth.
Robert Langevin,
SALT SPRING ISLAND

FOR YOUR TRUST



Peter Lamb

THANK YOU

Soon I will be stepping down as Local Trustee with the Islands Trust and want to express my appreciation for all the support I have received over the past 3 years. It has been an interesting and rewarding experience. For me, the Islands Trust embodies the very special responsibility we have been given to preserve and protect these Gulf islands for all British Columbians.

I am delighted that my colleagues, **George Ehring** and **Gary Holman** are seeking re-election to continue with diligence and commitment to effective governance and careful attention to Salt Spring issues. I also know that **Christine Torgrimson** will bring her considerable experience and passion for the Trust to the position of local trustee.

I will be voting:

For the Trust: **George Ehring & Christine Torgrimson**

For the CRD: **Gary Holman**

For the referendum to add two more trustees to the Local Trust Committee, I will be voting **YES**.

OPINION

Opposing letters tackle advertising

Correcting falsehood

Islanders for Self-Government's ad on page A10 of last week's Driftwood is a direct lie. It states that two additional trustees "CAN NOT VOTE."

The fact is that they would be full members of the local Trust committee with all the rights and duties of a local trustee.

Our local Trust committee would grow to five voting members from the current three. What is also true is that the two additional trustees could not vote at the larger Trust Council, although they could otherwise participate fully there.

It will now be interesting to see how this mendacity plays out before the Nov. 15 election.

When asked about the misleading ad during Thursday's all-candidates' meeting in Fulford, Kimberly Liner ducked responsibility and sloughed the question off to Ken Marr, president of ISG. (The other ISG-endorsed candidate, Garth Hendren, was given no chance to respond to the question.)

When confronted after the meeting with publishing a direct falsehood, and asked if he would withdraw the ad, Ken Marr was defiant. Essentially, his response boiled down to this: ISG believes that an Islands Trust ad (which appeared again last week on page A14) is misleading and ISG is therefore justified in publishing its own falsehood. At no point did he claim that the ISG ad was truthful.

Examine the Islands Trust ad for yourself. It contains no falsehoods. It's a good information piece. The worst that can be said for it is that, like any

publication, it can be misinterpreted by those determined to do so.

As for the merits of the four trustee idea, it is a good one, limited by the lack of a vote at Trust Council for the additional trustees. This is not what council wanted. As a matter of reasonably well informed opinion, I believe that that this flaw was the province's response to ISG's furious lobbying against any improvement to local government short of incorporation. ISG is now desperate to kill the idea, which has become an important benchmark of progress for both Trust supporters and ISG, although for very different reasons.

Look for ISG's ad in this issue of the Driftwood. Mr. Marr knows he is on notice to correct a falsehood. There is no reason for him not to do so.

DAVID BORROWMAN,
VESUVIUS

Ken Marr's response

After the Thursday all-candidates meeting in Fulford, I walked over to Kim Benson and wished her all the best in her retirement and expressed my gratitude that we live in a place that we can express our differences of opinion.

I was immediately surrounded by people who obviously do not agree with my political perspective, including David Borrowman, trustee Peter Lamb and Jean Gelwicks. They were concerned with ISG's recent advertising around the voting rights, or lack thereof, of the extra trustees.

I did my best to respond by saying

that ISG felt that we had to react to the Trust's misleading advertising, in spite of our voiced concerns to them. When I was presented with an opportunity to speak, I tried to explain that the ongoing Trust advertising and the presentation at ArtSpring have been very much a sales job on the referendum. Trustee Lamb did not feel that was wrong or even an issue at all.

The fact that the proposed new trustees would not have a vote at Trust Council, where some very big decisions are made, including taxation and budgets, is not mentioned in any of the Trust's Driftwood advertising and this option was not what the Trust requested of the province.

Nor does it make mention of the fact that it would not make any improvement in our governance of things like parks, transportation, garbage, recycling, roads, policing or any services except land planning (as stated by Linda Adams in the Trust presentation at ArtSpring in response to my question). This is very important information that should have been provided in the Driftwood advertising.

Our ads last week were a reaction to the Trust's ads.

ISG has taken the high road and added the words "at Trust Council" in this week's ad.

ISG's intentions have been genuine and sincere. There is no intent to mislead. There was no "falsehood." We did not include three words.

The Trust has left entire paragraphs out of their promotional material. ISG finds it difficult and frustrating that we have to counter the Trust's misleading and incomplete advertising on this issue.

KEN MARR,
PRESIDENT,
ISLANDERS FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT

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MORE LETTERS

continued from A10

Half a loaf

In response to the "Few turn out to hear referendum options" article in last week's Driftwood, Sean McIntyre reported on the efforts of the Trust to educate voters on the referendum question: "Are you in favour of increasing the number of locally elected trustees that sit on the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee from two trustees to four trustees?"

The Trust admitted that taxes will rise to support these two new positions. But my question to the Trust is have all factors been truly calculated in the costs? What about the cost of the election to appoint two new trustees? Have all the travel/accommodation/entertainment costs been entirely accounted for in this figure? We all know how expensive and time consuming it is to travel to all the other islands and Victoria for Trust Council meetings, committee meetings and task force meetings.

What about the costs in changing the legislation back to only two trustees after Salt Spring voters learn more about our current governance, and the possible benefits of becoming a rural island municipality?

One of the arguments for four trustees presented in the ad on A15 last week was that four trustees will increase the diversity of the Local Trust Committee. Really? Can you guarantee that within the confines of a confidential poll booth that result will come about?

presented is spreading of the work load around four people, not just two. When the very competent Linda Adams, head of the Trust, was asked about work load, I quote from the Driftwood where Linda said, "I do not think it would reduce the work they do at the committee table."

Send a message to the province that half a loaf won't do. Budgets are determined at Trust Council, and Salt Spring taxpayers will still only have two votes there, while paying more than 40 per cent of the taxes.

Send a message to the province that there is a better way to govern our island under the preserve and protect mandate of the Trust — vote "no."
SUSAN RUSSELL,
BAKER BEACH

Forget quaint rural roads

In my opinion there are many reasons to vote for the candidates for trustee and CRD director who support an update to the study of incorporation as a municipality.

Here is one of them: We on the island will have control over the state of our roads, something near and dear to many of us, according to the response to the pothole counts over the past few years.

As it stands, the Ministry of Transportation decides upon road repair and maintenance under the mandate of "quaint rural roads" decreed by trustees in the

by George Ehring now.

Since that time our roads have been maintained to a very low standard as is evident by the deplorable state of so many of the residential ones at this time.

When repairs were finally done in 2007, MLA Murray Coell admitted that they would not have happened without the pothole count.

Municipal status will allow the residents of Salt Spring, through an elected council of local residents, to decide what is acceptable road maintenance, not bureaucracy in Victoria complying with outdated mandates set by trustees years ago.

LORRAINE NORFOLK,
SALT SPRING

No more to four

My name is Blair H. I'm an addict. I'm a political junkie. Most days I'm powerless over politicians. They are crafty, cunning, patient and non-transparent.

I want to congratulate our friends in the country to the south of us, where more than 65 million of the electorate just said no more to four.

Our last local Trust committee, "the winken, blinken and nod administration," had three. One local would wink, one local would blink and the off islander would nod. I say no more to three and certainly no more to four.

Vote for two. Vote Norbert and Kimberly. Say no more to three and certainly no more to four.

BLAIR HOWARD,
SALT SPRING

OPINION

PARC: current system is working

BY BEN GOODMAN

In order that the community can best judge how they are being served by PARC, it is important that perspectives other than the one presented by Steve Peterson in last week's Driftwood ("PARC experience indicates the system is not working") be considered.

Here is another point of view.

1. The reporting relationship issue:

The new Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission manager (appointed in September 2008) reports to the CRD Parks and Community Services manager in Victoria.

With this reporting relationship, he receives professional and relevant supervision.

Additionally, this also gives PARC easy access to all other park operations in the CRD, a distinct benefit to the Salt Spring community.

In my view, based on 30 years experience in business management, this is a far superior organization to the previous arrangement where the PARC operations manager was a contract

position, reporting to the commissioners.

The Salt Spring community was well represented by commission members in the selection process for our new parks and recreation manager.

2. Regarding authority of CRD:

The locally elected CRD rep does not in fact have an absolute veto authority.

In the very rare cases where there is an opposing viewpoint, both the locally elected CRD rep and the PARC board members have an opportunity to present their positions to the CRD board. Commissioners have ample opportunity to influence decisions affecting Salt Spring park operations.

3. Appointment of new commissioners:

The appointment process for new commissioners works well.

A selection committee comprised of commission members and the locally elected CRD director interview prospective commissioners and combine their views for final selection.

In this manner, all views are considered. I found the process fair and equitable

and it serves the community well.

4. Workload issue:

While the locally elected CRD director may have a wide span of responsibilities, in the case of PARC, the commissioners (and of course PARC staff) do a lot of the work and ensure that decisions made are in the interest of the community. So "too heavy a workload" on the part of the locally elected CRD director (if this is the case) has little impact on PARC operation.

5. Term of office and number of commissioners:

The two-year term (renewable at end of term) works well, as most volunteers find it difficult to commit for longer than a two-year period. (It used to be three years.) Eight commissioners (with some absences from time to time) is a very workable group size and facilitates efficient dialogue, varied points of view, yet makes it possible to reach consensus. The number used to be 10.

6. Meeting chair:

PARC meetings are conducted by the PARC chair or vice-chair, not by the operations manager.

The manager attends the meetings in an advisory capacity as do other staff who may attend meetings from time to time. In my experience, PARC staff provide a very important advisory role to the commission members.

I respect the work that Steve Peterson has done as a PARC commissioner and PARC chair during a challenging period. He has made a strong contribution to the community during his tenure.

However, I must disagree with his assessment of the current state of affairs at PARC. The system is working fine!

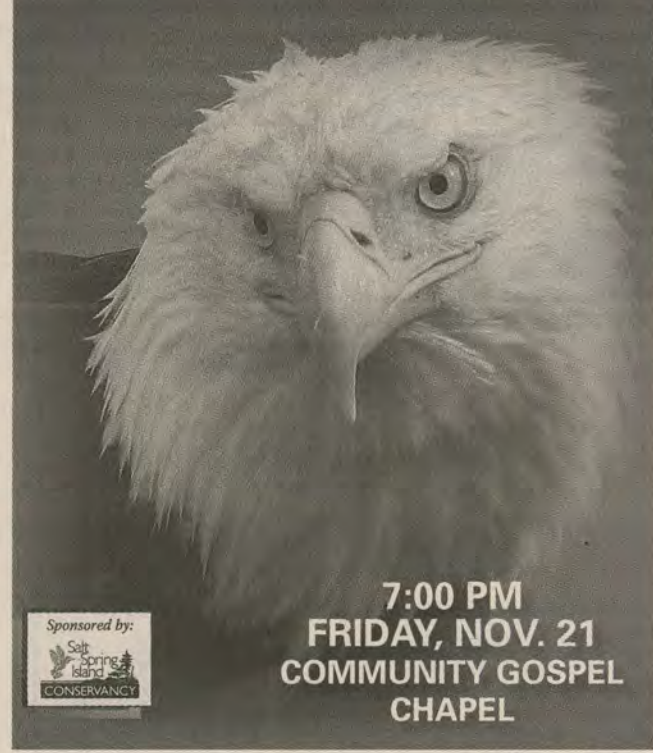
With our new manager in the office since September, reporting to the CRD parks manager in Victoria, capable Salt Spring PARC staff and a fully functional PARC Commission (once the current vacancies are filled), I am confident that the community will continue to benefit from a professional and effective PARC operation.

The writer has been a PARC commissioner since the summer of 2008.

EAGLES OF SALT SPRING ISLAND

A SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY: DAVID HANCOCK

(Noted biologist and author of THE BALD EAGLE OF ALASKA, BC AND WASHINGTON)



7:00 PM FRIDAY, NOV. 21 COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHAPEL



we're online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Quesnel treatment

I attended three all-candidates meetings. I am interested in local politics and I enjoy the theatre of it.

At the first meeting I learned about John Quesnel. He has been running a noisy business and his neighbours finally complained.

I learned that at the bequest of the Trust, Mr. Quesnel applied for a temporary use permit, paying the \$1,100 fee upon application. Meanwhile he continued to work.

I heard all the candidates say the pick up and disposal of large metals (i.e. furnace oil tanks) was needed and necessary. Among other motherhood issues, all the candidates sang the same song of community, of ensuring that young people are able to earn a livelihood here.

I learned that with the "no" decree from the trustees, not only does Mr. Quesnel forfeit \$1,100 but his business has become illegal.

The incumbent trustee spoke to the law. All the land with the correct industrial zoning is being used. There is no industrial land to be bought. Industrial land must be created.

A committee has been struck with the agenda of dealing with the expansion and inclusion of more industrial zoned properties.

While this laborious task takes place — discussions, meetings, open houses — the Trust calmly dictates that if Mr. Quesnel wants to continue to run his business, it is his responsibility to find a suitable piece of property, buy it, and then

apply to have it rezoned. If he finds a suitable piece of property, he shall have to pay a \$4,400 fee to apply for a rezoning. The trustees will debate the merits of this new piece of property in light of the recommendations of the aforementioned committee. Then they shall say yes or no to that piece of property. Until that time, the Trust demands that Mr. Quesnel stop working now or they will take him to court. On our dollar.

Does this not seem out of whack to you? It sure does to me.

If we as a community do not stand beside Mr. Quesnel, we will pay for our loss many times over. I am dismayed that this is the system that we now govern ourselves with.

Should not energy be put into finding a suitable place for a business such as Mr. Quesnel's? Nowhere near the water of course, or in an echoing valley. I should think the trees would aptly absorb the sound. With assurances that the present location of Mr. Quesnel's business is temporary, the neighbours may be more tolerant.

I learned that Mr. Quesnel is not alone in his frustration with the Trust. Nor is he the first citizen that the Trust has taken to court on our tax dollar.

WENDY BEATTY, SALT SPRING

Tools for governance

Barry Cook, formerly the minister at Ganges United Church, raised an important question at Thursday night's all-candidates meeting in Fulford: he asked the candidates to say how they intended to deal with the divisiveness in the com-

munity that is so apparent in the fractiousness of this year's election.

It was interesting that it was this question — arguably the most fundamental one in governance, viz what Obama has done to electrify the U.S. — that seemed to be the one for which the candidates were least prepared. There was a lot of stumbling, but in general the responses were along the lines of "I will find compromises."

Sorry, candidates, you just don't get it. Compromise is great for relatively trivial issues: for example, I want both kinds of cookies, but I don't want to take two, so I have half of each of them. In dealing with contentious matters, compromise on the issue generally leaves no one feeling "heard" — and more important, often produces poor solutions. Is there an effective half-way compromise between protecting the environment and not protecting it? Between supporting our economy and not supporting it?

The effective ways of dealing with divisiveness include the use of tools like conflict resolution, development of consensus, and active listening and problem-solving skills. Most third-graders can learn those techniques; why are we not demanding that our elected representatives learn them and act on them? Much of the alienation about governance that people are expressing would melt away if we did so.

The old joke about Salt Spring being "An argument surrounded by water" just isn't funny anymore.

SUSAN BERLIN, MAIN STREET

MORE LETTERS continued on A14

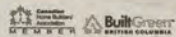
Advertisement for North End Fitness. Features a photo of David Braide, an economist member since 1996. Text includes: "\$40 memberships start at per month plus gst", "NORTH END FITNESS 250-537-5217 www.northendfitness.ca".

Advertisement for Driftwood Weekender. Features a photo of a group of people at a community event. Text includes: "GULF ISLANDS Driftwood WEEKENDER www.gulfislands.net", "THIS WEEK: Community to Community celebrates with Me Senyane visit", "free at the following locations:" followed by a list of 25 locations including Admiral's, Apple Photo, Barb's Buns, etc.



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4 Long Harbour

Monday - Friday		
A	L	A
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Ar./Lv. Long Harbour	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges
1:20	1:30	1:40
2:55	3:05	3:15
Saturday		
1:40	1:50	2:00
2:55	3:05	3:15

5 Fernwood

Monday - Friday		
A	M	A
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Ar./Lv. Fernwood Dock	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges
10:30	10:45	11:00
2:20	2:35	2:50
6:05	6:35	6:50
Saturday		
10:30	10:45	11:00
2:20	2:35	2:50
6:05	6:35	6:50

2 Fulford Harbour

Monday - Friday										
A	I	J	K	E	E	K	J	I	A	A
Lv. Visitor Info Centre	Lv. Cushman Lake Rd	Lv. Burgoyne Bay Rd	Lv. Fulford Hall	Ar. Fulford Harbour	Ar. Fulford Harbour	Lv. Fulford Harbour	Lv. Fulford Hall	Lv. Burgoyne Bay Rd	Lv. Cushman Lake Rd	Ar. Visitor Info Centre
7:10	7:16	7:23	7:27	7:30	7:40	7:43	7:47	7:54	8:00	
9:10	9:16	9:23	9:27	9:30	9:40	9:43	9:47	9:54	10:00	
11:10	11:16	11:23	11:27	11:30	11:40	11:43	11:47	11:54	12:00	
3:10	3:16	3:23	3:27	3:30	3:40	3:43	3:47	3:54	4:00	
5:10	5:16	5:23	5:27	5:30	5:40	5:43	5:47	5:54	6:00	
Saturday										
9:10	9:16	9:23	9:27	9:30	9:40	9:43	9:47	9:54	10:00	
11:10	11:16	11:23	11:27	11:30	11:40	11:43	11:47	11:54	12:00	
3:10	3:16	3:23	3:27	3:30	3:40	3:43	3:47	3:54	4:00	
5:10	5:16	5:23	5:27	5:30	5:40	5:43	5:47	5:54	6:00	



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OPINION

MORE LETTERS

continued from A13

Positive change

I could not help but notice that in the last Driftwood, of the 14 or so letters to the editor and five "opinion pieces" that 10 contributions were from people on the list showing support for George and Christine (full-page advertisement on page A5). One person from the list had two letters published!

I'm writing just in case we were getting the impression that a majority of islanders write in favour of the dictated four-trustee "option" and George and Christine for trustees.

It saddens me that just like the community and environmentally favourable B&B Ganges Marina proposal and the 2002 incorporation referendum, this election too is being hijacked by such a relatively small but well-organized group — a group that is foolishly entrenched in their views, much like "if you are not with us you are against us."

The Islands Trust achieved remarkable things for the preservation of its mandated area in the past. However, never designed to be a governing body, it seems that it has gradually developed into a costly self-serving, citizen-unfriendly entity that is indeed unable to "govern" the Trust area and Salt Spring Island in particular.

But it sure has no problem using our island's tax dollars to further its now very much politicized purpose. For this reason the Trust as a whole will fight the idea of Salt Spring incorporation to the bitter end. The money is too dear. And our local trustees did not even blink when the conditions of the four-trustee "option" would be that two of them have no voting power at the all-island Trust Council. This is selling us out at best!

The incumbent trustee George, Christine and the CRD incumbent Gary Holman recently announced support for looking into governance restructure that would now include incor-

poration. Here is the catch though, they are not willing to ask the province to commission a professional independent study on the subject. This is the minister's condition that both the trustees as well as the CRD rep would ask him for such a study. Instead, my belief is that it would be a locally selected (guess by whom) and carefully instructed committee to produce the "right" results. Such an exercise has no real value — it can only waste more resources and worsen the division in the community.

On Nov. 15, let's vote for positive change — Kimberly, Norbert and Garth — candidates who are not afraid to acquire impartial information and are willing to truthfully share it with the public.

If Salt Springers, by a later referendum, should decide to incorporate, it would have the Trust embedded within the town council (a condition of incorporation that is already legislated). Since the vast majority of us want to keep the island green and rural (that is why we moved here), there is no need to worry that we would be electing a council that would not deliver such a promise.

Under a Salt Spring "customized" township structure we could further the preserve and protect mandate much more effectively while being able to make local decisions and efficiently deliver the services we need, all locally and under one roof!

TOM NAVRATL,
LONG HARBOUR

Obama-like

Last week history was made when Barack Obama was elected the 44th U.S. president. Quite apart from the fact that his policies may be consistent with anyone's personal agenda or interests, he was the candidate who motivated people to come out and vote in unprecedented numbers. Why? In my view it is because he is intelligent, honest, open-minded, strong, committed and trustworthy. People respect his values. They can see he is not just another politician working to further his own personal agenda and that of big corporations. He truly cares.

How incredibly fortunate we are here on Salt Spring to have three people with these same qualities who have stepped forward to run as Islands Trust trustees and CRD director. I support Christine Torgrimson, George Ehring and Gary Holman for precisely the same reasons I supported Barack Obama. They are intelligent,

strong, honest, hardworking, committed, open-minded and trustworthy. I respect their values. They truly care about the Gulf Islands, Salt Spring Island and our community.

They have specific plans and intelligent ideas for how to accomplish the goals most of us share regarding affordable housing, our water supply, agricultural lands, sustainability, and the preservation and protection of our natural environment.

With their diverse backgrounds, they bring a range of complementary skills and knowledge to the job. They all have proven records of being effective leaders and managers and getting things done. They are willing and able to work for the benefit of us all. How fortunate we are!

Please join me in supporting Christine, George, and Gary.

KIM KORNBAKER,
SALT SPRING

True democracy

It is said that Salt Spring has one of the most involved communities in the province and a reputation for open debate of public issues.

I can vouch for that. In my term as one of your Islands Trust locally elected trustees, I have witnessed the enormous capacity of volunteers who give willingly of their time, energy and experience in so many ways. So I am saddened to find that this election campaign has generated so much negative energy, divisiveness and disrespect for our island community.

When candidates exhort the importance of democracy in our society, we all nod our heads. When candidates express sincere belief in working together to promote consensus in the community, we sympathize and are heartened. But when private actions seek to undermine this consensus, we become suspicious.

When a community group — in this case, Islanders for Self Government — publishes misleading information to garner support from the public to promote its own political ends, then the cause of openness and transparency is diminished. It serves no public purpose and should be exposed.

We all have a responsibility to ensure that public debate is founded on the facts, not a skewed version of the facts. And, yes, those who report on island activities, including the Driftwood, community TV channels and websites have a special responsibility to promote constructive dia-

logue of issues, not personal attacks.

Those we elect to public office will be charged with holding the public trust and this must not be tarnished with false promises. In the final days of this election campaign, I hope that honesty and integrity will prevail — surely this is the true basis of democracy.

PETER LAMB,
RETIRING LOCAL TRUSTEE

Drawbridge

The goal of the Islands Trust, as interpreted by our current trustees and candidate Torgrimson, is to "preserve and protect" this "unique treasure" we have... i.e., the island itself.

They appear to share a philosophy that "conservation" is about keeping the land undisturbed. But they, like I, choose to live here. Each of them has moved to this place, has altered the landscape, has placed yet another footprint... and all of this since the Trust Act was created more than 30 years ago.

I would argue that if the only thing the Trust stands for is to "preserve and protect" the island eco-system, we should reduce our population to the pre-Trust numbers of 3,000 or so. We could do this by lottery, or those most committed to "preserve and protect" could be role models, and leave first. We certainly should rid ourselves of ArtSpring and, of course, that magnet to baby boomers, Lady Minto.

Is this absurd? Of course it is, when viewed through the lens of "community." But where in the OCP can we find mention of community priorities such as public safety? How, in the last three years, did our land use planning encompass the need for industrial zoned land to handle the demands of this community? Where do we provide a forum that is geared to the concerns of our youth and young families? When, among the many task forces, was there dialogue that recognized that some growth is both inevitable and positive if a community is to remain viable?

In the upcoming election we have an opportunity to support candidates who wish to explore the balance between economy, ecology and community. Or we can maintain an approach that will surely turn us into an overpriced, underserved retirement facility surrounded not by gates, but by a really big moat.

JULIA LUCICH,
NORTH END ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on A17

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OPINION

Trustees must pay heed to arts' impact on economy

BY GARY CHERNEFF

As a candidate for trustee, Norbert Schlenker has concerns about the working man being able to afford to live here. I am sure that his concerns are more about having a diverse and rich human community than simply making sure the new gentry can find a plumber, let alone get one at a reasonable price.

What he doesn't talk about is the arts community (who mostly DIY for plumbing). They are not only workers who need to rent space for living and working but are also at the base of the tourist industry triangle.

They create community wealth by importing dollars that would otherwise be happily gobbled up by Victoria, Sidney, Sooke, Duncan, Ladysmith, Nanaimo, Parksville, Tofino and Courtenay. Those imported dollars spent locally on the arts are multiplied exponentially on accommodations, home sales, new construction, restaurants and yes, plumbers and electricians.

The arts community is largely responsible for creating the ambience and lifestyle which have made this one of the most desirable places to live or visit in the country. It is at the heart and soul of how we define ourselves as a community. It is a major part of our tourism sector and it is a clean and green industry.

Yet Kimberly Lineger, in her call for "responsible tourism," does not mention, even once, our arts community.

She calls for eco-tourism, agri-tourism and edu-tourism. Not cultural tourism. Even our chamber of commerce is more enlightened than she about the value of cultural tourism.

And while our candidates are all talking about social programs, environmental protection, homelessness, agricultural development, liquid waste and oh so tirelessly the nuances of governance — all of which will cost tax dollars — where is the economic plan which will allow this community to utilize its formidable human resources to compete with our neighbours who so envy our reputation and creative excellence?

There is no doubt that gentrification is well under way. With it comes sanitization, homogenization, restrictive rules and regulations, higher insurance rates, golf courses and luxury cars and of course, a prevailing interest in land values and neighbourhood beautification.

Where does the working class live? Where can they afford to live? And if they, who have the potential to earn a good and steady wage, cannot find shelter at reasonable cost, how will our arts community fare in the future when most artists are economically marginal at the best of

times? Any opportunities for a young artist to gain a foothold in this community will depend upon the good will of their parents, a benefactor or some kind of inspired tourism and cultural policy which will allow this community to retain its cultural identity, its human diversity and economic prosperity for everyone.

Our artists, tradespeople and service industry workers are not looking for a handout or welfare but a reasonable opportunity to earn a living and live in a vibrant, creatively stimulating community.

Our incumbent trustees have been very late in addressing the economic fundamentals of this community.

Until this campaign their concerns have been unbalanced in favour of every other issue but the tough one, our economy. But

George Ehring and Christine Torgrimson have now responded with a call for economic and tourism planning and they are the only candidates who mention the arts at all in this context. In this respect they are light years ahead of the other candidates.

If you are an artist or care about keeping the arts and culture of this island economically healthy and creatively vibrant, listen and read carefully, please vote and support the candidate that most serves those values.

I will be supporting George and Christine as the candidates I feel are most appreciative of the economic and cultural contribution we artists make to this island.

The writer is an artist who has lived on Salt Spring for 34 years and is on the Salt Spring Arts Council board.

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Is Salt Spring Island more equal than any other island in the Trust?

Should it be?

By having two more Salt Spring trustees at the table than any other island, that will truly be the case. That is what the Trust considers improved governance for our island.

Nothing will change in our ability to manage our own destiny or our own affairs relevant to how we want to live as a community on this island.

Leave the Trust alone.

One man government for 10,000 people is not representative of the diversity of our community. We need a local government that truly represents who we are and how we live and work together on our island.

If the proposed solution to all our problems passes we will be stuck with it for a very long time and may never, in our lifetimes, get another chance to fix it.

What is being proposed is wrong. Very wrong. Send the Trust and the Province a message.

Vote NO to the four trustee referendum.

Thomas C. Hobbes
Rainbow Road tchobbes@telus.net

OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

LAST ONES STANDING:

Paul deRoos and Melanie Platz of Small Earth Organic Farms were the only vendors brave enough to attend the Saturday market in Ganges this week. The market is officially closed for the season.

Taxation and representation don't match up within current system

BY MARY GILLIES

I believe Salt Spring Islanders are paying too much in property tax for the services provided.

Compare a \$500,000 property in Burnaby. A residential owner ends up paying approximately \$2,280 per year in Burnaby compared to \$2,355 per year on Salt

Spring. While comparisons like this are always too simplistic, the point is that we are paying city rates for rural services.

When it comes to business taxes, we are definitely paying city rates. At 2.5 to 3 times the residential rates, a typical \$500,000 business property pays \$6,385 per year. This property tax burden affects all residents since these costs are passed on to renters and local consumers in the stores and restaurants.

Now taking a look at how these tax dollars are spent, the largest portion goes to the CRD, then to the Islands Trust, and closely in third place is the fire district.

We pay for being part of Greater Victoria through the CRD. It's a reasonable deal. Our tax contribution to the Royal Jubilee Hospital extension is balanced by the subsidy to Lady Minto Hospital. The fire district costs, though increasing, are still cheaper per property tax base than many other jurisdictions in B.C., including other Gulf Islands.

When first conceived, 95 per cent of Islands Trust revenue came from provincial government general revenue. The change to majority funding from local property taxation took place without any changes in the representation at the local level. It's difficult to figure out how much of the Salt Spring Island property taxation dollars supports off-island activities. Estimates range from \$300,000 to \$1 million. However, using the Trust's stated budget of 2008, the proportion that is paid by Salt Spring is \$298 per \$500,000 assessment and at \$2.46 million represents 40 per cent of the 2009 Salt Spring Island Trust budget of \$6.16 million.

So who is making decisions on how to spend these taxation dollars?

The CRD director is elected on salary (\$18,165). Island trustees are elected

whole Islands Trust Council at 26 members accounts for only \$325,000 in salary.

The PARC board is appointed and volunteer, the school board is elected and only an honorarium paid, the fire district trustees are elected and volunteer.

People who typically hold these positions are independently wealthy, retired or business owners, i.e., anyone who has some discretionary time and a specific interest or expertise to contribute. It is noticeable that the middle-class working person is not well represented in these boards.

Salt Spring Island

property owners

could be overtaxed

by up to \$1 million

per year.

On the surface, Salt Spring Islanders are getting a fantastic deal for their taxation dollars with all these volunteers. However, the limited time that volunteers have means that coordination across groups does not happen as often or as well as it should. The CRD director and the Islands Trust have not done enough to bring these groups together to discuss common financial planning and implementation.

There are many issues that could be brought forward to highlight the problems of representation in the various boards that decide how to spend public money on Salt Spring Island. However, by far the biggest discrepancy between collection of money and the power to decide what to do with it lies with the Islands Trust Council.

Salt Spring trustees have only 7.7 per cent (2/26) of the vote on the Islands Trust

ers pay \$2.46 million (40 per cent of the total Islands Trust revenue) in residential property tax and have 40 per cent of the Trust area population base. By comparison, South Pender Island with a population of 235 (0.8 per cent of Trust population) pays proportionally less overall property tax but has the same representation 2/26 (7.7 per cent) at Trust Council as the 10,000 Salt Spring Islanders.

Salt Spring Island property owners could be overtaxed by up to \$1 million per year. Under-representation in the Islands Trust Council is the major cause of net outflow of property taxation dollars. If this \$1 million were to stay on the island, we could take some significant steps, for example, to fix the yearly potholes or complete the library project, or move faster on affordable housing, etc.

Having two classes of island trustees, voting and non-voting, does not solve the problem of representation at Trust Council. The Trust Council is the controlling body.

On the positive side, one trustee could be assigned to attend the monthly fire district public meetings and another for the library meetings and so on. But who will assign this person?

Salt Spring Islanders need more control over how their Islands Trust property taxes are spent. This can only begin to happen with more voting powers at Islands Trust Council for our trustees.

NOTE: Figures extrapolated from actual 2008 Property Tax assessments; the yellow information sheet accompanying Salt Spring assessments and; the 2001 (latest available) data supplied on the Islands Trust web page.

The writer has been a full-time Salt Spring resident and property owner since 1989, owns a business in Ganges and is an elected volunteer

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
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Four makes sense

I don't get it. If we would all like to improve the governance of our island in some way, why on earth would we not want to have four trustees instead of two?

The recent ad by Islanders for Self-Government is seriously misleading and unfair. In big bold letters it states that the two new trustees "can not vote." This is just plain wrong. Almost all — about 90 per cent — of the work of the trustees deals with local zoning issues, with decisions made by the local Trust committee. Each of the two new trustees would have a vote on that committee, which would mean that for every local issue, we would have four Salt Spring islanders' opinions and votes, not just two.

Only in the event of a tie (which obviously would be much less likely with four local trustees than with two), would the off-island chair (usually the chair of the Trust Council) be called on to break the tie. And although the Trust Council is legally able to veto a decision by a local Trust committee if it believes it is against the Trust's mandate, this has happened only twice since the Trust was established in 1973. So let's not worry about that hugely unlikely possibility.

All four candidates for the Trust are committed to studying the issue of incorporation, with two of them wanting to see if there are any other even-better options. But whoever is elected, this will take years.

In the meantime, let's all agree to vote for two more trustees, get two more voices at the table, and send a message to the provincial government that we are looking for improvement in our governance.

JUDY NORGET,
SALT SPRING

Impressed

I have attended the three all-candidates meetings and was particularly impressed by the intelligent and focussed questions at Fulford Hall.

I was further impressed with some of the candidates responses. Christine Torgrimson, George Ehring and Gary Holman have consistently shown themselves to be articulate, to have great depth of knowledge of the material and, most importantly, have carried themselves with consistent integrity.

I left the meeting filled with gratitude that they are willing to serve our community. I urge you to vote for them on Nov. 15.

ROBIN FERRY,
SKY VALLEY ROAD

Leadership needed

I'd like to respond to comments by CRD and Trust candidates at the all-candidates meeting in Fulford last Wednesday, in response to my question about how they will ensure that the CRD and Islands Trust take action to address the challenges of transportation and greenhouse gas emissions on Salt Spring.

I was impressed with the responses of Christine Torgrimson, George Ehring and Gary Holman, who highlighted that coordination

between the Trust and CRD is an important strategy in addressing the inherent inter-connection between land-use and transportation.

I was concerned with the responses given by Kimberly Lineger and Norbert Schlenker, though I agree with and appreciate their conviction that individuals must take

initiative to use alternative forms of transportation. What concerns me is their statements that the Trust doesn't have much of a role to play in transportation issues, and Kimberly's comment that government plays a limited role in people's transportation choices.

I think it is a grave mistake

to place the responsibility more on the individual than on government leadership, as they go hand in hand. The Islands Trust, with its land-use mandate, makes many decisions that influence transportation, through development permits, settlement patterns, re-zoning applications, density permits, and many other

factors that affect how and where we provide goods and services, and help people access them.

Initiative from trustees is critical on transportation issues, and we need to elect representatives who understand the complex interdependence between land-use and transportation, and will

work with innovation, commitment and cooperation to provide leadership in our local government. Then we will all have more choices and can more easily do our individual part in reducing car dependence and diversifying how we get around.

KIMI HENDESS,
SALT SPRING

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Keith Oliver

OPINION

**We can improve local government,
and do so much more, says Holman**

BY GARY HOLMAN

While improving governance is a valid issue, please consider which CRD director and trustees will work for you on all the issues over the next three years.

I believe that George Ehling, Christine Torgrimson and I have the demonstrated experience and ability to work together most effectively to address issues that matter to the community — completing the offi-

cial community plan (OCP) and related land use bylaw changes, creating affordable housing, protecting drinking water, acting on climate change and furthering community development projects. With your support, two additional trustees will join us to share this important work and improve a unique, rural system of governance already regarded as a model of sustainability in B.C.

Our system of government has achieved significant milestones in recent years. Since 1996, when Salt Spring joined the CRD Parks function, we've protected over 4,000 acres of green space. We've built 160 units of affordable and seniors housing. We just opened a multi-purpose indoor pool and purchased a site for our new library in the Ganges core. We're upgrading water treatment facilities for six water districts and have upgraded both our secondary sewage treatment plants. We've upgraded Lady Minto Hospital, established a model "continuum of care" for seniors on the Greenwoods/Lady Minto site, and revitalized emergency planning.

We've launched a new public transit system that is succeeding beyond all expectations, and built the first of many pathways to come. Since I was first elected in 2002, CRD has helped secure over \$20 million in capital and \$650,000 in annual funding for Salt Spring projects and programs.

Many of these accomplishments were aided by the local Trust committee (LTC) and its progressive OCP. In recognition of these accomplishments, the Province gave Salt Spring the first ever Green City award with a \$25,000 prize that we'll reinvest in energy and water-saving rebates, benefiting hundreds of island homes.

Contrary to claims by Islanders for Self-Government (ISG) and their candidates, our local government is not only working, we're improving it. We created the

Transportation Commission and the Water Council — unique entities in rural B.C. Since 2002, CRD-Trust cooperation has been raised to a new level. We established the first CRD-Trust town hall and public budget meetings. As CRD director, I've attended virtually all LTC meetings over the past three years. The trustees and I have met regularly — together, and with other agencies like MOT and B.C. Ferries. We have co-funded our community energy strategy, housing needs assessments, watershed planning and parking studies. The trustees also participate in a number of CRD commissions. If elected, George, Christine and I will establish a formal CRD-Trust coordinating committee and initiate Salt Spring's first strategic planning process.

All candidates support a study of governance options, but ISG representatives believe incorporation is the only option. George, Christine and I propose that other options, including the concept of a CRD-Trust "community council," should also be examined. We believe that impacts on the Trust must be considered and that studying governance options should not divert us from other pressing community priorities. In the meantime, I hope voters understand our local government is demonstrating success and engages its citizens at a level unmatched anywhere in the province.

There is an important improvement in governance we can make immediately — increasing the number of trustees. Adding two trustees will broaden representation and better enable the LTC to fulfill its legislative mandate to coordinate activities with the CRD and other agencies. The cost to Salt Spring is trivial, about \$1.65 per household per year. Sixty per cent of the cost will be borne by the rest of the Trust area. Salt Spring's influence regionally will also

be enhanced because the new trustees can participate in all discussions and virtually all committees at Trust Council. It makes no sense that ISG candidates advocate greater diversity of views, yet oppose the addition of two trustees.

In recognition of these accomplishments, the Province gave Salt Spring the first ever Green City award with a \$25,000 prize that we'll reinvest....

On Nov. 15, islanders are also being asked to approve up to \$2.1 million in borrowing to undertake essential upgrades to the liquid waste processing facility in Burgoyne Valley. This borrowing won't require a tax increase because of other debt retirement (we now own outright the 18-acre Burgoyne site), and the operating cost savings resulting from state-of-the-art equipment.

If the referendum fails, facility upgrades will have to be funded by substantially increasing taxes to meet current environmental and safety standards. Closing the facility would force even more costly, direct transport of septage and sewage sludge off-island. Only \$300,000 of the \$2.1 million borrowing authority is for a permanent composting facility, and this will depend upon a successful pilot involving rigorous testing and full public consultation.

The writer is incumbent CRD director and candidate in the Nov. 15 election.

TWO REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE NO TO TWO EXTRA TRUSTEES

1. In a recent email about the addition of two trustees that is making the rounds, supporters of the proposal noted that the new trustees would vote on 90% of matters relating to Salt Spring. The other 10%? The Islands Trust budget and your taxes.

THE TWO ADDITIONAL TRUSTEES WILL HAVE NO VOTE ON THE TAXES YOU PAY

2. If you think that the addition of two trustees is better than the status quo, you may be right. The question is, can Salt Spring do better? Do we want to forego the opportunity to explore the best options for governance on Salt Spring and a close look at where the taxes we pay go?

A VOTE FOR 4 TRUSTEES WILL PREVENT A REAL LOOK AT GOVERNANCE AND EQUITABLE TAX TREATMENT FOR SALT SPRING

This ad paid for by Norbert Schlenker, not an anonymous committee.

Christmas Story Writing Contest

The deadline for our annual writing contest is Thursday, December 4th. Win a cash prize for a story of up to 500 words about Christmas or the Christmas Season.

- Write a story of 500 words or less whose topic relates to Christmas or the Christmas season.
- All Gulf Islands students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are eligible.
- Stories will be judged by retired teachers and librarians on quality of writing, clarity of presentation and originality of theme.
- Winning entries will be published in the Driftwood in December.
- The name, age, address and telephone number of the writer must be written on the back of each entry.
- Send entries to the Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3, email to news@gulfislands.net or fax to 250-537-2613.
- For more information, call 250-537-9933.

Teachers: Classes with the highest participation level are eligible to win a donation of \$100 made on behalf of the class to the charity of their choice!



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Please Read: John 3: 16

We honour and remember those brave people who lay down their lives so that we can live in peace, freedom and safety.

BUS SCHEDULE



PHOTOS BY DERRICK LUNDY

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Islanders remember the lives of those lost in war as they gather for the annual Remembrance Day ceremony in Ganges on Tuesday. Above, wreaths are placed on the cenotaph in Centennial Park as a crowd looks on; at right, Kathryn Holm takes a moment to remember.



RANTS and Roses

Rants

Rants to the individual who on Oct. 29 stole a secured sandwich board from the junction of Beddis and Fulford-Ganges roads, leaving the lock and chain intact. Hope my business signs are of use! Lucia Gabber

Roses

A bouquet of anything deer love to eat for the young man who stopped to help us with our "deer problem" two weeks ago. You saved the day and, no doubt, the life of the doe. From the young doe and the Thursday Night Book Club

Roses to David Wood, who has volunteered his time and expertise on numerous occasions over the past years as moderator of debates for the local, provincial and federal elections. Driftwood staff

Blue roses and much gratitude to all the ex-pat Americans on the island who worked their tails off to elect Obama! The Bush nightmare will soon be over.

Roses to Nora who found my wallet, had already called me to tell me where it was, and then saw me fretting, asked my name and took me to it. Thank you for your pep talk too! I needed it that day!

Tree Frog Daycare sends a heritage rose to each and every child on Salt Spring on the National Day of the Child: Nov. 20. May you each: be treated with dignity and respect; be given the opportunity to have a voice; be protected from harm, vio-

lence and abuse; have your basic needs met; and be given every opportunity to realize your full potential!

A daily dose of sunshine and autumn-coloured roses with our heartfelt thanks are being sent along to the following who help to fill our shelves with the little extras each week: All the churches and their generous parishioners (you know who you are), Auntie Pesto's, Barb's Buns Bakery, Jana's, Embe Bakery, Country Grocer and Thrifty's, Sea Change Sea Foods, Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply, Star Barks, Duck Creek Farm, Gary McCollm, Cornelia Rikke, Michener Family, Ron and Nancy Holcroft, Gay Utter, and Paul for the apples. We also can't forget to thank the anonymous elves. It's so comforting to know that during these uncertain economic times there are people who can be counted on for so much and so continuously each week. Food bank volunteers and staff at Salt Spring Island Community Services Society

Golf carts full of organic roses to all the "angels" of Blackburn Meadows Golf Course. Thanks a million for an amazing season of junior golf: Eric, Ann, Michelle, your encouragement, support and generosity have scored "a hole in one" in our hearts! Paul, Hannah and especially Lorence

Funky, folksy roses to the Salt Spring Folk Club for their generosity on Nov. 3. Thanks from the Copper Kettle folk.

A big red rose and an apology to the driver that was

making his way from Park Drive onto Lower Ganges Road last Wednesday about 12 noon. I'd made a right turn off of Lower Ganges onto Park. My flasher was still on for my right turn, and I should have changed it to left turn, to go into the Dagwood's parking lot. So sorry.

One long-stemmed, hot-pink sweetheart rose to the alert person who positioned a wood block behind the back tire of my wandering truck in the Country Grocer parking lot last Wednesday, thus averting a potential mishap. Thank you, kind stranger. KG

Kisses and mistletoe to all who stay on-island to support our merchants, arts and crafts and trades.

Some 200-plus pairs of multi-coloured roses to all the folks at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, and an extra pair for Rita Dods! Thank you for Sock Sunday! The Copper Kettle folk

Beautiful red roses to all the volunteers who helped make the Lady Minto Hospital Thrift Store Christmas Sale such a huge success. Many long hours were spent collecting, sorting and pricing all the wonderful items donated to the thrift store.

Roses to those who fought so that we may live in a democracy and openly discuss and decide our own destiny. Ken Marr

Roses to Betsy, Barb, Kim et al, who helped me locate a priceless family heirloom last Thursday. ML

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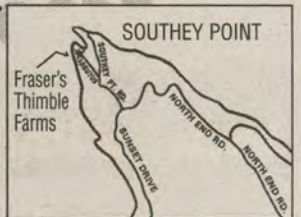
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Hendren, Garth (X)

Garth Hendren

for CRD Director

Submitted by the Garth Hendren Campaign 2008.

To connect with Garth phone: 537-1567 or learn more: www.saltspring.org/elections.htm

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OPINION

Set priorities; toss out red herrings

The following is part of a much longer piece submitted to the Driftwood. Two other parts critique the four-trustee option and CRD role in Salt Spring's governance. Read the full text online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com under the Opinion tab.

BY STEVE KNIGHT

Who is going to balance the competing needs and set the priorities for our community going forward?

1. The library is going to fall down around our ears in the near future and they will likely be asking for \$3,000,000+ in addition to the monies already provided for a land purchase that may or may not be suitable.

2. The fire hall is going to fall down around our ears in the near future and they are going to be asking for \$5,000,000+ in the near future, in addition to the \$575,000 borrowed for a fire truck yet to be delivered.

3. The sewage system is going to fall down around our ears in the near future and they will be asking for \$2,100,000 in the near future... oops, they already have.

4. We want bike and walking paths, we want the rest of the pool complex we thought we were getting, we want all-weather sports fields for our youth, we want covered tennis facilities, we want upgraded sidewalks and lighting, we want to finish our boardwalk. We want more parks, we want more beach accesses, we want to participate in auto alternatives, we want leaders in recycling including and especially

commercial users, we want to be leaders in sustainability options, and many many more worthwhile initiatives all requiring money.

Who will say "yes you can" or "not right now," or shall we just let everyone rush to the trough and duke it out?

5. The only public wash-room facility servicing thousands people on a market day only appears as if it is going to fall down around our ears in the near future and the design from an architectural firm hired suggested that hundreds of thousands of dollars would have to be spent to replace it in the near future.

Seeing what this community is able to accomplish when it pulls together (witness the state-of-the-art skate park and the Nairn Howe court) if we were to cherish and nurture our volunteers, instead of disrespecting them, we may be able to end up with twice the building at half the price.

Who is going to set the priorities and balance the budget or are we just going to allow them all to compete via numerous referenda or, worse yet, give licence to the negative option billing of having to walk up the stairs to the CRD office and vote against an initiative?

To paraphrase an American politician, a few million here, a few million there... pretty soon you're talking about real money!

And the red herrings:

1. We would be weakening the Trust if we incorporate.

• The Trust's own consultant's report said that adding

additional trustees only for Salt Spring could potentially weaken the Trust as all Gulf Islanders would no longer be equal within the federation. He has a point.

• If I were from Gabriola, why would I not want what Salt Spring has? Are all other islands to be home only to second-class citizens? Perhaps becoming an island municipality would actually strengthen the Trust as all citizens would continue to be equal in the eyes of the Trust.

2. The roads are falling, the roads are falling! What would a municipality do about the roads?

• Have you noticed what kind of condition they are in now and only as we near a provincial election have they gotten a little better? Could we do any worse? Nothing from nothing is nothing. We can do better ourselves.

3. Salt Spring would no longer be willing or bound "to preserve and protect."

• No one wants to leave the Islands Trust but only to have it return to and focus on what it was designed to do... preserve and protect. No one here aspires to become Richmond... no one! To suggest otherwise is just irresponsible.

4. It's the developers that are pushing for a municipality.

• No "developer" comes to Salt Spring to seek their fame and fortune; they are not that foolish. Local business people seek to grow their businesses to help local workers afford to live here and raise their families. Salt Spring-

ers want to be proud of their community just as much or more than most others.

People of all types seek an opportunity to contribute to the diversity of this community and seek a way to con-

Who will say "yes you can" or "not right now," or shall we just let everyone rush to the trough and duke it out?

tribute that does not require a full-time commitment that excludes all other pursuits. We all come to Salt Spring for balance in our lives. Why should participating in a local democracy be precluded from that goal?

The candidates recommended by ISG say only that they are prepared to keep an open mind and consider all options before giving the electorate a change to decide. Sounds pretty reasonable to me.

Please vote for Norbert Schlenker, Kimberly Liniger and Garth Hendren so that we can at least experience self-determination and then we can make an informed decision considering all of the facts.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident and business owner.



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MORE LETTERS

continued from A17

Editor's note: The Driftwood accommodated almost all election-related letters and long opinion pieces submitted to us in the print version of the paper this week. However, a few of the last-received submissions had to be held for placement online. The same goes for one extremely long piece that would have required more than a full page to accommodate and then reduced the number of individual letters. A second long piece (from Steve Knight) was severely cut for print, with the entire piece running online. In the case of one late-submitted letter, two candidates were also given a chance to respond to an allegation arising from the Fulford all-candidates meeting — their responses follow the letter from Mike Wall online.

See the Driftwood website at www.gulfislands-driftwood.com and click on the Opinion tab to find all the letters — the ones not printed will be those posted first — and all other individual long pieces will be clearly marked with the Nov. 12 date. While you're there, check out the election candidate videos in the website's News section.

Five questions

1. Why does Islanders for Self-Government tell the public two new trustees will have "no" vote when, in fact, they will?
2. Why did ISG beg Victoria to deny Salt Spring additional trustees?
3. Why does ISG favour seven councillors but fight tooth and nail against four trustees?
4. Why do ISG candidates Garth Hendren and Kimberly Lineger continually declare the ISG agenda will not weaken the Trust?
5. Why does ISG believe the electorate will be fooled?

CHARLES BRETH,
HARBOURSIDE

Dig our way to votes

People of Salt Spring, there may be another solution to the four trustee issue!

Now, this is going to take a lot of work and dedication from the entire able-bodied population, but we've undertaken big projects before.

First, everybody needs to gather up shovels and picks, and then we must line up all the heavy equipment on the island. The goal is to dig a channel from Ganges to Booth Bay.

Some of us can start at one end and some at the other, but we must all work together toward the same outcome. When we are done and have created a channel we will be entitled to as many trustees as Pender Island and all four can vote at Trust Council.

For your information, North Pender has a population of 1,996 and South Pender has a population of 236 for a total of 2,232 people. With less than 10 per cent of the total Islands Trust population they have

four votes at Trust Council.

This is an example of the current lop-sided situation.

Of, course there are many more concerns than representation by population. We need to look at models of governance that give us the right to have a council that can make coordinated, informed decisions about our own island.

Like Bowen Island we can, and should still be, a vital part of the Islands Trust. Until we have that study on governance that includes a municipal option, we should vote "no" to this year's question of having four trustees.

ARLENE DASHWOOD,
SALT SPRING

Separation of powers

My goodness! What a dense, political issue was last week's Driftwood! As I waded through the letters, interviews and commentaries I was impressed by the clearly stated positive points presented by supporters of both pro-Trust and pro-incorporation. Very little, if any, mud slinging or slugging. Bravo!

Basically I am pro-Trust as I feel we are in the midst of an evolution of the Trust structure and now is not the time to change horses in mid-stream. However, I was feeling that I was missing a key link in the line of reasoning about creating a municipality.

Why is a municipal council likely to be pro-development? Can't we elect councillors who support the Trust mandate?

Then I came across the interview with Peter Lamb, Why We Should Stick With the System, and suddenly the lights went on; I understood how the separation of powers is the very essence of the Trust mandate.

In the '70s, when the Trust was created, the provincial government endowed it

with the responsibility for land use, while leaving the delivery of services with the CRD. This meant that the Trust did not have to worry about financing said services, but could devote its energy and budget to fulfilling its mandate, which was and still is, the preservation and protection of the Gulf Islands environment, which is widely acknowledged to be worthy of such protection.

In contrast, if these two powers, land use management and service delivery (police, roads, sewage etc.), are invested in a single local body, the responsibility for financing the services falls on that body, which has to find the money from taxes and other sources.

One of the best sources of money in our contemporary society is land development, which means that the municipal council is more likely to encourage development to pay for the services it must offer.

This means that the mandate of the Trust for environmental preservation loses its importance. As this is the *raison d'être* for the Trust it will, over time, wither.

Seen from this new perspective, the issue is not so much the type of council we might elect as it is the importance of keeping the two responsibilities separate.

Of course we pay taxes for service delivery by another body, the CRD, but that body doesn't control the land development on the islands, which leaves the Trust free to deal with land issues only. Protection of the environment is even more important today than it was when the Trust was created, and here we have a mechanism already in place for doing this. Lucky us!

ANDREA RANKIN,
LEPAGE ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on A43

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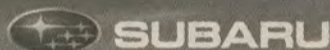
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- Local materials such as sustainably-harvested wood, stone, earth, metal roofs, and good moisture protection (e.g., overhangs, drainage swales, etc.) save money.
- Landscaping: short driveways reduce site disturbance, sequester carbon, store rainwater in porous soil, increase biodiversity and soil productivity. Permaculture gardens provide healthy food for body and soul.

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- Location: close to daily activities is best; otherwise annual transportation energy use may exceed annual home energy use.
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- Build energy efficient: At least R-20 walls, R-40 ceilings, R-20 foundation, high-performance glazing, and reduced air leakage. Include south-facing glass with overhangs for summer shading.
- Efficient mechanical systems: Heat pumps (air, water or ground source) are the most efficient choices. Good ventilation is an essential component of an energy-efficient home and a heat-recovery ventilator (HRV) provides optimum efficiency.
- Renewable energy systems: Solar hot water, PV (solar electric), wind, and microhydro are all options, depending on site conditions. Conservation and efficiency measures are pre-requisites.

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- One fifth of all existing homes must be retrofitted for energy efficiency, and new homes must be built to EGH standards by 2012 if we are to meet the Salt Spring Energy Strategy targets.
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For more information and links, see the Earth Festival Society website:
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The Salt Spring Island Sustainability Challenge

LEARN HOW YOU CAN TAKE ACTION!

Naturally #7

A quick walk down supermarket aisles gives a sobering view of the cleaning solvents on offer. North Americans spend billions every year to get not just clean, but squeaky clean. The price we pay for this is more than just money; we pay in the trillions of litres of chemicals washed down the drains and into septic fields.

We are not only becoming more aware of the damage done to the environment by these cleaners but, in these economic times, need another solution. (Pardon the pun!)

Over the last few months I have studied every cleaner previously under my kitchen sink and experimented with healthy alternatives. Here is what works for me:

- Instead of spraying room freshener around the house, and with a bunch of four-legged family members wandering about I need it more than most, I find a bowl of kitty litter absorbs room odors. Two other equally effective alternatives are a cup of vinegar or charcoal, they also work wonders.
- A great basic recipe for a general all-purpose cleaner is: mix together 1/2 cup of vinegar and 1/4 cup of baking soda in 2 litres of water. This solution is great in shower stalls, chrome, windows and mirrors, as well as general cleaning around the house.
- I have a pedestal sink in my bathroom and the grout between the sink and the wall is prone to mold which seems to appear overnight. I use one part hydrogen peroxide to two parts water, spray on and leave for about an hour before rinsing. Full strength

vinegar or lemon juice also works very well.

- All the floors in my home, with the exception of the kitchen and bathroom, are pine boards painted white...what was I thinking! A very effective cleaner is two teaspoons of washing soda in two litres of hot water. So much better than the commercial cleaner with a splash of bleach I used for years.

- Years ago I took a very intense series of cooking classes with a chef who made Gordon Ramsey look like a favorite uncle. When it came time to clean all the pots and pans he used coarse salt as an abrasive and half a lemon as the utensil. It was amazing how quickly we got the kitchen shipshape.

- Marks on painted surfaces such as crayon can be removed by sprinkling baking soda onto a damp sponge, rubbing gently then rinsing with clean water.

- Clean lime deposits in a kettle by boiling 1/2 cup of vinegar with two cups of water for five minutes. Make sure you rinse well with warm water.

- A great drain cleaner is 1/2 cup baking soda to 1/2 cup of white vinegar. Pour the baking soda down the drain then follow with the vinegar, let sit for a few minutes then follow with boiling water.

- I have invested a small amount of cash into microfiber cloths for dusting. They do an amazing job by themselves without the need for added pollutants.

maggiec@blackpress.ca

 naturally
Smart choices for our future



MAGGIE CALLOWAY

LiveSmart Community Heroes

JEAN GELWICKS



Jean Gelwicks began her quest to promote social justice as an ardent campaigner for civil rights and peace. As a teacher, it was her "children" who convinced her about the merits of recycling long before anybody had heard of the blue-box program.

Decades later, Jean has devoted much of her life encouraging others to not only think about how they relate to their environment, but to realize that they are, in fact, part of the environment.

"When I was a child, we didn't realize that everything was interconnected," she said. "My generation grew up thinking that nature was something separate."

That's precisely the mindset that Gelwicks is trying to reverse with the Salt Spring Island Conservancy-sponsored Stewards in Training Program.

The program aims to get children in grades 1 through 8 out on the land, experiencing, exploring and interacting with nature.

The program reaches roughly 700 children every year and an increasing number of teachers and parents want to get their kids involved.

"We don't get any teachers who opt out," Gelwicks said. "This program is a model."

As if training a new generation of nature lovers wasn't enough, Gelwicks is an active board member on the Islands Pathways groups.

The association's latest coup was the completion of a roadside pathway along Lower Ganges Road as a way to encourage people both young and old to get active, stay safe and protect the environment by reducing their reliance on fossil fuel-based transportation.

Island Pathways also sponsors the Helmets for Life program in elementary schools and promotes the installation of bike racks on the island.

The group has already embarked on fundraising efforts for stage two of the pathway project, a route that will link Atkins and Swanson roads and short paths along Blain Road between Braehaven and Lower Ganges Road, and on Crofton Road.

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The Salt Spring Island
SUSTAINABILITY Challenge
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These effects of global warming have already taken a heavy toll on our economy, our natural resources and people's homes and livelihoods. It's clear that it's hurting our province. It's time for all of us to take action.

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NEWSBEAT

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Salt Spring activists focus energy on Lesotho projects

High commissioner brings news of gratitude from afar

BY ANDREA PALFRAMAN
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

On a rainy cold day on Salt Spring Island, a group of grandmothers had the rare opportunity to bask in rays of hope from Africa.

They came together at the home of host Marion Pape to welcome Her Excellency Me Motseoa Senyane, the Lesotho High Commissioner to Canada.

Tiny and formidable, Me Senyane has been representing her country at Ottawa's high commission since 2006. She has been active in organizing her fellow African diplomats and has worked closely with the various charitable organizations in Canada who work in Lesotho. Prior to her diplomatic work, Senyane was a leader in Lesotho's civil society, participating in the shift from military dictatorship to democratic government, and taking on corruption and human rights abuses surrounding a World Bank-funded hydro-electric dam project.

In spite of her responsibilities, Senyane is a delight: quick to laugh and revels in the informal company of fellow activists.

"There's a lot of groundedness in people here on Salt Spring," she observed.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Sue Mouat and Me Senyane at Saturday brunch event.

Senyane returns to Salt Spring to follow-up on our community's progress on initiatives that range from building a primary school for orphaned children, sending a shipment of medical supplies and computers, sending volunteers to offer assistance in health, education and agriculture, and providing high school scholarships to young women and solar cookers to aged grandmothers.

"Once you go to Africa, you never get over it," said Diana Knox Morris, who poignantly spoke of her life-changing journey to the continent.

Others had never experienced Africa first hand, but were moved by the stories of their fellow elders to find ways to respond to the AIDS crisis.

The Salt Spring grandmothers are part of a movement that is sweeping across Canada. The Grandmothers to Grandmothers campaign was launched in 2006, when 100 grandmothers from Africa gathered with 100 Canadian grandmothers to share, celebrate and find ways to work in solidarity across the world to take on the devastation of the AIDS pandemic. The Raging Grannies first heard about the Grandmothers' movement through Judy Jackson, a Salt Spring filmmaker whose documentary *A Race Against Time* aired on CBC's *The Nature of Things*. Jackson invited the grandmothers to watch a clip she filmed of grandmothers in Lesotho, who were caring for their children's children after having suffered the loss of their own children to HIV/AIDS.

"We asked Judy, 'What can we do?'" says Marg Simons. "She said, 'Oh, don't worry, you'll think of something!' and suggested that we contact an Ottawa organization called Help Lesotho. It was then suggested that we get involved with providing solar ovens to rural grandmothers to ease the burden of feeding their many grandchildren and gathering scarce firewood in deforested Lesotho." Since they began their fundraising campaign, the Salt Spring Raging Grannies have provided 15 solar ovens to needy grandmothers in remote parts of mountainous Lesotho, and have sent the money for another 30 to be delivered in early 2009.

Along with the ovens, each of the Lesotho grannies received a hand-written note and a miniature floral hat like the ones Raging Grannies wear with pride.

"When I went to visit the grannies, they were very curious

about these tiny hats!" laughs Senyane. She added: "Solar ovens are highly practical for our country, as Lesotho has close to 300 days of sunshine per year."

"The connections between the grannies kept Salt Spring Island quite alive in my heart," says Senyane. "I've met grandmothers in Lesotho whose lives have been made better because of you. The grannies are thankful

"The money is important, but more important is that personal touch. That is what I convey when I go back to Lesotho."

In addition to the Raging Grannies, the tea was attended by the Raging Grannies, a group of elder women who gather to work in one another's gardens and talk politics. Another group, which will be raising money for the Stephen Lewis Foundation's groundbreaking Grandmothers to Grandmothers campaign, has been launched by long-time Africa supporter Patricia Brown. As it involves men, too, and "non-grandmother" elders, the group's informal moniker is "People Who Run With the Grannies."

Their task is enormous. Lesotho is among the poorest countries in the world, with over 30 per cent of the population infected with AIDS. The AIDS pandemic has knocked out an entire generation, leaving hundreds of thousands of children without parents.

"Grandmothers know the complexity of having to care for young kids with almost nothing."

ME SENYANE
Lesotho High Commissioner to Canada

"The story of HIV has not passed me by," said Senyane. "My own younger sister passed away because of AIDS. At 40 years old I am already a grandmother. I've lost so many of my peers, colleagues, people I grew up with — those of us who are left bear the burden of kids who are orphaned. It is desperate.

"Grandmothers know the complexity of having to care for young kids, with almost nothing. There's no way of bringing money into the family. But they go on. They pour their hearts into raising their grandkids against all odds."

Another woman then mentioned an upcoming Scrabble tournament that is being organized by People Who Run With the Grannies group. The idea came from another granny group in Edmonton, which raised an incredible \$50,000 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation by hosting "virtual" scrabble parties. The tournament, which will involve schools, community groups, and the hospice, is planned for February.

The People Who Run With the Grannies will meet Tuesday, Nov. 18 at Salt Spring Inn at 6:30 p.m. Contact Patricia Brown at 250-653-9406.

The Raging Grannies get together on Thursdays: look for them this week as they take to the streets, urging people to vote in Saturday's election. To donate to the solar oven project, contact Jill Willmott at 250-537-8343.

"I have to thank you from a personal level, also from the level of government and from the people of Lesotho," said Senyane. "The work you are doing is not in vain."

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Ganges Sewer Local Service Committee

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PAGE A2

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DANCE REVIEW



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Participants learn new moves in a Karen Jamieson dance workshop at Anna Haltrecht's Cats Pajamas Studio on Sunday.

Crowd 'pours story into the spaces'

Nothing ephemeral about dance show — effects remain with viewers

BY GAYLE MAVOR
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

In the same way a photograph that has captured a moment exquisitely draws you into the imagery, in the same way Eckhart Tolle speaks about being present in his book, *The Power of Now*, dance performance at its best does the same.

We may arrive intending to approach the performance as voyeurs only interested in passive interaction.

As long as we get to remain in our heads, we're safe. But as the movements unfold — intense, physical, intimate and tender — we are incapable of remaining mere spectators.

We are forced out of our heads and we begin — or at least I did — to visualize the dancer we see in our mind's eye as if we are on stage, a part of the performance that adds yet another layer of imagination to reel us in.

For me, this is what happened Sunday afternoon at ArtSpring when long-time Vancouver choreographer Karen Jamieson's dancers

performed four pieces collectively referred to as *The Sisyphus Project*.

"Feel free to pour your own story into the spaces," said Jamieson, which only made sense to me as the performances unfolded.

Jamieson choreographed the original *Sisyphus* in 1983 and *Dance Collection Danse*, Canada's national dance archive and publication, characterizes it as one of our country's top 10 choreographic masterworks of the 20th century.

Seven dancers transform into human sculptures, intertwine their bodies like clay. Their limbs contort and then slip apart just as fluidly to represent the cyclical nature of connection.

During parts of it, I kept envisioning Bill Reid's sculpture, *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*, where an entire community is piled and intertwined.

The show opened with Jamieson's most recent piece: *Agon*. Based on mythology, *Agon* offers a poetic image of dark and light. *Agon* means ritual, battle, contest, debate. It's the root of the word "agony" and the focus of the ancient Olympic Games. The dancers — Brian Solomon and Ron Stewart — cut stark,

antagonistic figures as they took turns striking out their arms in each other's direction, creating a see-saw rhythm that built to a physical crescendo with the control of their precise physicality almost hypnotic.

Think movement as script; bodies as words; human communication in its most elemental form.

The second piece, *Solo from Chaos*, performed by Darcy McMurray and set to audio meant to represent the changes in human breath from subtle to sexual was performed as background sound by Vancouver percussionist Joseph Pepe Danza, who recreated the original score by Ahmed Hassan.

It's sound that gives the piece its erotic overtones. McMurray started off on top of a ladder descending to unleash a visceral performance that kept my eyes glued enviously to her not-an-ounce-of-fat abs and buttocks before she ascended, carefully, once again, to her ladder-top perch.

But the work I found most riveting was *Man Within*.

"Women carry men," said Jamieson unabashedly in her pre-performance talk. She meant in relationship and in community. But on stage, Caroline Farquhar

carried Brian Solomon literally. His feet dug into her thighs, his body draped around her neck, he stood on her shoulders, her legs quivered at times with the weight.

Created in 1989, the program says the work investigates the weight of the body as a metaphor for spirit. In the final scene, Solomon stood full weight on Farquhar's abdomen as she lay on the ground. Anyone out there relate to such a metaphor?

Solomon was the stand-out dancer for me.

He participated in all but one of the pieces, appeared to show no fatigue and every bit of his time on stage, from the intensity of his gaze to the precision of his movements as they transitioned between traditional native dance steps, ballet, jazz, and gymnastic feats more often performed by *Cirque du Soleil* members, captivated me.

In spite of the ethereal quality of dance and how it can seem to be gone as soon as the dance ends, the best performances stay within us, said one audience member after the show.

Solomon's performance is right here, right now, with me.

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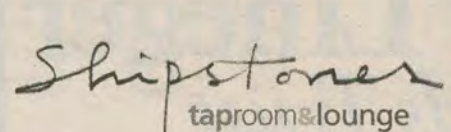
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ISLAND STAR VIDEO presents...

Flick Pick



Emily Mortimer triumphs in Transsiberian thriller

A blunt yet well-told thriller that vaguely adopts Hitchcock to the post-9/11 era, *Transsiberian* is a great way to scare yourself out of travelling anywhere that isn't within 10 clicks of a McDonald's and a Wal-Mart.

Emily Mortimer and Woody Harrelson play Jessie and Roy, married Americans leaving a volunteer experience in China by way of the week-long *Transsiberian Express* train to Moscow. Their new bunkmates turn out to be a young couple coming from teaching English in Japan, suave Carlos (Eduardo Noriega) and quiet, moody Abby (Kate Mara).

The two pairs quickly become friends, though glib Roy doesn't quite notice that Jessie and Carlos have a case of the forbidden hots for each other. The secrets and lies start when Carlos reveals his cargo to Jessie, and Jessie quickly becomes very

suspicious. What proceeds is an increasingly intense game of cat and mouse, with the cat being a Russian detective named Grinko (Ben Kingsley) looking for some lost drugs.

Transsiberian is an exceptionally grey film, and not just in appearance. At its heart are issues of morality, trust, and what is meant by the truth, all set amongst the isolating physical vastness of the Siberian landscape and the chaotic sense of overall corruption in post-Soviet Russian life.

Jessie is quickly established as the heart of the film, a woman in her 30s trying to escape a wandering past full of "sins" by marrying a good, "moral" man. Unlike many film heroines, however, she is decidedly flawed and makes all manner of mistakes that only trap her deeper in a hellish maze.

This is why Mortimer's

performance is so important, and why I found it one of the best I've seen in some time. There are so many parts in *Transsiberian* where Jessie has options, and I found myself cursing her when she didn't do the "right" thing, and yet careful retrospection made me realize how deceptively complex real life's dilemmas really are. This is all due to Mortimer being so absolutely believable — her terror seems so absolutely real, her frailties so frighteningly universal.

While there are some action sequences towards the film's climax, the story rightly turns back to its themes for a conclusion that is somewhat open and yet surprisingly powerful. You may not like what certain characters do, for no other reason than the fact that you might do exactly the same thing given the circumstances.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONCERT REVIEW

Music-infused humour part of charm

Folk club newbie hooked by Canadian ensemble

BY MEGHAN HOWCROFT
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Last Monday night on Nov. 4, I grabbed a friend and headed down to Fulford Hall for my first ever Salt Spring Folk Club show.

As it turned out, the Pan Canadian New Folk Ensemble were the perfect group of musicians to welcome me into the folds of the island folk club scene and by the end of the night I was hooked — on both the music and the venue.

Walking into the warmly lit building we were met by the sight of music-loving islanders chatting and eating dinner at tables strewn around the edges of the room, giving the instant vibe of casual comfort. Then Alan Miceli opened the show. His easy smile and gentle way are a sure match for his melodic guitar tunes that always make me want to close my eyes and sigh in delight.

After a short intermission, the Pan Canadian New Folk Ensemble took to the stage. The ensemble, only having played together for three weeks (Salt Spring being the final stop on their tour), consisted of three back-up musicians and three singer-songwriters: Christine Fellows, Old Man Luedecke and Kim Barlow.

Throughout the concert, the group — whose members hail from all across the country — brought out a variety of instruments, including a cello, fiddle, drums, banjo, keyboards, bass guitar and even a ukulele. They continually swapped instruments and took turns singing lead on their own songs.

Each had a unique sound and while

they provided lovely harmonies and intelligent, eccentric lyrics, the theme of the night seemed to be "music infused with humour."

Fellows, a genuine cutie-pie, was a pleasure to watch. Keeping the audience laughing between numbers, her love of music came through as clearly as her bubbly personality. Reminding me vaguely of a perkier, more country Sarah Harmer, I found her songs both lovable and lonesome.

At this point I was laughing

so hard I couldn't even

manage to sing along.

Barlow grew on me. At first hear, her voice seemed earnest and child-like (although she provided solid harmonies when the others took lead on vocals), but after a few numbers her voice grew stronger. What she may have lacked in perfect tone, she more than made up for in quirky and unexpected lyrics, like in her song about a "lonesome little Ginger-man."

For the past year or so, my favourite Canadian musician has been Old Man Luedecke — the east-coast banjo songster — so it was a pleasure and a rare privilege to see him live. Luedecke's songs are old-fashioned gems, full of hope, humour and poetic sensibilities that make him universally appealing.

He proved a consummate performer both in the treatment of his songs and his comedic story-telling abilities. On

his beautiful tune *Sad as a Forest* (his attempt at an environmental ballad), he held the audience in his palm and in *At the Airport* he displayed his signature style, suffused with a pure tone and refreshing honesty.

The group gelled extremely well considering their short time together and a special treat was their intimate a cappella number that featured all six musicians using their voices as their instruments.

The crowd chuckled throughout many of the tunes and it was a refreshing change to hear music peppered with the smatterings of laughter. To me that's what folk music is all about: meaningful lyrics that can make you laugh, cry and everything in between.

These young musicians excelled at finding the beautiful in the everyday and making the seemingly meaningless and forgotten moments of life memorable and meaningful.

We were treated to songs about strawberry roans, the end of the world, and even a cooking tune carrying the delightful line "If I'm not mistaken, the answer's bacon."

The night ended with some sing-a-long ballads that filled Fulford Hall with the sound of a hundred voices, including a hilarious Barlow tune that spoke of moose hunting and her romantic entanglements with a redneck up north. At this point I was laughing so hard I couldn't even manage to sing along.

Even if you're not sure folk music is your thing, I suggest attending a club concert this winter. The cool thing about a folk club show is that essentially you're gifted with two distinct experiences: the wonderful music and the chance to enjoy it in an intimate and wonderfully warm setting.

**Our world is changing.
 Climate changes.
 Economic changes.
 Salt Spring has to
 make changes.**

Change is inevitable. Preserving and protecting the things we love about Salt Spring depends on what changes we individually can make and what changes WE can make together. ~ In local government today, we need leadership that can inspire citizens to participate, to engage in dialogue and cooperate with each other as we find solutions to important community issues. ~ As Trustee, I hope to inspire each of you - as we cooperate and listen to each other in exploring our hopes and dreams for our Island home. ~ Join in a spirit of moving forward together. Together we can change. Together we can make our community, and our future, better for our children.

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Submitted by the Kimberly Lineger Campaign 2008

To connect with Kimberly: 538-0042 or learn more: www.votekimberly.net

**Preserve and Protect
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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

MUSIC TO REMEMBER: Salt Spring musician Jesse Hunter joins other instrumentalists as she plays the trombone at Tuesday's Remembrance Day ceremony in Centennial Park.

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Island gets rare comedy treat

Two of Canada's top emerging headliners perform

Islanders will soon have the opportunity to laugh it up when stand-up comedians Toby Hargrave and Paul Myrehaug hit the ArtSpring stage on Friday, Nov. 21.

As part of a tour set to bring laughter to Vancouver Island (other shows take place at the Sooke Legion and the Mary Winspear Centre), funny men Hargrave and Myrehaug will also raise money for local community

organizations, including Salt Spring's own Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) improv drama team.

According to a recent press release on the show, "Together [Myrehaug and Hargrave] are two of Canada's top emerging headliners, coming together for three great shows."

Myrehaug, born and raised in Canmore, Alberta and having since made Vancouver home, was the winner of the \$25,000 grand prize in the Great Canadian Laugh Off.

He also placed second in the Seattle Comedy Compe-

dition, and he has appeared in his own comedy special on CTV and the comedy improv drama team.

Hargrave is another Alberta transplant who got his start in the theatre early on, focussing on improv and sketch comedy.

"Over the last eight years he has toured internationally and covered this country from coast to coast and top to bottom. He had the highest rated stand-up comedy special to air on CTV in 2007, appeared as a guest star in the CW's hit Aliens in America, was voted the funniest comedian in Vancouver

at the Vancouver Comedy Festival, and in the new year will have his own show airing with XM Radio!"

The evening, whose comedy is geared for those aged 18 and up, starts at 8 p.m. and promises to get islanders laughing. Tickets are available from the ArtSpring ticket centre (250-537-2102) with partial proceeds going to the GISS improv team, who has made it to Canadian high school championships two years in a row.

For further information on the two comedians, check out freefoodandbeer.com.

MOBY'S MUSIC

British sound at pub Saturday night

Blues and the Beatles keep Moby's patrons in tune this week.

Dave Roland and friends host the Thursday Blues Jam with special guest KC Kelly this week, with music beginning at 8 p.m.

On alternating Thursdays Moby's will now present Stephanie Rhodes and Fiona Kennedy, teaming up as Da Fuego to play and sing favourite rock covers.

"These girls can sing," said Moby's manager Jim Burrows.

Then on Saturday night, Nov. 15, the popular Sutcliffes band returns to the pub.

"This is an early Beatles

tribute band that you could swear they were the Fab Four the way they belt out all the old favourites," said Burrows.

The band starts at 9 p.m. The \$5 cover is waived for anyone ordering dinner.

"Get ready to do some dancing and singing along to the words we all know so well."

The Sutcliffes are also known for their great covers of Johnny Cash tunes, said Burrows.

Salt Spring Concert Band
 Dawn Hage, director

Stravinsky & Beyond:
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 Matthew Stubbs, pianist
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Music Director Kathleen West
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In order to clearly understand our community's governance needs we need to know what our children, parents, teachers, firefighters, carpenters, artists, retired people, business people, farmers, sailors, yoga practitioners.... have to say in respect to how we make Salt Spring an even better place. We have to talk to these people, read their blogs, visit them in the park and the coffee shops, knock on their doors at home and their places of work. Meetings may not cut it. No stone should be left unturned. We need to listen to what they have to say. If we do not practise a collaborative approach to study governance for Salt Spring, we will not reach a unified agreement to move forward. I want to move forward as a community. Vote Garth

Hendren, Garth (X)

Garth Hendren for CRD Director

Submitted by the Garth Hendren Campaign 2008.
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what's on?
 see page B16

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

PEACE PUMPKINS: Creatively carved pumpkins are seen at the St. Mary Lake "patch," having escaped last weekend's first ever pumpkin-smashing event hosted by the local Lions Club.

CLASSICAL INDIAN MUSIC

Journey to the heart of music takes passengers for Nov. 21 performance

Steve Oda performs at Salt Spring Centre of Yoga

A virtuoso sarode performer dedicated to the classical music of India is giving a concert at Salt Spring Centre of Yoga next week.

Steve Oda has been a disciple of the great Indian maestro Ustad Ali Akbar Khan since 1973. In 1996, he received a prestigious Canada Council Artist's Grant to pursue intensive studies at an advanced level with Khan.

Oda moved to the San Francisco Bay area in 1998 and served for two years

as executive director of the Ali Akbar College of Music in San Rafael.

"For over 30 years Steve has been blessed with many international performances and the demand for his playing continues to increase throughout North America, as well as in Spain, France, Holland, Sweden, Australia, New Zealand and, most recently in Japan, where he has just returned from a highly successful tour," states a press release.

For the Salt Spring concert he will be accompanied by Victoria tabla player Niel Golden.

"This evening promises to be a journey to the heart of music. Ancient

rhythms, exotic melodies, mysterious shifting textures of sounds opening into the present moment."

The Friday, Nov. 21 concert at the Blackburn Road yoga centre begins at 8 p.m.

A vegetarian meal will also be served at 6 p.m. for those who want to partake.

Tickets are available by reservation for dinner and concert (\$30), or just the concert (\$14), by calling 250-537-2326.

A concert is also being presented at the University of Victoria on Sunday, Nov. 23.

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HUM BUG?
 Will Santa fly to Salt Spring?

Last year during a snow storm and cold winds over 80 families enjoyed a heart warming visit & photos with Santa at Mahon Hall, complete with seasonal craft activities, smiles, hot chocolate, caroling and the light-up of Salt Spring's Xmas tree.

This year the Salt Spring Arts Council seeks volunteers to help with this increasingly popular, community event. Let's defy the Grinch!

To become involved in the festivities: 250.537.0899

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

GALLERIES

Pegasus acquires unusual treasures

Ancient artifacts put new perspective on civilization

It is difficult to grasp the magnitude of what you are seeing when presented with a 7,000-year-old artifact.

Normally you would have to travel to a venerable institution in a far-away place — say, the British Museum — to catch a glimpse of such a thing behind heavily secured glass walls. Yet here it is, sitting right in front of you in a respected, but rather small, gallery on Salt Spring Island.

Ian Sigvaldason, co-owner of Pegasus Gallery, is tremendously excited by recent acquisitions that include this piece of history. Although completely outside the gallery's normal area of expertise (specializing in historic and contemporary Canadian masters), when a special collection of vessels was offered up by a collector in Victoria, Sigvaldason knew he had to jump at it.

"I don't deal with these pieces, usually, but when the hair stands up on the back of your neck when

you see them . . . The more research I do the more I'm realizing what we have here, and the more I'm getting attached to these pieces."



Elizabeth Nolan

ARTBEAT ON THE ROCK

Sigvaldason is happy to share his amazement with visitors. Presenting a wide-mouthed cup with a pedestal base that was found in Ban Chiang, Thailand and dated to 5,000 B.C., he helped put some of its history in perspective.

"This was already buried in the ground a couple of thousand years when the pyramids were built. If you think of the world as a civilization and art as the beginning of civilization, this is the beginning of art."

At 10 inches high and with a mouth nine inches in diameter, the vessel's use is not clear, although it was perhaps used for a ceremonial purpose. But the fact that artisans had the

time and the food security to decorate a used object marks a major step in the evolution of culture, Sigvaldason said.

Softly undulating lines repeat in a wave pattern around the cup, while cowrie shells and half circles decorate the pedestal base. There is a remarkable sophistication to the simple design, painted in orange with red iron slip.

Another piece from the same collection is a bronze wine receptacle from Shang Dynasty China, dated to around 1,500 B.C. The 12-inch-high vessel tapers gently inward at the centre, with a wider base and mouth. A very detailed background design of the square spiral reveals the careful attention the maker had to put into the casting mold. Another interesting feature is an animal face design, with idealized strokes that are reminiscent of pre-Columbian and West Coast art styles.

A Chinese goblet from the 6th century B.C. is so large that Sigvaldason has difficulty circling it with his large hand. Carved from a single stone, the goblet is slightly translucent when held up to the light. The familiar square spiral shape

is also used here.

A later piece comes from Japan's Meiji period. The intricately painted porcelain vase was created by Kozan, a master of the Satsuma school. A terrifically involved scene of gods and demigods emerges in complex detail. Each figure has unique patterning on his kimono and Sigvaldason lost count after 114. The vase would have required many firings to build up the layers of colour, including a generous amount of gold leaf.

Two vessels from outside Asia were collected in Costa Rica and date to the pre-Columbian era, of around 1,300 A.D. One is decorated with the bird of paradise, while the other has the rare jaguar motif reserved for royalty.

Although all of these pieces will one day find their way individually to other collectors or museums, Sigvaldason says for the time being he's in no hurry to see the collection go.

"This was a lifetime of collecting a few, specific pieces and Pegasus is very lucky to suddenly have it all at once.

"Please come and see it before it's gone."

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ARTS CLASSES

Expressive Drawing Workshop set for SS Arts Academy programming

Gillian McConnell offers sessions

Salt Spring Arts Academy is pleased to offer an eight-week Expressive Drawing Workshop for teens and adults, taught by local artist Gillian McConnell, scheduled to start in late November.

McConnell proposes that "learning to draw is like learning to drive. To reach your destination, you need to know how and when to change gears, accelerate, brake and steer. You need to know how to accommodate traffic and pedestrians as well as road, weather and light conditions.

"Nobody can learn to do all these things all at once. It takes time and practice of each component skill before you can put it all together — and then lots more practice before driving becomes second nature."

The process of learning to draw is much the same.

People think they can't draw, or get frustrated in their attempts, she says, because they don't understand how many component skills are actually involved in the process — so they try to do them all at once — without having learned them individually.

Salt Spring Arts Academy has had successful starts in two programs new to students this fall.

"Our voice program developed by Ella Topaz is innovative and original and it needs to be experienced to

properly understand what Ella has to offer students," states an academy press release.

"The students enjoy the varied techniques employed by Ella and report 'you will learn so much in just one class.'"

These classes, which take place on Fridays in November at Mahon Hall, can accommodate a few more students.

Explorations in Dance by Anna Haltrecht has also seen enthusiastic students reporting "they just love the class," said the release.

"So far these dance students have experienced a Broadway dance exploration with Sue Newman, which culminated with a field trip to see the Speakeasy show.

"Explorations students have already begun their next exploration with Oriana, in the basics of belly dance. This class has a few more spaces for any student who would like a thorough introduction to dance and how to prepare your body for dance."

Also new this fall is a dance workshop called Mother Juice, for moms and babes.

"To reach your destination, you need to know how and when to change gears, accelerate, brake and steer."

GILLIAN MCCONNELL
Artist

Dads, grandparents and caregivers are invited as well.

It runs Thursdays at Mahon Hall in November. Contact the office at www.saltspringartsacademy.ca or 250-537-4294 for details.

PULL-OUT TV GUIDE PAGE B17

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

VISITING PERFORMERS

Ballet group, Gilbert and Sullivan Society join forces

The Rivals perform at ArtSpring next weekend

This fall the Gilbert and Sullivan Society has hit the road, teaming up with the Canadian Pacific Ballet to stage its newest production: The Rivals — A Musical Romp, which will hit ArtSpring on Saturday, Nov. 22.

The two respected organizations have joined together “to discover the similarities and differences between the music of

Gilbert and Sullivan and that of Jacque Offenbach,” states a recent press release for the event.

“At La Rivalite, a small cafe on the ‘lively left bank of the Seine,’ two giants of the 19th century stage meet to share stories and songs, memories and a drop or two of wine.”

“For a short time, during the late 1800s, the lives and genius of Jacque Offenbach, the prolific father of the modern operetta, and Richard D’Oyly Carte, the renowned impresario who

gave the world Gilbert & Sullivan, overlapped in a Europe primed for social and political change.”

The two men were at times rivals and at times collaborators and throughout the production of The Rivals, they open a window onto the birth of musical theatre.

“With whatever props they find at hand, the helpful patrons of the cafe perform impromptu selections from the works of Gilbert & Sullivan and Jacque Offenbach, revealing contrasting styles

and complementary themes in the familiar music and words.”

The production, written by Adrian Sly and Tony Hubner, is produced by Elizabeth Sly and directed by Kathleen West and Phil Young.

Guest artists from the Canadian Pacific Ballet (choreographed by Scott Vannan) will join in the shows on Salt Spring and in Sidney, adding the dimension of dance to the evening.

Attendees can look forward to seeing their spirited rendition

of Offenbach’s famous Can Can from Orpheus in the Underworld.

According to the group’s website, “The Victoria Gilbert and Sullivan Society is an enthusiastic recreational musical theatre group that stages the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas to a professional standard.”

They promise “an evening of gaiety, laughter and fun certain to delight all ages.”

Tickets (\$20 and \$25) are available through ArtSpring.

To advertise in this popular monthly feature contact Tracy or Kim at 250-537-9933



FOCUS ON SENIORS

Improving Communication about your Arthritis

More than four million Canadians have arthritis, yet you rarely hear a word about them — not in formal reports in the news media, not in casual conversations around the water cooler. As a character in the movie ‘Cool Hand Luke’ once said, what we have here is a failure to communicate.

That’s only one level of communication that’s in grievously short supply. People who have arthritis often fail to communicate what they’re going through to the very people who most need to know. They may fail to tell their friends; they may fail to tell their families; they may fail to tell their colleagues

and employers. They may even fail to tell their doctors. And that failure to communicate — or that failure to communicate effectively — all too often means they aren’t getting the understanding, help and treatment that they need.

Open, effective communication is vital in dealing with the everyday aspects of arthritis. Admittedly, talking about how you feel, both physically and emotionally, isn’t always easy, but if you don’t express your feelings, the people around you are in no position to provide the help and support you may need.

Living with arthritis can be tough, especially if you do it in isolation. Learning to communicate effectively with every member of your treatment team — from friends, family and colleagues to the health professionals you deal with — can make your road a lot smoother in countless ways; it can even make a difference in controlling the symptoms of your disease.

For more information on arthritis, please contact The Arthritis Society at 1.800.321.1433, e-mail info@bc.arthritis.ca, or go to www.arthritis.ca/bc.

Article provided by The Arthritis Society.

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SERENE SCENE: Paul Rithaler hopes to catch the big one at St. Mary Lake.

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

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

Boys volley to north island win

GISS hosts Vancouver Island championships this Friday and Saturday

Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) volleyball players topped the competition at the north Vancouver Island "AA" Volleyball Championships on Thursday in Nanaimo without losing a game on the way.

It was the first time the senior boys Scorpions volleyball team earned the trophy for the north Vancouver Island region.

"It was a total team effort with contributions made by all players," said co-coach Kellie Booth.

"The Scorpions mowed down teams from Cedar and Wellington in Nanaimo and Mark Isfeld from Courtenay on their way to a convincing top seed in the upcoming island championships."

She said middle blocker Chris Howe had a very strong day, shutting down any attack from the opposition.

Accurate passing from libero Hal Cook and back row specialist Graham Wrigley enabled the Scorpions to run their punishing offence at will.

All-star setter Cole Wrigley, adeptly set a variety of combination plays which showcased the power hitting of James Cameron, Casey Knight, Dave Outerbridge, Stuart Garside and Evan Henshall, added Booth.

Drew Storey had a very strong day serving.

Power hitter Cayce Fedberg provided support from the bench while recovering from an ankle injury. Fedberg is expected to be back in action for this weekend.

GISS hosts the Vancouver Island AA senior boys championships this Friday, Nov. 14 from 1 to 6:30 p.m., and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m.

Seven teams will vie for one of three berths to provincials in Kelowna at the end of November.

The local team is presently ranked ninth in the province.

Spectators are invited to come and enjoy some terrific volleyball.

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SPORTS & RECREATION

SCORPIONS FOOTBALL

GISS football season ends with loss and victory

Overtime win against Ice makes for season highlight

BY PATRICK CWIKLINSKI
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

The Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) Scorpions football team's Cinderella story came to an abrupt end last Saturday as the Salt Spring team squared off against a stingy G.P. Vanier Towhee team that would end any hope of becoming the B.C. High School Football League's 2008 Tier 2 divisional champions. However, despite their 12-0 loss to the Towhees in Courtenay, the 2008 Scorpions team went further than any high school football team from Salt Spring before them and perhaps the most memorable part of their final game is how they got there.

Coming into the playoffs as the fourth and last seed at 2-3, the Scorpions were truly underdogs amongst the larger and more experienced teams, including G.P. Vanier, the Abbotsford-Collegiate Panthers and the Mark Isfeld Ice.

Despite the odds being against them, the Scorpions went into Courtenay to play the number one seeded Ice, a team that they had suffered a loss to earlier in the season, with their heads high and full of pride. What would ensue would be possibly the most dramatic game in Scorpions football history as the tightly played game would go into overtime at 14-14.

Each team got four downs on the opposition's 10-yard line to try to get a touchdown and end the game. The Ice went first and the

home crowd went wild as they capitalized on their chance and went up 21-14 after scoring a touchdown and converting on a field goal.

The Scorpions were next and knew they had to get at least a touchdown and a field goal to keep the game tied. On the Scorpions' third down, Ian Barrett kept the team's hopes alive as he ran the ball in for a beautiful 20-yard touchdown to put his team within one point of the Ice.

The Scorpions now had a choice: either to kick a field goal and keep the game tied or to go for it and try to seal the deal with a run-in. They chose to go for the win as Kevin-Abbott ran the ball in for a convert to win the game in epic fashion 22-21, advancing his team to the finals.

The Scorpions went into the playoff final without the guidance of head coach Doug Mitchell, who was in Ontario being honoured for his football achievements there. This was also the last game for long-time Scorpions Barrett and Myles Raposo, as well as Graham Moore. Even though being faced with the harsh reality of coming so close to being divisional champions, the season was anything but a failure.

Looking back, the Scorpions made a huge leap forward this season by not only making it to the finals but by showing an incredible amount of promise as a team.

They had their ups, they had their downs, but in the end it was one of the best seasons for GISS football and we can only hope this season's success will carry over to the next.

Travelling youth teams keep pulling out victories

• Salt Spring's U13 girls met Peninsula on a soaked field at home on Saturday for a tightly contested back-and-forth battle with strong defence on both sides.

Finally, Jade Beauvais sent in an amazing kick that landed just in front of the net, where a Peninsula player mis-kicked it in.

The score remained 1-0 until almost the end of the game, when Peninsula drove the slippery ball into the net.

Salt Spring's defence stayed strong, especially hard-hitter Jenna Dawson, and it was 1-1 at the final whistle.

• Salt Spring's youngest-ever travelling soccer team kicked off its season with seven wins and one draw.

On Saturday they came up against a determined and strong Prospect Lake team.

SOCCERKICKS

sive from the kick-off, but found it hard to break down a stubborn defence and an excellent goalkeeper.

The home team's persistence was rewarded close to half time, when Brennan Shaver scored with a fine shot into the corner of the net.

In the second half, Salt Spring continued to dominate the game with Darby McIntyre beating a player on the wing, passing to Kaleb Buyze-Morgan, who crossed for Jimmy Steel to calmly put it in the net.

Lukas Fisher scored a third on a Steel assist.

Prospect Lake got one goal back, finally getting past Aidan Sutherland, who had been superb in defence all game. The match ended 3-1.

TECH-TALK

IT'S A WIRELESS WORLD

- What's the latest?
- Where do I get it?
- Who knows about it?
- Who can help me with it?

▶ Abracadabra, here's the wireless router!

The huge increase in the number of laptops on the market brings with it many changes in the world of computer science. And we have to be able to adapt our equipment in order to take advantage of all the different options of this user-friendly technology. Among all these changes there is a major one which should become a priority: the wireless router.

A router is an intermediary piece of equipment in a computer network which serves as a link between the internet and your computer, and which allows you to be able to surf the Web. Two types of routers exist at the moment, those with wires and those without, and both serve exactly the same purpose. However, the second option gives you a freedom which was impossible before, as you can now have access to internet wherever you happen to be in the house. Forget cumbersome wires all over the place leading to the router and take advantage of the pleasure of surfing just the way you want to. Whether it's sitting in the living room or lying comfortably in bed, you'll only have to open your laptop and you'll be instantly connected to the rest of the world.



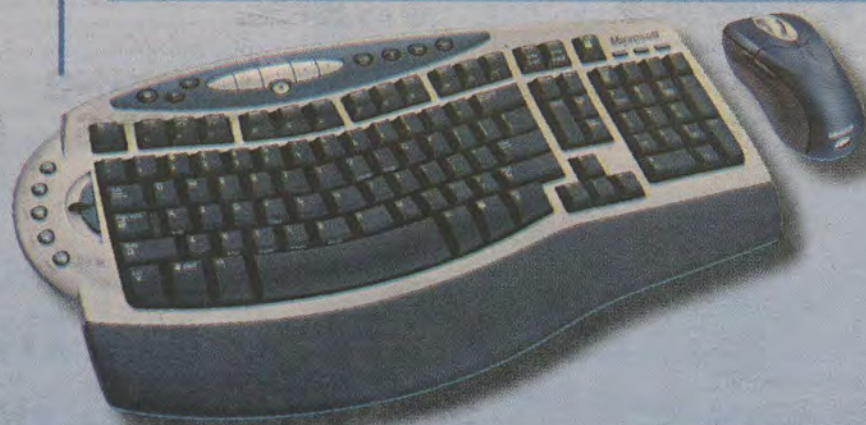
You can now obtain this little device in exchange for \$50 or so at a nearby shop. The price will vary according to the reach of the router as well as its security level. So be sure to buy the one which suits your needs and the needs of your family.

▶ Say goodbye to cumbersome wires!

With the continuing, rapid development of information technology, equipment has to be continually updated to avoid becoming obsolete. Inexpensive devices can now be found on the market which can make daily life much easier. One of these is a set consisting of a wireless mouse and keyboard.

This may seem rather banal at first sight, but the fact of getting rid of all those wires is very practical. Firstly, you can take advantage of your computer without necessarily being seated directly in front of it. You can relax, stretched out on a comfortable sofa, with your keyboard on your knee and your mouse within reach, whether it's to work or to watch a film. As well, for those whose computer is used by the entire family, it will be child's play for lefties to put the mouse on the other side of the computer to finally be able to take advantage of the dexterity of their left hand! Also, laptop users will be very happy as they will no longer be hampered by the mouse's wire which always gets tangled up when used frequently.

You can now get a set for less than \$100, which makes the idea even more appealing. Most of them work with AA batteries. And for those wondering if they will have to change the batteries every week, the answer is no. You can easily use the keyboard and the mouse for hundreds of hours before the batteries die, so you'll have to work very hard indeed before you succeed in draining them!



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SPORTS & RECREATION

FOOTBALL

Coach Mitchell the pride of Windsor

Grey Cup winner receives hall-of-fame honour

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands Secondary School senior varsity football coach Doug Mitchell has spent a good part of his life following in his big brother's footsteps, so it's no surprise that their names will now be side by side in the Windsor-Essex County Sports Hall of Fame.

"My brother Bill was seven years older than me and I wanted to do everything that he did," Mitchell said when asked what got him started in the game. "That's all it was. I was just following my brother."

Mitchell, who has owned and operated the Ganges Garment Company for 10 years, received the honour in his home town during an induction ceremony on Friday, Nov. 7, the day before the team he coaches with John Foley played in their biggest game of the year on Vancouver Island.

"I think it's a real honour," he said. "It's really exciting to think that people still recognize you."

As an offensive lineman in the Canadian Football League between 1967 and 1974, Mitchell played on three Grey Cup winning teams.

His first championship performance came during his rookie season with the Hamilton Tiger Cats.

"I know that at high school we won one football game, at university we won one football game and, in 1967, I got drafted by the Hamilton Tiger Cats and that happened to be the year we won a Grey Cup. That stands out as a highlight," he said.

Back in the day, Mitchell measured up at six feet three inches and weighed 254 pounds. Today's offensive linemen can



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Doug Mitchell waits to run a football practice at the Hydro field in Ganges.

"It's the ultimate democratic game."

DOUG MITCHELL
 Windsor-Essex County Sports Hall of Fame inductee

exceed 300 pounds, making Mitchell a relative lightweight in his field.

The sheer size of players, be they linemen or running backs, he added, is probably the biggest change the game has undergone since he retired 34 years ago.

Despite the trend, he said, more and

more Salt Spring Island boys and girls of all shapes and sizes are playing the game.

Between 30 and 40 players turned up to play on this year's senior team, not a bad turnout for an island where soccer is the game of choice for most students and parents.

In fact, that's one of the reasons Mitchell remains so attached to coaching the game he loves.

"It's the ultimate democratic game," he said, watching over the latest crop of athletes practising at the Hydro field last week. "It doesn't matter how big you are, how slow or how fast; there's always a spot for you. It's a great game."

SOCCERKICKS

YOUTH SOCCER
 continued from A34

• On Saturday afternoon, Salt Spring's U15 boys played a great game against Chemainus, defeating the opposition 5-1. This marked Salt Spring's first game in the silver division after moving up from the bronze level.

Luc Comeau and Armando Moreno scored two goals each, while Jackson Grasky got number five.

Strong defending by Derek Oswell, Patrick Jordan, and strong keeping by Byron Mussell kept Chemainus to only one goal.

• Salt Spring's U13 Oasis boys team had their work cut out for them Saturday against a stingy Bays United team, which had surrendered just 10 goals in its prior seven games.

The game began with a lot of midfield play, with neither team able to effectively penetrate through the opposition's defence. Midway through the first, a nice passing play from Billy George to Lukas Wenzel made its way to Sam Montalbetti, who opened scoring. Bays replied, but no goals made it past keeper Eldin Miller-Stead.

The second half gave Salt Spring the wind advantage, but Bays' strong defence and athletic keeper kept the chances down. Eventually, quick passing by Eric Weatherby and Tai Levitt found the foot of Wenzel, who doubled the lead to 2-0. The game's final goal came off a well-struck penalty kick, engineered by Talon Campbell, off the crossbar and in for a 3-0 shutout.

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GISS SOCCER

Scorps close, but fall short

Boys' team battles for B.C. berth

The Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) senior boys Scorpions soccer team ventured to Qualicum Beach last week in search of a berth in the provincial championships.

Facing the host team, the north island's top-ranked Kwilicum, in the first game, the Scorpions battled horrific conditions as the rain and wind pelted the players mercilessly, said coach Doug Pearson. The local team scored at 30 minutes and the Scorpions couldn't get the equalizer despite constant pressure for the rest of the game.

After a hot shower and a change into dry clothes at the hotel, the boys tried to regain their focus, realizing that another loss would result in their elimination.

Facing Lambrick Park, the south island's second-place team, the Scorpions came out flying, said Pearson. At the 15-minute mark, captain Callum Gunn buried a header from a corner kick and the Scorpions were on their way.

Toby Rothig collected a pass, turned and cranked home a second goal for GISS. Then, at the 70-minute mark, a Kevan Brown and Keegan Pearson passing sequence set up Gunn who, once again, potted another goal, giving the team a 3-0 win.

Friday morning found the Scorpions in need of a tie in their last pool game against Nanaimo's Woodlands in order to qualify for third place and the final provincials berth.

In what was a tough physical contest, Woodlands was awarded a penalty shot at the 20-minute mark. Callum McLean almost made a miraculous save, but Nanaimo went up 1-0.

Finally, well into the second half, the Scorpions gained a penalty shot and rookie phenom Adrian Alonso scored the equalizer to send the boys through to their next match.

Under the lights Friday evening, GISS squared off against St. Michael's University School for the third place title. Several key players were battered and bruised, and it showed as St. Michael's came out strong and earned an early 1-0 lead.

Despite a monster effort from Jeremy Marchi, the Scorpions just couldn't find that extra magic to tie it up.

Kwilicum defeated Shawnigan Lake in the final and will join St. Michael's at the provincial championships in Vancouver. Though the defending island champs didn't make it this year, they once again showed that they are always a threat, said Pearson.

MEN'S SOCCER

Salt Spring's FC Alumni chalks up another victory

Team hosts second-place Sooke squad on Sunday

Salt Spring's FC Alumni continued its season of dominance by defeating the Fernwood Dragons 3-0 on Sunday.

The victory improves FC Alumni's record to 6-0-1, giving the team 19 points and a five-point lead over second-place Sooke United in the Vancouver Island Soccer League's Masters B division.

Terry Walker, Sean Norgard and Eamon Murphy provided all the necessary offence as the team's defence and keeper held their ground to earn the shut-out.

FC Alumni's next game is against Sooke United (4-1-2) at home on Sunday, Nov. 16 at 10:15 a.m.

The Salt Spring Over-35 Old Boys came up short in their game against Nanaimo United FC on Sunday, losing a one-sided affair by a score of 6-0.



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Spray flies as Martin Kitzenegger heads the ball to help a 3-0 Salt Spring Alumni shutout against the Fernwood Dragons.

The loss means the Old Boys (0-7-1) remain in last place in the Vancouver Island Soccer League's Masters-C division with one point.

The team will try to regain

its footing when players travel to Vancouver Island on Sunday, Nov. 16 to take on Vantreights (3-3-2).

Salt Spring's other soccer teams were not in action

this week as poor weather wreaked havoc on sports schedules throughout the region.

Home games slated for this weekend include Salt Spring

Gremio hosting the Saanich Braves on Sunday, Nov. 16 at 2:15 p.m. and the Salt Spring Dragons hosting the Vic As on the lower high school field on Sunday at 12:30 p.m.

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DEATHS

McDonald, Mary (nee Lacy)
October 20 1920 - November 1 2008



Mary passed away peacefully at Lady Minto Hospital with her family by her side.

Mary has been on and off our special island from 1923 until present, always to visit family and friends and be home on the old Lacy farm on Isabella Point Road.

Mary was predeceased by her parents Arthur & Hilda Lacy, her loving husband John Henry (Jack) and youngest sister Ruby Alton.

She leaves behind her sister Kathleen Rathwell, brothers Edward (Mollie) Lacy and Harold (Thelwyn) Lacy, children Hilda, Douglas (Louise), Bruce, Ralph (Maxine), Alec and grandchildren Johnathan, Jesse, Arthur and Helen.

The family would like to send special thanks to Dr. David Woodley and all the loving and gracious staff of Greenwoods, Lady Minto and extended care (God's waiting room).

Where Mom is now I am sure that she is cooking up a storm, enough to feed the masses, with flowers for every table and all lovingly grown in yet another of her wondrous gardens!!!!

A service will be held at St. Mary's church, 2 p.m. November 18, 2008, tea to follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Lady Minto Hospital.

BIRTHS

IN MEMORIAM

Olin Brosseau
February 11, 1984 - November 14, 2004



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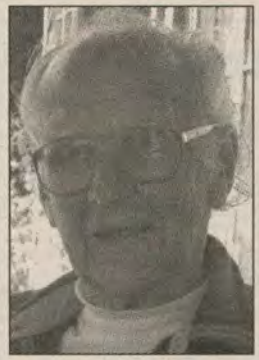
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DEATHS

Akerman Robert Michael (Bob)
January 7, 1912 - November 7, 2008



Nearing the end of his 96th year, Bob passed away peacefully at home with his family by his side and only 157 steps from where he was born on January 7, 1912.

He lived all his life in the Fulford Valley as did his fathers before him. He worked hard all his working life: ran the farm with many cattle, sheep and Christmas trees, cleared land with stumping powder, logged, including hand falling timber with cross cut saws, yarded logs with donkeys, drove a logging truck, boomed logs in Fulford Harbour, ran sawmills, and worked for Hydro and Telephone, to name a few things.

He was predeceased by his loving wife of 59 years, Molly, daughter Lyn (Dennis) Andrews and son-in-law Tim O'Donnell. He is survived by his children Darlene O'Donnell, Ted (Donna) Akerman, Roberta (Max) Allard, Morris (Janice) Akerman, Cathy (Dale) Cook, Dan Akerman, Pat (Brenda) Akerman, Jim Akerman, Kerry Akerman, Lance Akerman and 30 grandchildren and 45 great-grandchildren with more to come.

Over the years Bob was instrumental in the community such as the building and renovating the Fulford Hall and organizing basketball, roller hockey, roller skating and dances in the hall, organizing May Day celebrations in the Fulford area for many years, roofing and renovating St. Paul's Church, the creation and building of Drummond Children's Playground and building the Fulford Ball Park. He also was a founding member of the Salt Spring Rotary Club and Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission. After all the changes he had seen in his life time he was very proud at the age of 95 years, to publish a book titled "The Akerman Family Growing up with Salt Spring".

The family would like to send a special thanks to Dr. Megan Newcombe, Dr. Kelly Gallion, the staff of the Lady Minto Hospital emergency room, Home Support Services and nurse Sue Banks and all that sent their thoughts and prayers.

You are invited to a Celebration of Life for Dad on Sunday, November 16, 2008, 1 p.m. at the Fulford Community Hall. In lieu of flowers, if so inclined, please donate to "Home Support Services", # 2-137 Crofton Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2R8 (250-537-9955). Or a donation box will be available at the "Celebration of Life" and all proceeds will be sent to "Home Support Services".

CARDS OF THANKS

TO CANDACE & JACK Rosen of Island Escapades, thank you for delivering donated goods from Mt. Equip. Coop to Copper Kettle Community Partnership. And thank you to Soup's On for allowing us to come for lunch & set up our free store of boots, shoes, coats, jackets, rain pants, socks & winterwear. Everyone was very happy & very grateful!

COMING EVENTS

10TH ANNIVERSARY Sale at Stitches Quilts and Yarns. November 14 & 15 in our new location off Jackson Ave. 250-537-8985

MEDITATION CLASSES with Celeste on Wednesdays, 5-6 pm at Ganges Yoga Studio.

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

FREE FOOD AND BEER.COM presents **2 Award winning Comedians**
Toby Hargrave & Paul Myrehaug
Nov. 21st ArtSpring Theatre
www.freefoodandbeer.com
 Tix \$25

SSPLASH **CORRECTION:**
 SSPLASH, Salt Spring Pool Association will hold its Annual General Meeting on **Thursday, November 27th, 2008**
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
 United Church, 111 Hereford Ave (Upstairs)
 Refreshments, conversation and pool updates will follow.
ALL ARE WELCOME

HOT YOGA
 Strengthen, detox, relax & restore.
 Yoga in a warm room. It's addictive.
 North End Fitness with Deb Leblanc.
 Get more info: debfit.com
info@debfit.com | 250-537-7696

FELDENKRAIS® WORKSHOP
 with Alice Friedman
 Another Special Sunday Workshop will be held at the Ganges Yoga Studio, Grace Point Square
Sunday, November 16 • 1:30-5 pm

- Improve posture and chronic tension & aid injury recovery
- Increase vitality & sense of emotional well-being
- Reduce stress & relative pain • Increase grace, flexibility & creativity
- Get up and down with more ease

Cost: \$45
 For registration & further info call 250-653-4332 or 250-537-2444
www.feldenkraislearningmatters.com

What Inspires You?
 Give me 6 hours of your times and I guarantee you will discover new ways to live powerfully with more Balance, Alignment & Focus!
Hypnosis for Health
 The Coast... Nov. 30, 2008
POSTPONED
 Only \$60 each
 Early Bird Discount \$99 for both workshops.
 Sign up before Nov. 13 (space is limited)
Call Leah today 250-538-8718

BAUER, Willem
Nov. 16, 1915 - Nov. 5, 2008

Willem died peacefully at the Saanich Peninsula Hospital with his daughter Marjan at his side just over a week before his 93rd birthday.

Willem was born in the city of Arnhem, The Netherlands. He graduated from the School for the Applied Arts in Amsterdam and established a successful career as an independent Interior Architect.

In 1960 he decided with his wife Susan to follow his only daughter and son-in-law to Vancouver, Canada. There he found it difficult to pursue his original career.

His hobby had always been gardening. Since he was an accomplished draughtsman, he started to work for a Landscape Architect in West Vancouver. In a year he had learned enough to be able to accept a position with the local Parks Department.

He later moved to live in White Rock and became Parks Planner for Surrey where he remained until his retirement. After the untimely death of his wife Susan, he married Phyllis, who pre-deceased him, as did his five younger brothers.

With his third wife Willy he moved to Salt Spring Island and eventually to North Saanich.

Willem loved dogs and he trained and cared for several of them throughout his life.

He is survived by his wife Willy and his daughter Marjan (Theo) Meijer, his grandchildren Paul (Gina) Meijer and Yolanda Meijer and his great-grandchildren Miranda, Andrew and Oliver.

No formal funeral service by request. Family and friends are invited to gather for a celebration of his life on Sunday, November 16 from 14:00 to 17:00 at the home of Marjan and Theo Meijer at Unit 52 - 1255 Wain Road, North Saanich.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Mount Newton Senior Society, 2158 Mount Newton X Rd., Saanichton, B.C., V8M 2B2 will be appreciated.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

ISLAND ARTS CENTRE SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Saturday, Nov. 15
5 pm at ArtSpring**

The AGM will be followed by a nice reception to acknowledge past Board Members.



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.

FRIENDS OF SALTSPRING PARKS(FOSP)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, Nov. 24 7.30 p.m.
Upper Hall, United Church
111 Hereford Ave.

The SALTSPRING CENTRE of YOGA

An evening of Indian Classical Music performance on Sarod and Tabla by **Steve Oda & Niel Golden**

FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 21

DINNER 6 PM
CONCERT 8 PM
(Delectable Vegetarian Meal)
Dinner/Concert \$30
Concert only \$14
(VISA accepted)

355 Blackburn Rd
250-537-2326
www.saltspringcentre.com

OPEN WRITING WORKSHOP with Lorraine Gane. Explore buried memories, stimulate your imagination, open new ways of seeing. Sat. Nov. 15, 10 - pm. \$60. 250-537-5294.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Fill a shoe box & bring joy to a child this Christmas. For more info: Nancy 250-537-1817 or Community Gospel Chapel 250-537-2626.

INFORMATION

Volunteer Salt Spring

"Your gateway to volunteering on Salt Spring"

www.volunteersaltspring.com

Connecting your giving to island needs



Each year your community foundation distributes over \$100,000 in grants to our island's charitable organizations. Please send your donation to SSIF, Box 244, Ganges PO, SSI, BC V8K 2V2 or donate through the Foundation's website.

For more information please go to the website, phone 537-8305, or email info@saltspringislandfoundation.org
www.saltspringislandfoundation.org

WE APOLOGIZE

Due to an error in communication, space was given to a local political group under our store banner on Saturday November 8th. We apologize to anyone offended by this situation, as we are not, have not been and will not be a political vessel. Thank you to all those concerned for understanding.



Paul Large
General Manager

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS



SLOW FOOD, ECO-FUN EVENING FUNDRAISER

**Saturday @ 6pm
November 29th**

\$100 a ticket @ GISS (Tax Deductible) or \$175 per couple

Includes: Amazing organic, veggie, local buffet by Chef Bruce Wood, wines, music, speaker, Garbage Warrior mini-screening, silent auction.

PLUS \$100's in door prizes!

I-SEA has moved to Grace Point Square, 2nd floor: 1206B - Come Visit Wednesdays 10am-2pm

Call: 250-537-4400 or sustain@saltspring.com

SALE

All Jackets & Shoes

10-25% off



clothing co.
121 McPhillips Ave. 250-537-2330

SALT SPRING CONCERT BAND STRAVINSKY AND BEYOND a celebration of new talent

**Saturday, Nov. 29
8pm at ArtSpring
Tickets: 250-537-2102**



INFORMATION

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP, Sunday Nov. 16, "Discovering our Light" led by Kimberly Lineger, followed by Open Forum. 11am at SS Senior's Centre. Info 250-537-8327

INFORMATION

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Bessie Dane Hospice Monthly Support Meeting Wednesday, November 19, 2008 7 pm, Seniors Centre

Death & Dying, Rituals in the Jewish Religion Guest Speaker Mrs. Lynn Greenhough
Everyone Welcome!

DISCRIMINATORY LEGISLATION
Advertisers are reminded that Provincial legislation forbids the publication of any advertisement which discriminates against any person because of race, religion, sex, colour, nationality, ancestry or place of origin, or age, unless the condition is justified by a bona fide requirement for the work involved.

IF YOUR Driftwood subscription label has the date highlighted, now is the time to renew!

TUPPER'S 50 in September 2009! For information on Tupper's 50th Anniversary events please Email: friendsoftupper@telus.net - with full name (plus name at Tupper if different now, Grad Year (or years at Tupper), current mailing address and best contact phone number.



VOLUNTEERS WANTED TO SERVE AS PARC COMMISSIONERS 2 year terms, starting Jan. 2, 2009

Application forms may be picked up or requested from the PARC administration office (Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am to 4:30 pm). Please submit your expression of interest and relevant previous experience, no later than November 14, 2008, to:

PARC, 145 Vesuvius Bay Road, SSI, B.C., V8K 1K3
Fax: 250-537-4456 or email: parc@saltspring.com
Phone: 250-537-4448 for more information

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND: PRESCRIPTION sunglasses on a trail in Burgoyne. Claim at Driftwood. 250-537-9933

LOST AT Folk Club, silver & black, pierced earring. Please call 250 537-2695.

LOST: GOLD watch with chain strap. Sentimental value. Call 250-537-4703.

LOST (Leisure Ln): Male black cat with white feet & white chin/chest. Missing approx 3 weeks. If have ANY info at all, please call: 250-537-1263.

TRAVEL

GETAWAYS

KAANAPALI MAUI - Dec. 13 - 20, 1 bdrm condo, sleeps 4, Papakea Resort. Cancellation special at \$85 CAN per night. 250-537-4958.

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ADVERTISE YOUR business in the largest outdoor publication in BC. **THE BC FRESHWATER FISHING REGULATIONS SYNOPSIS 2009/2010 publication** - 435,000 copies, year long presence to outdoors men & women. Call to get in the next annual issue. Contact Annemarie at 1-800-661-6335 ext 744.

ALBERNI COMMUNITY & Women's Services is seeking a part-time Sexual Abuse Intervention Counsellor. The candidate will provide individual and/or group counselling. We are looking for a candidate who: Brings diversity to our team; has a Masters Degree in Social Work, child & youth care or related discipline, plus 4-6 years direct experience; has a strong understanding of trauma, its effects, and appropriate intervention strategies; has proven skills and experience working with vulnerable children & youth; has proven skills in building and maintaining relationships with community partners; believes strongly in a social justice approach to client; is well organized and capable of working independently within a larger team. If you are interested, please send a Cover Letter and Resume to: Executive Director 3082 3rd Ave. Port Alberni, BC V9Y 2A5 by 4:30 p.m., November 14/08 A Job Description is available by e-mailing: office@acaws.ca

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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

CHEMAINUS FIRST Nation seeking F/T Mental Health Clinician. Competitive salary offered. Call 250-245-8551 or email Casey.Larochelle@cfmation.com for job description. Email, fax 250-245-4108 or mail resumes to 3945 Shellbeach, Ladysmith, BC V9G1K6. Closing Date: November 23rd.

DRIVERS/COURIER/ TRUCKING

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Jordans Langford
JORDANS Casual Home req. a F/T Delivery Driver to work out of our new store in LANGFORD. Deliveries throughout the Greater Victoria area.

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BUSY TILE contractor looking for an apprentice. Full time employment and benefits to the right person. Must have own vehicle. Please call Howard 250-537-7456 days or email howard@saltspringwireless.com

DRIVERS WANTED. Silver Shadow Taxi Co. is looking for personable drivers. Day and Night shifts. Class 4 license and abstract required. Contact Jack @ 250-537-5042 after 3pm.

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY for a Diesel Tech or General Tech in a growing dealership with a new service facility where customer and employee satisfaction are #1. We offer: Competitive wages, guaranteed 8 hours/day, production bonus, training incentive, great working environment. Chev/Chrysler techs welcome. Apply in the strictest confidence to: Brentridge Ford, Wetaskiwin. Bud Williamson. Phone 1-800-463-5838. Fax 780-352-8272 or email resume to: rwill14@brentridge.dealeremail.com.

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Place a classified ad in the Driftwood & your name is automatically entered to win a BC49 Lotto ticket.

THIS WEEK'S WINNER IS MICHAEL RYAN

Come to the Driftwood office to claim your prize!

328 Lower Ganges Rd. 250-537-9933

(Tickets are held for 2 weeks from the date of publication. Unclaimed tickets will be re-entered to our contest pool.)



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JORDANS FLOOR COVERINGS in LANGFORD has openings for experienced SALES & MANAGEMENT persons. A background in flooring sales and / or management would be an asset but not essential for the right candidate.

These positions have potential for advancement & superior remuneration plus full benefit package.

Reply with resume: Attn. General Sales Manager, Fax: 604-733-6306 or E-mail: knoxm@jordans.ca

SHEET METAL and Refrigeration long term positions available at all levels with well established commercial contractor in Edmonton. Journeyman rates \$34/hour for Sheet Metal and \$37/hour for Refrigeration, plus benefits. Relocation allowances available. Email: hr@paragon.ca, fax 780-466-4958. Website: www.paragon.ca.

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HOSPITALITY EQUIPMENT Supplier is looking for Regional Sales Agent to promote new product to Motels on Vancouver Island. Excellent commission, growth potential and after sale revenue opportunities. Must be professional, have a reliable car and ability to travel within assigned territory. Contact Sameer at (604)507-3492 ext.1 or email info@autocheckin.com

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HANDYMAN/FINISHING carpenter has openings for small jobs. Call Grant, 250-538-7077.

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PETS REMEMBERED

Rosie-dog is off to meet her ancestors.

Fall Fair 1993
Thanks for the memories.
Rick & Juliette

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

RECYCLING

SALT SPRING Island Recycle Depot is located at 349 Rainbow Rd. We are open Tuesday through Saturday, 10am to 5pm. This service is operated by Salt Spring Island Community Services. Please call the Recycle Depot at 537-1200, or Community Services at 537-9971 for information on materials accepted for recycling.

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PETS REMEMBERED

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Large chest freezer, swing set, Little Tykes climbing apparatus. Call 250-537-4405.

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LOVESEAT & chair, w/ beige slipcover, \$120. French Provincial Queen bdrm set, 6-pc, \$500. (250)537-4758.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

125 GAL oil tank - new 2006, \$874. Offers. 250-537-4418.

45" NILUS LECLERC Jack loom, good condition, \$350. Smaller vertical warping reel \$100. 250-537-4199.

APPLIANCES

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MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE
4 EMERGENCY exit signs w/battery backup, electric stove, \$50, 1974 13 foot Terry travel trailer. Perfect as portable guest accommodation or travel, \$500. Antique Clary enamel cook stove, works perfectly, \$550. Craftsman radial arm saw \$50. 250-538-5504

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE
DISHWASHER, BUILT-IN, Maytag 5 cycle, white, \$90. Vertical window blinds, 80" wide, 84" high, vinyl, beige, \$20. 250-538-2013.
HOT TUB, round, good condition, good cover, rebuilt pump, new heater, 1 yr. warranty, \$1200. 250-537-5147
INFRARED SAUNA, very cheap, 2 person with stereo. 250-537-1010.

MISCELLANEOUS WANTED
WANTED: OLDER style sewing machine that works okay. Call 250-537-5623.
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
UPRIGHT PIANO, Mozart, \$400. 250-537-5442.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL
550 SQ. FT. office/studio at Merchant Mews near Ganges. Skylights, wood paneling, extras. Richard 537-1669.
970SF SHOP for lease avail. now at Merchant Mews, nr. Ganges. Insulated, heated, skylights, bathroom. Ideal as warehouse or construction shop. Terry 250-538-5540 (h), 538-7175 (c).

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COMMERCIAL BUILDING for rent in downtown Ganges. Avail. Nov 1. \$1600/mo. Call Bob 250-537-5807.
IN GOVERNMENT bldg, 1357 sq. ft. for lease. Can accommodate variety of uses. Ample parking, wheelchair accessible. Richard, 537-2239.

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RV 24' Cougar Trailer, 2006. Slide out, full shower, stove with oven, large fridge, freezer, microwave, queen bed, \$18,500, 250-653-2388
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1 BEDROOM house with full kitchen, bathroom & washer. NS, NP. Ideal unit for one person or couple. Hydro & lawn maintenance of mature, landscaped gardens on shared, one acre property included in rent. One year lease of \$950/mo. Ocean view of harbour & walking distance to Ganges. References from present landlord. Avail. Jan. 250-537-1379.
2 BEDROOM townhome, newly renovated. 1 bathroom, close to Ganges. \$950 per month. Available Dec. 1/08. Call 250-537-6860.
2 BEDROOM townhouse, newly renovated, new washer, dryer, fridge, stove, 2 bathrooms. Avail. Dec. 1. \$1050 per mo. Call 250-537-6860.

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SEARS APPLIANCES: fridge, Kenmore cooktop, dryer, washer in near new cond. Zooper baby buggy w. gd. cond., Graco car seat as new. 250-538-7632.

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REAL ESTATE listings for the Gulf Islands are viewable anywhere in the world with Internet access. www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

BRIGHT, 2 BDRM., furn. house overlooking Cushen Lake on 1/2 acre, close to bus. New floors, W/D, NS, NP. Possible long term. Avail. Nov 15. \$1100 plus util. 250-537-2674 or 1-604-929-7579.
CHARMING HOUSE Close To Town. Fully furnished. Phone & internet, 2 1/2 bdrm., 2 1/2 bath, wood & baseboard heating, separate studio space. Unexpectedly available from Dec 1st to May 31st or shorter period. Rent \$1800/mo (negotiable) Call: 250-538-5531

GANGES HARBOUR VIEW. As new, spacious, 3 bdrm, 3 bath., with dble garage, and low maint. garden. Craftsman quality throughout: hardwood floors, fir doors & trims, 9' ceilings & more. Ideal layout, will accommodate in-laws or home based business. Long term avail., incl. all appliances & bonus for early occupancy, \$1950. 250-537-2716.

CLASSIFIED HOTLINE
250-537-9933

CEDAR T & G, 100 sq. ft. Four 13" tires, excellent condition. Half packages, blue jean insulation, 16" x 24". Best offer 250-653-9115.
CHRISTMAS MERCHANDISE sell off. Your SaltSpring Connection is selling off all its stock in one weekend. Nov 29 & 30. All SaltSpring products: Tea, Soaps, Books, Display Furniture, Pottery, Spices, Sheepskins, Lavender, Candy and more must go! Sale at Grace Point Square last weekend in November only. 250 537 7281.

SUNSET FARM STUDIO
has great wool comforters, mattress pads, pillows, knitting wool, and socks for the winter. Also sheepskin rugs and slippers.

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MOUNTAIN VIEWS, warm, bright, beautiful 2 bdrm., 2 bath, furnished home on scenic south end acreage. Avail., Dec. 1 - Mar. 31 for non smoking tenants with ref's. W/D, wood & elec. heat. \$1000 plus util. 653-4117.
ONE YEAR new, wood floors throughout, large one bedroom, three piece bath, big living area and kitchen, ground level. Clean. On bus route, Mobrae area. \$850. 250 537-5166.
RUSTIC CABIN on Mt. Maxwell on quiet 35 acres near park. 3 BDRM, woodstove/electric. ADSL. Pets welcome. 4-wheel access in winter. \$900 plus utilities. 250-537-4510.

UPPER MAIN floor, 2 bd, ocean view w/spect. sunsets. Covered patio w/beach & hiking trails. W/S, newly painted, h/w floors, F/S, W/D. Very clean, private sep. ent. 8 min. from town. Long term rental for quiet, resp. tenant w/refs. NS, NP. Avail. December 1. \$1050 + util. 604-946-7822 or email marika.mayer@telus.net.
WATERFRONT CABIN: 1 bdrm, lr, large kitchen, shower and tub, very clean, large windows, skylight, tranquil gardens, 5 min. walk to Ganges. NS, NP. References 250-537-4500.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL
COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

DECORATIVE AMITY Woodstove, CSA approved. Good condition, great stove. \$150 250-537-5432
FRIENDS FITNESS Sale: desk, cabinets, fridge, more. Sat. Nov 15 from 10-noon. 156 Kings Lane.

WANTED: DRAFTING table in good shape. Call 250-537-7436.
WANTED: HATCHBACK ie: Toyota Tercel or VW Golf in good condition. Please call 250-653-4614

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UPPER MAIN floor, 2 bd, ocean view w/spect. sunsets. Covered patio w/beach & hiking trails. W/S, newly painted, h/w floors, F/S, W/D. Very clean, private sep. ent. 8 min. from town. Long term rental for quiet, resp. tenant w/refs. NS, NP. Avail. December 1. \$1050 + util. 604-946-7822 or email marika.mayer@telus.net.
WATERFRONT CABIN: 1 bdrm, lr, large kitchen, shower and tub, very clean, large windows, skylight, tranquil gardens, 5 min. walk to Ganges. NS, NP. References 250-537-4500.

OFFICE/RETAIL
WEST BAY Marina, \$550, 250 sq/ft office in character home, wireless internet, xerox, hydro & other extras included. 250-415-9617

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GARAGE SALES
266 TRIPP ROAD. Saturday, Nov. 15. 8am-noon. Furniture, lots & lots of kid's stuff, Brio train table, tools, etc.
FABULOUS FLEAMARKET Saturday Nov. 15 at 10:00am (not before) til 2:00pm at Fulford Hall. Table rentals: 8 ft \$20, 4 ft \$10. Call 250-537-5482. Homemade Food.
LIONS GARAGE Sale: Fridays & Saturdays only, 10am - 12pm. Many household items. Note: We no longer offer pickups. We do not accept appliances. Drop-offs accepted only on Fri. & Sat. morning. Please no garbage!! 103 Bonnet Ave.

LARGE MOVING sale. All kinds of household items, eclectic clothing, lots of interesting books, arts & crafts supplies, Waldorf stuff, Ball jars, windows, doors, lumber, glass panes, hardware, gardening, religious pictures and books, madonna collection, quilting material, children's clothes, dolls, and items years of collecting. 120 Starks Road. Saturdays, November 8 & 15 9am to 3 pm or call to set up an appointment. 250-538-5504
MANSELL FARM Garage Sale. Quality educational toys, books and puzzles. Clothing, fourposter bed, tables, mirrors and lots of other great furniture and finds. 301 Mansell Road from 9-2 on Sat. Nov 14.

This corner lot, 1100 sq. ft., 2 bedrooms, 1.5 bath home has fenced-in patio area, small raised garden & double carport.
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SAANICH
QUADRA - LEASE-to-Purchase, attractive terms, 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, in-law suite, revenue potential, fenced yard with storage shed, 2 car garage, \$657,815, Jan @ 250-415-9617
RENTALS
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ONE BEDROOM suite on Cushen Lake, NS, NP, W/D. Long term renter wanted, references req'd. \$750/month. plus hydro. 653-4868.

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FOR WHAT'S ON IN THE PYRAMID see www.saltspringpyramid.com / 250-538-0924.

MOTORCYCLES

GREEN WORLD Electric scooter, almost new, was \$1800, asking \$1200 obo. 250-538-1891.

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1992 TOYOTA Tacoma 4x4 ext. cab. Black w/black canopy. V-6, 5-sp, Thule roofrack, stereo worth \$1000 new. Near new Michelins. Very well maintained. Good on gas. Must sell. \$5500 obo. 250-537-4684.

1994 BLUE GMC 7 passenger Safari van. OK condition. \$1800. obo Call 250-537-1426.

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CARS

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TRUCKS & VANS

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THE LOCAL BCSPCA is urgently looking for several volunteers to help clean & socialize their homeless rabbits. It only takes 30 minutes a week to make a difference. All training provided. 537-2123.

THE SPCA has reached its yearly Smile Card Limit. We can not reapply for new funding until May. Thanks for all your support.

UNICEF CHRISTMAS CARDS - every purchase makes a difference to the world's children - available now at "et cetera" ph 537-5115, or next to the library at the new Literacy Centre.

WANTED TO buy: firewood logs/standing timber. Konig & Son Firewood. Phone 537-9531.

WIN \$50 Free Gas at Moby's every Friday. Enter the receipt for your apy between 4:30 and 6:30 Monday to Friday. Draw for \$50 worth of gas from Johnson Shell every Friday at 6pm. You must be there to win. 537-5559.

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This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor

Tip of the week:
Scorpio is truly a deep and complex sign. As the 8th sign of the Zodiac and co-ruled by both Mars and Pluto, Scorpio is very much about power. At its lowest reach it is about control over others, elitism, ruthless ambition, cold heartedness, coercion, manipulation, secrecy, black magic, organized crime, violence, horror, murder, pain, suffering and death. At its highest reach Scorpio symbolizes self-control, elite ability, genuine contribution, sexual passion, convincing proof, enticement, investigation, white magic, cooperative and collaborative effort, medical surgery, pleasure, heroism, protection, relief and rebirth. Scorpio truly is black and white with plenty of grey in-between. It may be said to be the sign of greatest extremes between the negatives and positives of life. A sign of complicated paradox, on one hand, and creative leadership on the other, Scorpio makes a much better friend than enemy. Since Scorpio is one of the 12 primary archetypes, everyone has at least some measure of Scorpio in their Astrology chart and everyone encounters some and perhaps even all of the characteristics listed about for better and worse, at least indirectly. If you feel you are missing out just go to your local video store and you will see just how obsessed Hollywood is with all themes Scorpionic. In as much as these are reflections of significant portions of the subconscious of the collective culture, we have reason to be concerned. Perhaps it is a means of bringing the darkness to the surface to be exorcised, but maybe it is simply an obsession with lower modes of power and fear mania. Adding to the above list, Scorpio negatively represents psychological splits, divisions, imbalances, obsessions and pathologies. Positively, psychological healing, transformation, liberation and purification represent the high side of the Scorpionic process. Given the current state of affairs in the world, we really are in need of awakening to and activating the high side of Scorpio. Let us all hope that the new U.S. president agrees.

include financial challenges. It is likely that you must figure this one out yourself and it may be unwise to seek support from a third party anyway. Take a more patient approach and make sacrifices if you must, especially if it means working overtime. Whatever is happening, see it as part of a long term plan to create more stability.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Your passions and ambitions are running high, but how is your health? You are moved to do some research for precise answers and this will continue for a few weeks. Travel and other cultural interests are gaining your attention. You are happy to advance slowly and cautiously where even a hint of doubt exists. The waxing Moon will coincide with key connections severed and/or deepened.

Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 22)
Your energy levels should still be running pretty high. However, you may be dealing with some doubts and fears. If so, recognize that it is probably your imagination working overtime. On the other hand, take an independent approach to review the facts. Also, aim to creatively diversify your assets. Make a clear list of your goals and objectives and aim for higher ground by year's end.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)
Some very passionate players are gently but surely pushing you to take notice. You are willing to negotiate yet may feel reluctant to proceed without additional information. Your overall approach is philosophical and you want to weigh in future considerations. On the other hand, as responsible and sober as you may feel, you also want to be fair. Outline your long-term priorities.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)
Money, possessions, security and so on are important themes, especially now. You are ambitious to make some key investments. Investigating the prospects is likely. You want to get the most for the least but also want a sure thing. Be careful that your ambitions do not exceed your will and the actual resources you are willing and able to invest. Proceed only with sure footed steps now.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)
Cleaning, cleansing and purging balanced with consolidating; securing and preparing should be keeping you busy. One way or another, you may feel the need to be working harder than usual these days. It would also appear that your responsibilities are increasing. You are wise to persevere now. Work with the process and be willing to identify and overcome lingering doubts. Clear the way!

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
Your focus is sharp and your aim is pioneering. You want to enter into new territory somehow but may find yourself at a crossroads. You are wise to act with full integrity now as the lower road could prove especially costly later on. If you can justifiably balance a few options at once and keep everything in line, you could have it all. Somehow, you are assertively pushing for change.

Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)
You are now in a creative power cycle. You may find yourself in a good position to make important choices and decide how you would like certain things to be. Still, keep an open mind and take an innovative, cooperative approach as well. If you are entering into new ventures you feel good about then proceed, but if you have any lingering doubts listen well before it is too late to back out!

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
Sometimes it is more important to conceal your riches and ambitions than at others. This is a good time to take a conservative approach. Better to patiently wait than charge ahead, until the timing is just right. Make the most of this cycle with rest, retreat and perhaps some key behind the scenes investigations. Your willingness to face inner demons now is ideal and will increase your inner strength.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23)
Some big changes are shaking close to home. These may

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
If you are not moving and shaking your world now, you probably should be. The time has come to take a few risks; flirt with new possibilities and adventure. This is a good time to learn from others in power positions. Push for change somehow or change will push you. Beware of trying to fit your life into a little box. Be true to your feelings and summon the courage to spread your wings.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19)
Your power potential is rising quickly now. However, in order to realize it you must be willing to learn with focused discipline. Things are not nearly as big and exciting as they will be, but you are taking off. Allow for the inner changes; persevere with what feels right and trust in the flow. Shifting sands close to home may be a destabilizing factor; accept it as an uneven playing field.

Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
A quest to realize a greater measure of balance in your life is the call now. You may feel assertive, philosophical and psychological all at the same time. The big question is: do you feel inspired to be committed to what really matters most? This is a soul searching time and you are wise to be looking down the road and directing your energy to secure a more stable flow for the future.

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Thoughts from a political junkie in Washington, D.C.

BY ELIZABETH PORTER
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

In America we consider the south from Virginia down the east coast a little strange when it comes to elections.

There is this old tradition that one is a "State Democrat and a National Republican." Translated this means that my big brother in Richmond has supported and raised money for all the Democratic governors such as Robb and Baliles and Warner and in fact he was prominent in raising the money for Mark Warner who won the Senate seat on Tuesday.

Yet for national elections he voted for Bush twice and this time was supporting McCain. Go figure because I have never understood

it and naturally, in the true southern way, politics are not discussed within the family, which also drives me slowly nuts!

So I headed east and volunteered for Obama in my conservative home state of Virginia. I have volunteered in campaigns ever since college. The Obama campaign bore no resemblance to the others! The organization was flawless, for example; I was given computer generated target sheets, name, address, phone, age.

I went to houses to find my target and usually found large McCain signs. I spent most of my time on the phones with the same organized lists. After a call one would check boxes, i.e. "left message, leaning Obama, undecided, leaning McCain."

When you ended your shift, others took up the list to keep trying to actually make contact with the person. The stream of volunteers every place I went was endless. It was America as I know it: black, white, Asian, Hispanic, disabled, ancient grannies and masses of very young, very enthusiastic organizers.

They were relentless, super charged, on a mission for America and about time! Most of them have not voted before, disengaged from a process they disliked. Not this time! They just kept coming.

Voters were undecided, truly confused. Republicans worried about McCain's age and Palin's qualifications. They could not pull the Democratic lever, could not "not

vote." That's UnAmerican. In the headquarters, people kept coming, rolling posters, finding someone who could speak Spanish or Portuguese or Russian to a voter, walking house to house.

At the end of the day a very old, very bent lady came up the ramp with her cane. She was holding four bananas.

"I don't have much but I thought you might get hungry."

At the end of the day, the state of Virginia and the state of North Carolina did the unthinkable — elected Obama. America is alive again!

The writer lives part-time on Salt Spring Island and part-time in Washington, D.C.

MORE LETTERS

continued from A21

Damaging

I think it is important that voters for trustees should be aware of the views and intentions of Kimberly and Norbert regarding the long-gestated, and recently born soil removal bylaw (nos. 418/419).

Responding to my question at the Fulford all-candidates meeting, they both said that, on the basis of a single meeting with the Salt Spring Contractors Association, amendments to the bylaw are necessary.

We have been working for more than five years,

over two terms of trustees, through countless consultations with all stake-holders, to bring this bylaw to fruition, and these two candidates have pronounced that changes are necessary before the bylaw has even been properly implemented. We feel this is a very superficial and damaging approach to an extremely complex bylaw, and voters who are concerned about responsible and accountable excavating practices should think carefully about whom they elect.

MICHAEL WALL,
STEWART ROAD RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION

Editor's note: Since Michael Wall raised an entirely new topic alleging two candidates' positions, Norbert Schlenker and Kimberly Lineger were given a chance to respond to his letter to the editor.

Schlenker

Some context would be helpful. Time constraints in Fulford made that difficult.

A few examples were presented at the contractors' meeting where the letter of the bylaw was unlikely to be what was intended. The bylaw enforcement officer was clearly uncomfortable and suggested contacting the local Trust committee

(LTC), as he was bound by the letter not the spirit. In such cases, amendments should be considered.

As an example, a property on which fill is deposited may require registration or a permit, depending on volume. If the fill arrives and must be held in a temporary location on the property — say some other work must be completed first — then putting it down, picking it up again and putting it down in the actual intended location triples the volume under the bylaw. Miles Drew didn't believe that was the LTC's intention, and I don't believe that was the LTC's

intention.

If I am elected trustee, I think it's reasonable to revisit some of these technical details.

NORBERT SCHLENKER,
TRUSTEE CANDIDATE

Lineger

Yes I did say the bylaw would need an amendment (as in one amendment). The bylaw enforcement officer (Miles Drew) at the meeting indicated that an amendment would be necessary for the online registration as it would be difficult for registrants to post the required map and the amendment would be to provide a

description of the work area rather than the required map.

The meeting was informative as most contractors did not have many problems with the bylaw other than the hours of operation for the noise portion. Some quibbled about the thresholds for soil deposit and removal but were willing to work with the bylaw to see how things worked out.

Most contractors were angry over the lack of consultation and the process under which the bylaw was adopted.

KIMBERLY LINEGER,
TRUSTEE CANDIDATE



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