



Dancing, piping, honouring the haggis.
Photos, **PAGE B10**

The Big Sale
STARTS B1



Sleepless on Salt Spring
SEE PAGE A12 & 13

Driftwood

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Wednesday, January 30, 2008 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 48TH YEAR — ISSUE 5

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Missing man report prompts intensive search

All-day effort puts islanders' training to the test

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Portlock Park and the surrounding area were swarmed by trained searchers Saturday as Salt Spring Search and Rescue (SAR) members and others looked for a 54-year-old island male reported missing to local RCMP.

According to SAR search manager Chuck Hamilton, 22 Salt Spring SAR members were on the ground and 40 more from six Vancouver Island communities were called to assist with the highly visible incident, along with local fire department and RCMP members.

"Based on the territory... and the fact it was cold the night before and he was lightly dressed, we were worried about hypothermia," said Hamilton.

As it turned out, Vesuvius Bay Road resident Bradley White was fortunately warm and dry, spending Friday night at the Salt Spring Inn in Ganges before heading to a family member's residence in Alberta on the early ferry Saturday morning.

SEARCH continued on A5

ACADEMY AWARDS

Salt Springer gets date with Oscar

There will be excitement

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Movies buffs may recall films such as Independence Day, Little Women, Snow Falling on Cedars, Seven Years in Tibet and The Last of the Mohicans for their often elaborate and intimately detailed sets, but few may know of the man



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

YEAR OF THE RAT FAN: Lisa Owen is seen with seven of her 18 rats as the Year of the Rat is ushered in next week on Feb. 7. Ling Weston's annual Chinese horoscope runs on Page A19.

who helped make it happen.

Until now.

Despite a roster of visually stunning films under his belt, Salt Spring resident Jim Erickson has had to wait more than 20 years for his first Academy Award nomination, announced last week in Los Angeles.

Erickson is in the running for the Oscar celebrating Achievement in Art Direction for his work

as the set decorator on There Will Be Blood.

The movie, based on a 1927 novel by Upton Sinclair, recounts the plight of a downtrodden California silver miner who strikes it rich during the oil rush of the 1920s.

"It's a toss up," Erickson commented about his chances of bringing an Oscar back to Salt Spring. "A film gets momentum for any number

OSCAR NOMINATION continued on A2

ISLANDS TRUST

Neighbours alarmed by recycling site plans

Rainbow Road scrap metal business gets Islands Trust scrutiny

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The din near Pallot Way is about to get several decibels louder as opponents and proponents of a neighbour's temporary use permit application to operate a metal recycling facility prepare to square off.

"To allow such a turn of events in what is a settled, rural neighbourhood is unacceptable and would be a complete abdication of the Trust's responsibility to 'preserve and protect,'" wrote Andrew Gardner in a letter to the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee last week.

Fifteen area residents met at Gardner's home Monday evening to mobilize public opposition to the application for a property at 440 Rainbow Road.

Issuing the temporary use permit to allow operation of a transfer station on the property is the first step towards creating an industrial park in the centre of a rural residential neighbourhood, Gardner said. Such decisions, he added, should not be made while trustees and staff are reviewing the island's official community plan.

"Should the permit be granted it will be the thin edge of a very dirty wedge," he said.

Applicant John Quesnel said he made the application based on advice he received from the Capital Regional District so he could continue operating his metal recycling facility.

TRANSFER continued on A2

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NEWSBEAT

Erickson off to the Academy Awards

OSCAR NOMINATION

continued from A1

of reasons. In this case, I think it was a combination of brilliant performances and a breathtaking piece of work."

There Will Be Blood has wowed audiences, reaped a windfall at the box office and been nominated for eight Academy Awards, all on the relatively low budget of \$7.5 million.

The film's recognition shows that big-time budgets aren't the only guarantee of success.

On the set of his latest project, Watchmen, Erickson's challenge was turning a Vancouver parking lot into a five-block stretch of Manhattan. Crews even had to bring in special traffic lights and man-hole covers to create the right look.

Working with smaller budgets, he said, can make the craft so much more rewarding.

"Making a good movie doesn't mean you have to spend a lot of money," he said. "A movie's success often rides on the vision of its director."

Paul Anderson is the director of There Will Be Blood. His ability to combine a stellar cast and professional crew helped Erickson earn additional nominations from the British Academy of Film and Television Arts and Art



Jim Erickson

Directors Guild.

The way things are going, February is gearing up to be a pretty busy month as Erickson attends ceremonies in Bev-

"Making a good movie doesn't mean you have to spend a lot of money."

JIM ERICKSON
Oscar nominee

erly Hills, Hollywood and London. Erickson said he's looking forward to March when he can spend more time working on his garden and preparing to follow up on his blue-ribbon-winning garlic at the island's fall fair.

Since moving to British Columbia from Minnesota in his early 20s, Erickson said, the vibrant Vancouver film scene has provided him with a fulfilling and exciting career.

"I don't think it's anything I set out to do," he said. "It just kind of happened that I enjoyed doing this kind of thing."

Even talk of toning down the Feb. 24 Oscar ceremonies due to a strike by Writers Guild of America members can't dampen his spirits.

"Who cares?" he said. "I've got the nomination and nobody can take that away from me, whether it's televised or not."

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23	06:56	3.6	11.8	SA	08:10	3.5	11.5
WE	12:03	2.8	9.2		14:37	2.0	6.6
	15:54	3.1	10.2		19:15	2.5	8.2
	23:25	0.4	1.3				
24	07:24	3.6	11.8	27	01:11	1.4	4.6
TH	12:54	2.6	8.5	SU	08:30	3.5	11.5
	16:55	2.9	9.5		15:24	1.7	5.6
					20:45	2.4	7.9
25	00:03	0.6	2.0	28	01:43	1.8	5.9
FR	07:48	3.6	11.8	MO	08:48	3.4	11.2
	13:46	2.3	7.5		16:09	1.5	4.9
	18:00	2.7	8.9		22:40	2.4	7.9
				29	02:11	2.2	7.2
				TU	09:04	3.3	10.8
					16:53	1.3	4.3

CRIME

Vandals target men's washroom in park

Police investigate series of incidents

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island RCMP are searching for suspects after vandals attacked the Centennial Park washrooms on Tuesday, Jan. 22.

PARC's operations and project manager Dave Gib-

bon said the individuals "trashed the toilet cubicles" at approximately 8 p.m. prior to the facility being locked up for the evening.

The incident is the latest in a rash of vandalism incidents reported from all corners of the island.

On Jan. 20, Salt Spring RCMP received a number of reports from residents about mischief to property,

including the removal and knocking over of traffic signs at the Vesuvius ferry terminal and along Isabella Point Road. Several empty beer cans and bottles were found nearby.

The previous evening, vandals cut down an oak tree in the GISS student parking lot sometime between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Police discovered more of the trade-

mark empty beer cans and broken bottles on the site.

Police have yet to receive any leads in the case and are unsure if the incidents are related.

If arrested, perpetrators face charges of mischief. RCMP officers ask anyone who notices suspicious activity to contact the Salt Spring RCMP detachment at 537-5555.

TUP application will be addressed Feb. 7

TRANSFER

continued from A1

"This is very unfortunate, but I am trying to do the right thing here," he said on Monday. "I'm willing to make concessions."

In 2007, he said, the

facility helped islanders recycle more than 2.5 million pounds of steel and has made every effort to accommodate neighbours' requests he reduce noise and construct fencing around the site.

Though he is "certainly

aware of the issue," Salt Spring Island trustee George Ehring said he will not receive a final staff report on the application until the public comment period comes to a close on Feb. 5.

It is anticipated the Salt Spring LTC will speak to

the TUP application at its monthly meeting on Feb. 7, though an official agenda had not yet been released when the Driftwood went to press Tuesday evening.

For more information, contact the local Islands Trust office at 537-9144.

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ISLAND AGRICULTURE

Area Farm Plan calls for agricultural revolution

Much heavy lifting required to restore island farms

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With Salt Springers using only five per cent of the island's Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) land to produce vegetables and flower crops, farmers and food lovers had good reason to welcome release of the highly anticipated Area Farm Plan (AFP) on Saturday afternoon.

After nearly three years of studies, reports and discussions, project administrator Anne Macey revealed the plan that is hoped to help revitalize local food production.

"The time has come for the agricultural community to stand up against the forces that have impacted agricultural production," she said. "It's time to secure agriculture's strong position in the local economy. We do not have to become irrelevant as the island changes."

Nearly 100 people gathered in the Gulf Islands Secondary School's multi-purpose room to hear the plan's components and agricultural speakers from around the province, and attend a locally grown dinner at the school's cafeteria.

Participants will need all the energy they can muster if there is any hope of curtailing Salt Spring's agricultural decline given the latest statistics.

Only 55 per cent of the island's 7,218 acres of ALR land is even farmed at all. One third of ALR properties under 10 acres (four hectares) is being farmed and only two per cent of grocers' inventories come from local sources.

History shows the decline of farming on Salt Spring Island stems not from the land's inability to provide but from changes that have seen the family farmer and backyard garden replaced by the convenience of a global food industry.

Cheap and efficient transportation means the milk will no longer go sour on the trip over from Vancouver Island and has put local farmers in direct competition with producers around the world.

At the same time, consumer tastes have developed based on the expectation of eating bananas over beets at any time of year.

That's why a major component of Salt Spring's AFP places an onus on educating people about the social, health and economic merits of eating locally produced food, no matter how tempting those chemically laced, gas-guzzling California strawberries might be.

"Increased agricultural education in island schools could inspire a younger generation to remain on the farm," said Rebecca Bloch, an island farmer who represented Island Natural Growers on the AFP's steering committee. "Children can teach their parents to become conscientious consumers."

Getting into the island's schools with new initiatives like



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Islanders gather at the high school to discuss the Area Farm Plan.

the Growing Up Organic program under development by Pat Reichert is but one of the plan's 28 recommendations. Goals range from easy-to-achieve targets like encouraging more backyard gardens to addressing the perennial shortage of housing for agricultural workers.

The plan's main component is the creation of a Salt Spring Agricultural Alliance to gather information from the farming community and encourage promotion and markets for locally produced foods.

"Everybody is kind of doing their own thing and it would be really great if we could all communicate with each other," said Bree Eagle, a young farmer who returned to work on her parents' farm after attending university in California. "Overall, this is an amazing start and I hope something really positive comes out of it."

Also recommended is creating a community farmland trust to acquire, manage and arrange leasehold agreements with newer farmers, which could "ensure that farmland held by the trust would be actively farmed in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner."

The report's third key recommendation promotes setting up more community-operated agricultural amenities. Construction of composting facilities, an abattoir and cold storage service could help ensure farmers have a guaranteed local place to take livestock and safely process their food.

"With those three elements in place," the plan states, "we believe that Salt Spring Island would go a long way to re-establishing itself as 'a place where agriculture is a strong, vital and productive part of the local economy,' as our vision statement encourages."

Plan to Farm, an Area Farm Plan for Salt Spring Island, was made possible with financial contributions from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C., the Islands Farmers Institute, Island Natural Growers, the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee, the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, and the Capital Regional District.

Presentation of the plan was followed by a dinner of locally produced food prepared by island chefs and Gulf Islands Secondary School culinary arts students.

News briefs

Pool opening still murky

Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) operations and project manager Dave Gibbon anticipates the Rainbow Road pool will open its doors to the general public by late March or early April.

"We still don't have a firm date and we will not for some time," he said Tuesday.

Gibbon based the latest estimate on a timeline presented by Liberty Construction Management at Monday night's PARC meeting.

Under the current timeline, PARC will take control of the facility on March 10, whereupon the operator will schedule several specially scheduled "soft openings" over several weeks.

The openings will give various community organizations a sneak preview of the \$6.3-million facility, while pool operations are fine-tuned.

"I've heard this all before, but I'm not making any predictions," Gibbon said.

The initial opening date for the Rainbow Road Recreation Centre was Christmas 2006.

RCMP file

RCMP officers assisted by neighbourhood residents arrested a 38-year-old Victoria man after he was found breaking into a mid-island home Saturday.

The search began after the suspect was observed breaking into a home on Natalie Lane earlier in the day.

Police detained the man on two counts of breaking and entering, as well as one count of causing a disturbance by being drunk.

The suspect was released on conditions he not visit Salt Spring Island and attend

court in Victoria on March 13.

A Salt Spring driver is scheduled to appear in Ganges Court in March on charges of impaired driving.

RCMP officers on routine patrol Monday observed her vehicle swerving into the opposite lane. The 54-year-old woman was taken into police custody and the car towed from the scene.

Bubble findings

An engineering firm contracted by the Parks and Recreation Commission

has determined the anchor system used to secure the Portlock Park tennis bubble must be replaced.

The firm's recommendation comes after 30 of the system's 84 anchors failed pressure tests conducted in November 2007.

The findings mean any attempt to construct a new bubble facility would require the construction of a concrete grade beam foundation around the court's perimeter.

The news coincides with release of a PARC-commissioned report to develop a business plan for an indoor

tennis facility.

The report by Monty Holding and Associates recommends PARC replace the tennis bubble at Portlock Park in the short term and consider the Rainbow Road location for any future tennis facility.

The total cost to construct and cover one new court, the report indicates, is \$296,500.

Estimated operating costs of \$30,000 could be recovered through programming fees and court rentals.

Commissioners voted to receive the report to permit time for further review.

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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2008



Feb. 8 - SUSTAINABILITY: THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS by Neil Dawe of the Qualicum Institute on Sustainability. Lions Hall. Co-sponsored by I-SEA.

Feb. 15 - COUGAR ANNIE'S GARDEN with Peter Buckland & Margaret Horsfield (Author of Book). Com. Gos. Chapel. Co-sponsored event with SSI Paddlers.

March 14 - SHORE BIRDS by Wayne Campbell. Co-sponsored event with Trail and Nature Club. Lions Hall.

March 15 - Wayne Campbell workshop and walk to three sites. Phone 538-0318 to register and pay (\$20).

April 11 - CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES ON SSI. Keith Ferguson, lawyer with Ecojustice Canada, formerly Sierra Legal Defence. Lions Hall.

May 10 & 18 BIRDING WITH BOB. Ford Lake, 9:00 a.m. Phone 538-0318 to register. Free to members

May 16 - NATIVE PLANTS OF SSI by Matt Fairburns. Lions Hall.

May 17 - Walk to identify native plants 10:00-1:00. Phone 538-0318 to register and pay (\$20).

All talks are 7:00 pm to 9:00 - by donation. Refreshments included.



NEWSBEAT

FIRE DISTRICT

Agriculture committee delays fire training ground decision

Committee requests professional opinion before making recommendation

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Members of the Advisory Agriculture Committee (AAC) need more professional input on how an expanded Fulford Valley fire training centre will impact an adjacent organic farm before submitting their opinion to the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.

"I am just not prepared to throw the dreams of this young family to the wolves. It's just not acceptable," said committee member George Laundry, during an AAC meeting on Thursday. "I could not possibly give my support to this without the first condition being that they get their [organic] certification."

The professional's opinion will be based on environmental assessments commissioned by the fire district, walking the proposed site and a review of the expansion proposal.

The new training ground will cover .8 of an acre con-

tained within the Agricultural Land Reserve behind the Fulford fire hall. Fire trustees say the \$500,000 project will decrease training costs and encourage new recruits.

A new site, said fire trustee Mark Wyatt, would be cleaner than any training conducted on the site over the past 25 years.

"If they're on track to get their organic certification based on what has happened in the past, I can't see how improving our training ground can affect that," Wyatt said. "I don't want [the farm] to lose its organic status either, but what we are proposing to do is 100 times better than what's been done in the past."

Fire trustees and the Salt Spring Fire Department eliminated plans for a "burn-building" to reach a compromise with the project's opponents.

"I think this is a reasonable compromise. Nobody is getting everything they want, but I think there is enough here to be acceptable for everybody," said Salt Spring Fire Protection District chair Michael Schubart. "Honest people can disagree."

Salt Spring Island trust-

ees have asked for the AAC's opinion before the application is sent to the provincial Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) for further review.

"What we are

proposing to do is

100 times better than

what's been done in

the past."

MARK WYATT
Fire district trustee

Any conditions attached to the fire district's rezoning application would be addressed by the Islands Trust if the ALC approves the application.

Farm owner Darren Farias asked the fire district and committee members to conduct a more thorough site inspection as outlined by the National Fire Protection Association's Guideline 1429 dealing with the construction of fire training grounds.

"If you are going to build a

first-rate facility you should be looking at the guidelines," said Farias. "These require that a whole group of hydrologists, agrologists, geologists and other scientists look at not only what you think might happen but at what might not happen. Without that basic bit of information the guidelines suggest you do, there can never be an account of what is truly going to happen."

AAC member Conrad Pilon said he would like more information on whether the current training ground site requires any cleaning up and assurances that a remaining parcel of farmland behind the proposed training ground be considered for community use.

"If that last part of the property could be set aside for recreation or agricultural purposes in perpetuity, we could be assured there will not be a plan C or plan D," he said. "Those are the kind of conditions I think the community will want to endorse."

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District will host a public training ground information session on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 10 a.m. at the Fulford fire hall.

Salt Spring Island Transit System Riders Guide

1 Ganges Local - Monday-Saturday

Lv. Visitor Info Centre	Lv. Hospital	Lv. Brinkworthy Place	Lv. Hospital	Lv. Rec. Centre	Ar. Visitor Info Centre
8:05	8:08	8:12	8:16	8:20	8:22
10:05	10:08	10:12	10:16	10:20	10:22
11:00	11:03	11:07	11:11	11:15	11:17
11:25	11:28	11:32	11:36	11:40	11:42
11:50	11:53	11:57	12:01	12:05	12:07
12:55	12:58	1:02	1:06	1:10	1:12
2:00	2:03	2:07	2:11	2:15	2:17
2:25	2:28	2:32	2:36	2:40	2:42
4:00	4:03	4:07	4:11	4:15	4:17
6:00	6:03	6:07	6:11	6:15	6:17

2 Fulford Harbour - Monday-Saturday

Lv. Visitor Info Centre	Lv. Cusheon Lake Rd.	Lv. Burgoyne Bay Rd.	Lv. Fulford Hall	Ar. Fulford Harbour	Lv. Fulford Harbour	Lv. Fulford Hall	Lv. Burgoyne Bay Rd.	Lv. Cusheon 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
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

*Operates weekdays only

3 Vesuvius - Monday-Saturday

Lv. Visitor Info Centre	Lv. Portlock Park	Ar. Vesuvius	Lv. Vesuvius	Lv. Portlock Park	Ar. Visitor Info Centre
6:30*	6:40*	6:45*	7:00*	7:05*	7:10*
8:30	8:40	8:45	9:00	9:05	9:10
12:15	12:25	12:30	12:45	12:50	12:55
2:30	2:40	2:45	3:00	3:05	3:10
4:30	4:40	4:45	5:00	5:05	5:10

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PARC

PARC manager Dave Gibbon calls it quits

Set to resign June 30 as Harris also steps down

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) operations and project manager Dave Gibbon cites a lack of commissioners' confidence in him as one of the reasons he decided to formally announce his resignation Monday evening.

"I think the time has come to move on," writes Gibbon in his letter of resignation.

"In the words of a colleague, who I respect very much for his tenacity, 'I have had enough.'"

Gibbon said incidents over the past year, including controversy over the Portlock Park tennis bubble project, and feedback from some commission members led him to conclude he does

"I hope the pitfalls and vagaries of small-town politics do not get in the way of real and deserved progress."

DAVE GIBBON
Operations and project manager, PARC

not have the commission's full support.

"If this is the case I cannot function effectively as the administrative manager for PARC," he states.

Gibbon took the opportunity to credit the efforts of commissioners,

staff members and volunteers to bring about many changes over his six-year tenure.

"None of us deserves to be treated as scapegoats and targets for the vindictive attacks of a few individuals or special-interest groups with personal agendas," he said.

Gibbon said he expects the Capital Regional District to implement changes to the delivery of PARC's management services by the time his replacement is found when his contract is up at the end of June.

"I hope the pitfalls and vagaries of small-town politics do not get in the way of real and deserved progress," he concludes.

In other PARC news, commissioner Kirk Harris said a busy work schedule left him little other choice but to step down from his position on the board as of Monday.

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY
Salt Spring Search and Rescue members Chuck Hamilton and Per Svendsen look at a map at the search command base, which was set up at the Community Gospel Chapel on Saturday.

Search shows quality of team

SEARCH
continued from A1

However, those facts didn't come to light until Saturday evening, just as the last contingent of SAR members — who came all the way from Campbell River — stepped off the ferry at Vesuvius Bay.

Hamilton was grateful for the high level of response, making special note of how Community Gospel Chapel personnel allowed their building to be used as search headquarters.

"They were incredibly generous and gracious," he said.

Salt Spring's Emergency Social Services group also kicked into action, especially to ensure all volunteer searchers were fed and had a place to sleep.

"This event demonstrated the need to have search and rescue capabilities on Salt Spring Island," said RCMP Sgt. Danny Willis.

"It also emphasized the quality of the team we have here. The operation ran smoothly with all the correct steps being taken to ensure the safety of the team members and that service to the community was being provided in an expedient manner."

A tracking dog was even brought in to check near the Lancer Building on Lower Ganges Road when a report of White's presence in that area came in.

But after "new information" arrived via the RCMP, said Hamilton, focus shifted to downtown Ganges.

When Salt Spring Inn per-

sonnel were shown a photo of White, they confirmed he had stayed there Friday night with plans to head to Alberta the next day.

"So we stood down the search, along with the RCMP, assuming he was off-island," said Hamilton.

On Sunday morning the story was confirmed, he added.

Hamilton was pleased not only with the positive outcome but the search itself.

"The level of co-operation and communication was great," he said.

Besides the Campbell River contingent, participating off-island SAR teams were from Duncan, Nanaimo, Aerosmith, Victoria and the Peninsula Emergency Measures Organization.

RAINFOREST APPEAL

Biodiversity blitz set for Creekside lands

Rare features catalogued for fundraising drive

A team of expert biologists with maps, notebooks and lenses at the ready are preparing to assess the Creekside rainforest today (Wednesday).

The subject of an intense fundraising campaign with a Feb. 29 deadline, the 7.8-hectare (19.5-acre) parcel will be combed by volunteer specialists, who will list its rare biological features.

"Although winter is not the best season to see everything that lives in or depends upon this ecosystem, we have a tight deadline and we're grateful that these scientists will participate in a 'biodiversity blitz' that

will then be written up in a report to support our grant applications," said Maureen Moore, the Save Salt Spring Rainforest Appeal coordinator.

"The community has been amazingly generous, but as well we do need funds from institutional donors."

Specialists from on and off the island will provide expertise in the areas of rare ecosystems, land features, significant plant communities/species, mosses, bats, birds, wildlife, herpetology, hydrology, creek health and fish.

Well-known B.C. biologists Kathy Dunster and Briony Penn will direct operations.

The Save Salt Spring Rainforest Appeal has raised over \$600,000 to date, with one

month left to collect the remaining \$400,000.

A gourmet winemaker's dinner slated for Saturday, Feb. 16, with guest speaker Iona Campagnolo, who was B.C.'s first female lieutenant governor, is the next campaign fundraiser.

Miles Ferryman (former Hastings House chef) and Jesse Blanchette (of Falconhead Grill) are both donating their skills to the cause.

They have developed a delectable rainforest-themed menu for the \$100-a-plate dinner, which will be held at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club.

For more information, visit <http://www.savesaltspringrainforest.com/>.

(Dial-up users should try www.savesaltspringrainforest.net.)

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A Walk in Creekside Rainforest

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Protecting our forests helps to mitigate some of the effects of global warming. Our temperate forests are part of the lungs of the world.

Salt Spring's Bristol Foster is an internationally known biologist who supports saving our rainforest.



WE HAVE UNTIL FEBRUARY 29TH TO SAVE CREEKSIDE RAINFOREST!
The Land Conservancy of B.C. (TLC) has a signed agreement to purchase this property and preserve it forever. We have already raised over 600 thousand dollars in pledges and need to raise 400 thousand more. When pledges are called in, TLC will issue charitable tax receipts to donors including special receipts for those paying U.S. taxes. Pledge forms are at Patterson Market, SS Books, SSI Conservancy and on-line.

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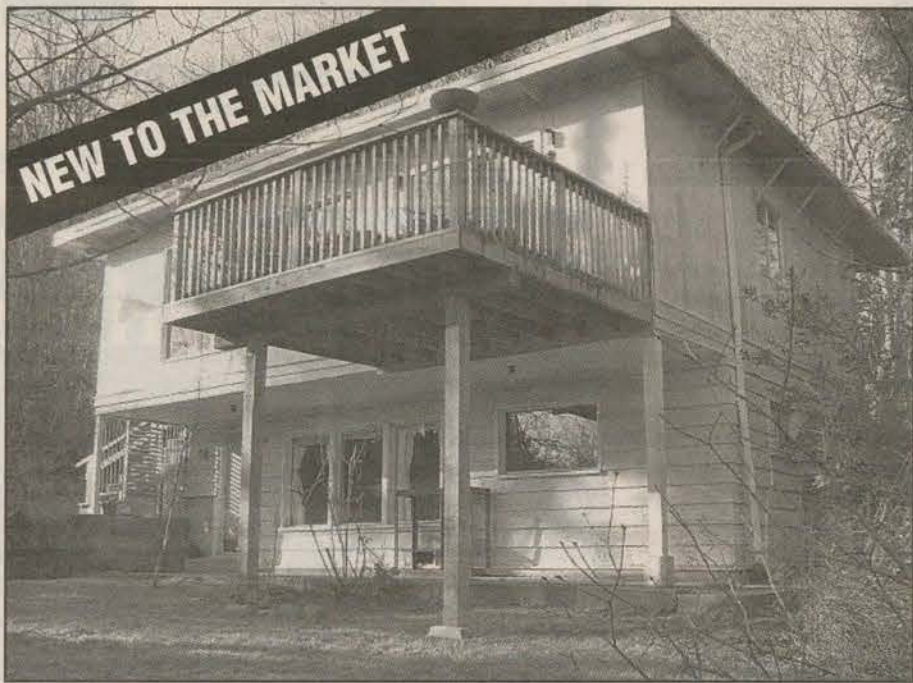


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Application forms must be received at Community Services by February 22nd 2008. **Even if you are on the waitlist, you still need to submit this full application!!**

Application forms are available by:

- Pick up from Community Services at 268 Fulford-Ganges Road
- Download from website www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca
- Phone at 537.9971



For further information, or if you have questions, please contact Lizzy Rowe at Community Services at 537.9971

NEWSBEAT

SALT SPRING RADIO

New antenna site eyed

Mount Erskine tower on next LTC agenda

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Directors of a community radio station licensed to operate on Salt Spring Island have announced their intention to install a transmission tower on a Mount Erskine slope.

Pending Industry Canada approval, the 32-metre (105-foot) tower will be constructed on a privately owned lot off Juniper Place, roughly halfway up Mount Erskine's northern side, several hundred feet from an existing B.C. Hydro right of way. The tower is roughly the same size as new transmission poles being erected on the island.

According to the station's operating licence, approved by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) in 2007, the station is permitted a maximum effective radiated power of 1,000 watts.

The station's operators said they plan to use a 400-watt transmitter to serve the island.

"We really are small potatoes as compared with the usual 10-, 20-, even 50,000 watt transmitters that surround us," said station co-director Richard Moses, speaking at a public information meeting at Salt

Spring United Church Sunday evening.

"The sources we are already being subjected to are thousands of times more powerful than anything we propose for the island."

Moses was responding to audience member Chris Anderson's comments that increasing radio-frequency (RF) exposure poses a health risk to residents who live near the tower.

"I'm as conflicted as anybody else," he said. "I'm addicted to radio, but there is a biological cost to the transmission of radio waves."

An engineer's report prepared for the station by D.E.M Allen of Winnipeg in 2007 states "the probability of interference is very low due to the relatively low power of this radio station."

Proposed RF energy levels are below the maximum exposure levels as stipulated by Health Canada's Safety Code 6.

The station's directors scheduled the public information ahead of the Islands Trust's Feb. 7 meeting, at which trustees are expected to forward their opinion on the issue to representatives from Industry Canada.

While the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) does not have the power to single-handedly prevent the tower's construction, Industry Canada does take local government opinion into account when making its

final decision.

"We do not have the power to say 'no,'" said local trustee George Ehring on Sunday night. "Industry Canada has the good grace to ask us our opinion, but even if we did have objections, they could say 'that's too bad' and approve this anyway."

Radio company co-director Gary Brooks said he anticipates the station could start broadcasting as early as late spring or early summer, if paperwork, volunteer recruitment and programming proceeds as scheduled.

Once in operation, Brooks said, he expects the station's broadcasting range will cover a triangular area created by drawing a line between Ladysmith, Tsawwassen and Duncan.

Broadcasting to parts of the south end, he added, remains problematic given conflicts with a Victoria-based channel.

Patsy Siemens, another of the station's co-directors, said CFSI 107.9 will emphasize local programming, as stipulated by the station's operating licence.

The station will rely on four paid staff members and an "army of volunteers" to distribute high-quality local arts and news programming, she said.

"There are so many creative and talented people on this island and we want them to come to us with their ideas," she said.

VESSEL FIRE

Coast guard attend boat blaze

Cause under investigation

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Coast guard personnel responding to a boat fire near Wallace Island in Trincomali Channel Thursday morning failed to douse the flames before the ship was completely destroyed.

"It's a shame," said Dan Harvey, a coast guard rescue specialist based in Ganges. "It was a quality ship."

Harvey said the owner of the Evening Cove, a 30-foot converted fishing vessel reg-

istered out of Nanaimo, was exploring the island when his ship caught fire by the dock.

Harvey said coast guard officers towed the flaming ship away from the dock to prevent the fire from spreading. Portions of the wharf at Conover Cove sustained minor burn damage.

Harvey estimates the boat was worth between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

Officers based at Victoria's Joint-Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) dispatched a Vancouver-based hovercraft, auxiliary personnel from Ganges and four offi-

cers aboard the Cape Kuper when the incident was reported just after 10 a.m.

The ship burned for nearly two hours, according to David Burneau, the JRCC's air-rescue coordinator.

Despite having more than 600 litres of diesel fuel on board, Burneau said, the Cape Kuper's crew deployed pollution booms before any significant spills were noticed.

Editor's note: This story and a photo were posted within hours on the Driftwood's new website at www.gulfisland-driftwood.com and in the Weekender on Friday.

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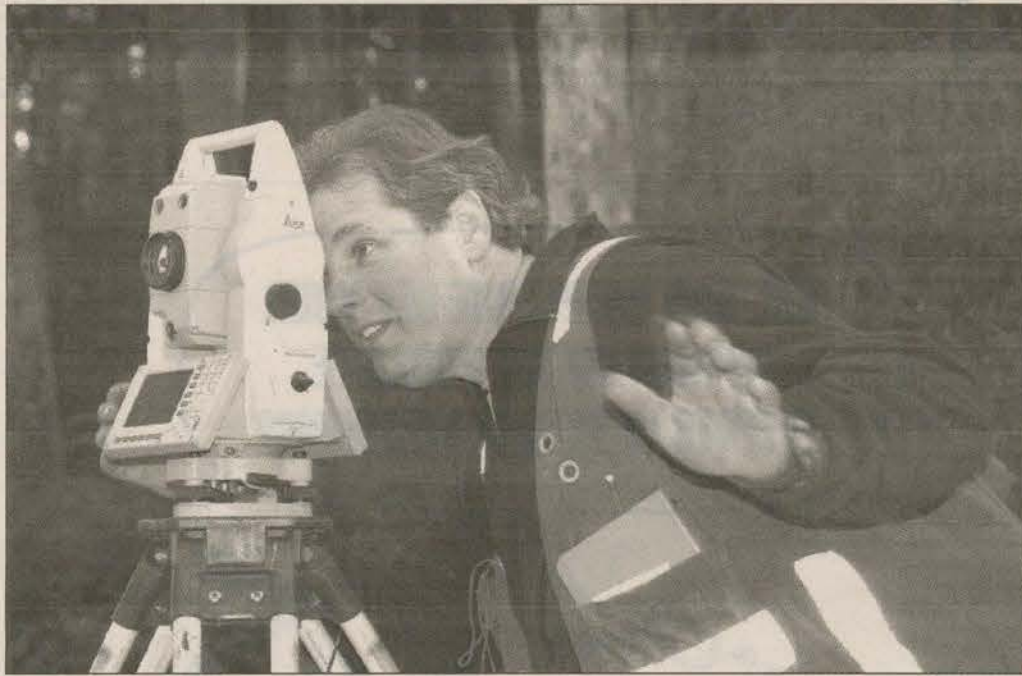


PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

SURVEYING THE SCENE:

Roland Temmel surveys an area at Southey Point.

GARDENING

Sustainable food expert at Seedy 'Sun.'

John Jeavons one of several weekend speakers

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A world-renowned leader in sustainable agriculture will visit Salt Spring for Seedy Saturday "weekend," the island's 13th-annual exchange of seeds, ideas and gardening information.

While Saturday, Feb. 9 features the seed exchange, plant and seed sales, farmers' market, workshops and master gardener help desk at the Farmers Institute, Sunday morning's activities consist of a morning workshop with John Jeavons of California.

Jeavons will lead Grow Biointensive Sustainable Mini-Farming — Growing Soil Fertility with Higher Yields, Lower Resource Consumption and Open-Pollinated Seeds in a World of Peak Farmable Soil and Food!

Jeavons has been researching sustainable farming techniques for developing countries for many decades, and since 1972 has been perfecting farming techniques first hand through his California-based, non-profit organization Ecology Action.

Jeavons knows and "loves" our resident seed guru, Dan Jason, and had the opportunity to meet some of our farming community on a visit here last November.

Jeavons' trademarked method is formulated to grow enough food for one person, for one year, on as little as 4,000 square feet.

Using a "closed system" that includes carbon-rich grains for compost and

high-calorie vegetables for the farmer, the system builds soil nutrients instead of depleting them, saves water and other resources, and encourages healthier crops.

"The practices we're using are some of the most effective globally, and have been used for over 4,000 years (in China)," Jeavons explained. "So it's not something new, it's just a return to something that really works."

Jeavons said during a telephone interview that his Salt Spring workshop will concentrate on how to grow all your seeds in the smallest possible area while preserving genetic diversity and how to grow soil fertility.

The Grow Biointensive method has been used to great success in over 100 countries and is not limited to the developing world. Issues such as loss of farming space and knowledge and soil depletion mean these ideas are equally important in North America. Here on Salt Spring, our limited water supply means Jeavons' ideas are of particular significance.

For example, one of the tenets of the Grow Biointensive technique is "double digging," or digging garden beds to a depth of 24 inches, instead of the usual six to eight. The advantages to this simple idea are "many-fold," Jeavons says.

"One of the most important missing ingredients in soil is air — the microbes breathe oxygen like we do, and most soils in the world are compacted."

As well, deep beds promote root growth, meaning hardier crops. They also allow for far greater nutrient recycling.

In combination with other tenets such as using open-pollinated seeds, close plant spacing, companion planting and composting, deep digging "enables nature to create a 'living sponge cake,' thriving with life."

"This method — with the caveat, if used properly — uses 67-88 per cent less water per pound of food compared with conventional methods," Jeavons finds.

He says it does so because the close spacing of plants reduces water evaporation and the amount of organic material in the soil holds water better.

As well, "by having balanced and sufficient nutrients in the soil, plants need to drink less water."

While Jeavons believes the techniques he teaches are necessary for sustainable food production, he said it's still worthwhile for people to keep gardens even without using these methods (at first).

"I think it is important for everyone to be gardening because one of the things the developed world has lost is the skill of food raising. If you're gardening at home and not using sustainable practices, you'll still be learning important skills, gardening organically, and not using poisons.

"By the end of 2011 there may not be very much surplus food left in the world, and it may not be easy to import food, so growing your own will be really desirable."

Participants must register by Feb. 4 with Ben Luna (538-0115) to enjoy the catered lunch which runs from noon to 2 p.m. with David Mincey speaking on Chef Grower Collaboration.

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9:00 - Noon

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Noon - 2:00

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Opinion

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 Best All Round Newspaper, *Gulf Islands Driftwood*, BRONZE • Best Feature Series, *Galliano Fire*, BRONZE
2007 Canadian Community Newspaper Association Awards



EDITORIAL

Fertile plan

A long-to-sprout blueprint for revitalizing agriculture on Salt Spring Island was released to the public on Saturday, when some 100 people attended a "Plan to Farm" event at the high school.

Representing untold hours of research, discussion and collaboration by dedicated steering committee members from existing Salt Spring agricultural groups, the Area Farm Plan (AFP) is a cogent articulation of where things stand now, where farmers would like them to be and what steps should be taken to reach the desired goals.

The AFP received funding and other support from a host of government and non-profit bodies, and it appears those funds were well spent.

In short, the AFP recommends:

- establishing a Salt Spring Island Agricultural Alliance to represent agricultural interests and implement the plan's other recommendations;
- setting up a community farmland trust to, among other things, connect would-be farmers with affordable land;
- creating facilities, such as an abattoir, cold storage or composting area, that could be used by all farmers.

THE ISSUE:

New Area Farm Plan

WE SAY:

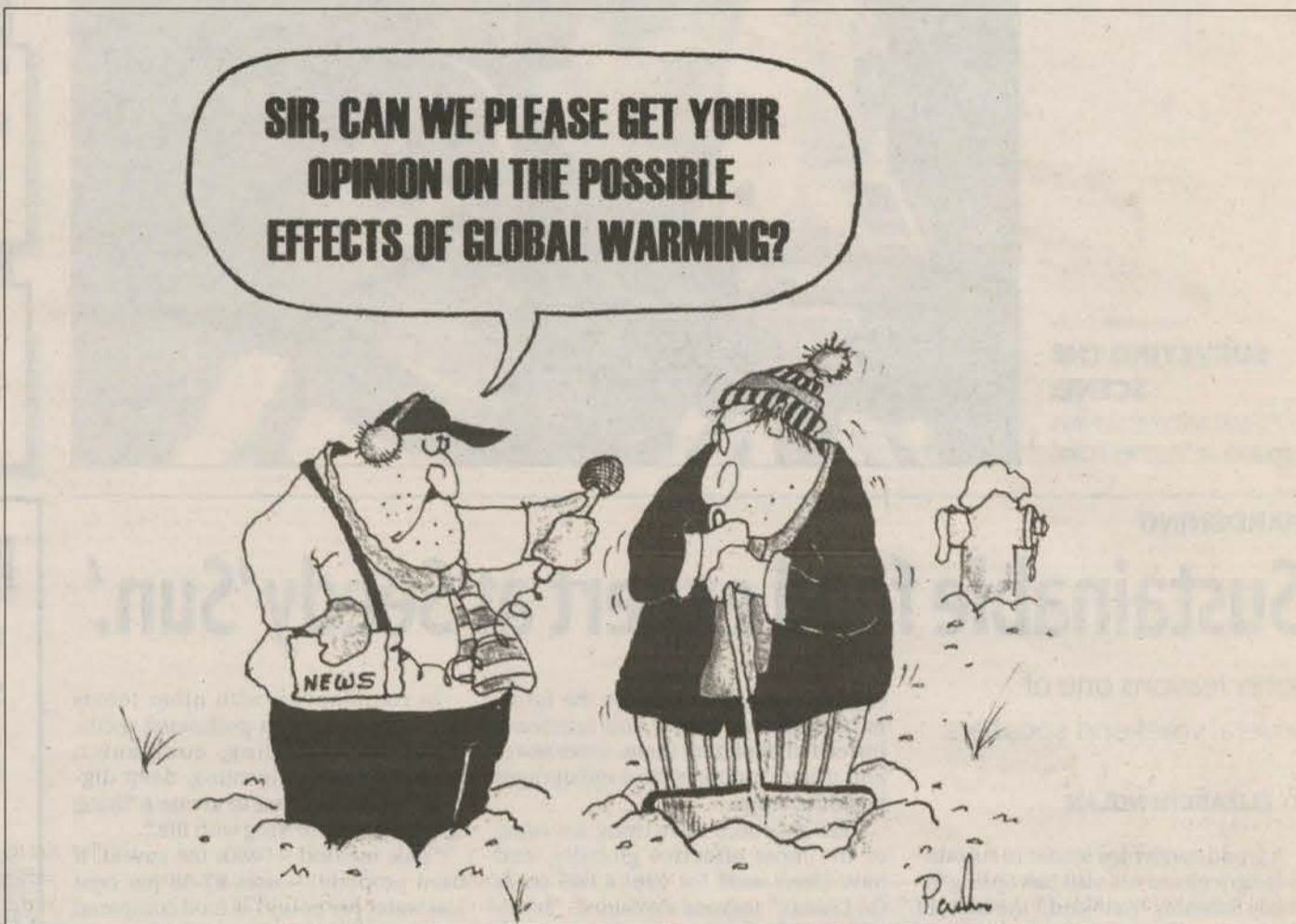
Farmers on the right track

From one perspective, there's reason to be optimistic the plan's recommendations are do-able. The AFP has momentum on its side, having arrived when it appears demand for local food is on the upswing. Many islanders have wholeheartedly embraced the "eat local" movement, trying as much as possible to support local farmers for all sorts of personal, environmental and political reasons. Local retailers also appear to be responding to consumers' demands.

But as usual there is always a rub, and in this case it's that people must be motivated to get their hands in the soil and produce the food that is in demand and would be consumed by islanders. Financial compensation tends to top the list of motivators when career options are considered, and the living to be made from producing food is not known for its monetary rewards.

Making farmland more accessible through a community farmland trust will help, but whether or not enough people can be found to actually work the land is something that may need to be tackled in any sequel to the 2008 AFP.

In the meantime, community members can work up a healthy appetite by familiarizing themselves with the plan and supporting local food initiatives whenever possible.



Soil bylaw needs some real teeth

BY RONALD WRIGHT

When is rock gold? Not very often, but the province's mining law treats them both the same.

If you find gold in your backyard the Ministry of Mines will likely give you a permit to blast the place to smithereens. Unhappily for your neighbours, a Mines permit trumps zoning and other land-use laws. You get rich, while the neighbours get noise, dust, and sinking property values. Luckily for them, gold is rare. But rock and gravel are far from rare — Salt Spring is made of the stuff. Yet the ministry can give anyone a permit to blast away a residential lot (or woodland, etc.) and sell it by the truckload. This can happen almost anywhere.

The ministry does have some regulations, but they are few, feeble and seldom enforced. Most gravel quarries are never even inspected. Permits are issued without quibble unless there's a major public outcry within 30 days of a notice in the back of the newspaper. And these notices state: "The Chief Inspector of Mines does not have a mandate to consider the merits of mining at this site from a land-use perspective."

Well then, who does have this mandate? Answer: local government; in our case, the Islands Trust. But a Mines permit overrides zoning. And provincial law blocks local governments from banning mines. Is this democracy?

There is, however, one way for the Trust to regain some control over what happens in our neighbourhoods. Although mining can't be banned, it can be regulated by a soil removal bylaw. And the regulations can be made tough enough to discourage mining in inappropriate areas, and to enforce good standards for water protection, noise, hours, fencing, clean-up, safety, etc. In 2003 a gravel mining company took the District of Metchosin to the B.C. Supreme Court on this very issue. Metchosin won. That is a powerful legal precedent on which we must build.

VIEWPOINT

A law originally intended to control commercial mines now explicitly exempts them.

Citizens have been calling for Salt Spring to pass a similar law ever since someone tried to blast away a 10-acre residential lot near Peter Arnell Park in 2003. The application was eventually dropped because of a public outcry led by the Stewart Road Residents Association (I am a member), but that did not stop the would-be miner from quarrying nearby.

When our current trustees ran for office more than two years ago, they promised a strong bylaw to regulate new mines and stop illegal ones; they said this was their "top priority." After many delays, a draft soil bylaw is now being circulated for discussion and could be enacted within weeks.

But hold the champagne. A law originally intended to control commercial mines now explicitly exempts them! If passed in its present state, it will do exactly the opposite of what was promised. It has become a charter for any industrial operation with a Ministry of Mines permit.

How did this U-turn happen? Well, we can only assume that the draft Soil Bylaw was gutted because of intense lobbying from mining interests. Indeed, a new application has just been announced to extract a quarter million cubic metres from the Fulford Valley. That's a 12-acre hole two storeys deep.

Concerned citizens should come to the Trust meeting at ArtSpring on Thursday, Feb. 7, and/or write to our trustees. Before it passes, this soil bylaw must be strengthened so that it regulates all new mines, and has real teeth with scientifically defined standards.

The mandate of the Trust is to "preserve and protect." If we can't fulfill these objectives on Salt Spring, who will?

The writer gave the 2004 CBC Massey Lectures, A Short History of Progress. He lives and works on Salt Spring Island.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you agree with new gas payment methods? Yes No

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislands.net 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 worried about falling stock market prices?



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SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What are the advantages of eating locally produced food?



BRETT MACLEAN
It helps lower your carbon footprint and supports the community.



IRENE HAWKSWORTH
Because locally produced food has fewer additives than those other products.



JEAN TAYLOR
People actually profit from selling it and we know what's gone into producing it.



TARA HOLLINGSWORTH
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MELANIE PLATZ
It's fresh, it tastes better, it's healthier for the environment and it supports the local economy.

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name. Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication. Read and reply to Driftwood letters online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Big dreams

I feel a trifle annoyed with the arrogance of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) board of trustees. The volunteer fire department is beloved by the residents of Salt Spring Island and these residents are wary of the changes suggested.

Now, that's not to say that we Salt Springers are not, for the most part, willing to come to the table with more money. On the contrary, those that I have spoken to say a wage of \$20 to \$25 per hour for our volunteers and some fringe benefits, e.g. health insurance, are in the cards.

With this fair pay package, will not another 20 or so volunteers come forward? And will we not have a fair chance of keeping the volunteers that we presently have?

I'll take this opportunity to ask the SSIFPD trustees to remember that their dreams

of a big city fire department with all the latest high-tech toys is not shared, I believe, by the majority of Salt Spring residents.

ROBERT TRUMP,
SALT SPRING

Mine meeting needed

In the Jan. 23 Driftwood article on the gravel pit and quarry plan at the end of Jones Road, I was surprised to read that the owner Mr. Akerman asserts that a vegetation buffer would block any view of the proposed site from the Fulford-Ganges Road.

That is true for the gravel pit, but a quick glance on the application shows that the quarry will be cut from a 75- to 140-metre altitude into the side of Hope Hill/Bruce Mountain. The valley floor and Fulford-Ganges road are at a 50-m altitude at the Jones Road junction and

only 300 metres away from the proposed work site.

So unless there are trees over 140 metres high, this quarry could become a 250-metre-wide ugly scar for everybody to see from the road and from any viewpoint in the valley.

I did also notice that only 1.5 ha (3.7 acres) will be reclaimed when the project is finished after five years, while 4.9 ha (12.1 acres) will be disturbed by the mining. A program for protection and reclamation of the land and watercourses, which should be present according to the Inspector of Mines notice, was not provided.

Others have pointed out salmon stream and environmental issues.

The ugly hillside scar, the absence of a reclamation program and other environmental issues should be reason of great concern to Salt Spring and a public inquiry

should be requested. You still have until Feb. 8 to do so.

KEES VISSER,
ROURKE ROAD

Not altruistic

Regarding Gary Lunn's Viewpoint and Michael Friedman's letter in the last Driftwood: It was very instructive to hear the CBC The Current interview with Herbert Moore — a retired nuclear chemist and engineer.

He stated quite clearly that the "international health crisis" Lunn talks about was wildly overstated — the NRU provides radioisotopes to North America only and of those, few, if any, are used for treatment rather than diagnosis: Molybdenum 99 is no longer used and others are produced otherwise than by fission in the reactor.

I wish I could agree with Michael on the altruism of Lunn's and Harper's actions, but I think he has forgotten

that Lunn regards nuclear power stations in the oil sands as the way to make them less productive of CO2 and the oil generated there more acceptable to a world which is rightly critical of Canada's record in this regard.

Any suggestion that our reactors are unsafe (Moore also observed that the Maple reactors, being built to replace the current NRU reactor at Chalk River, are suffering major technical problems and may never be opened) are likely to make us less supportive of this strategy.

I would welcome an independent inquiry into the firing of Linda Keen.

MICHAEL WALL,
SALT SPRING

Bad judgement

It's good of Gary Lunn to finally speak to the press about his handling of the Chalk River crisis; his earlier evasiveness in returning calls

from the press and his constituents made it look like he had something to hide.

As Mr. Friedman points out his Jan. 23 letter ("Supreme law"), it is a serious thing when politicians like Lunn and Prime Minister Stephen Harper decide to overrule regulatory bodies that are supposed to be independent — but in contrast to Mr. Friedman's very low opinion of civil servants, I'm actually much more concerned about the motivations and judgement of politicians. And particularly politicians like Lunn and Harper, both of whom, for instance, think that Canada should have joined the Iraq War.

With such weak judgement as that, I get very nervous when they decide to overrule the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.

BRIAN SMALLSHAW,
BAY RIDGE PLACE

MORE LETTERS continued on A10

Trust's fragile 'ego-system' revealed in accuracy debate

I like the head of our Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) and Islands Trust Council, Kim Benson. She handles the Trust meetings with grace, control and class.

Not from Salt Spring? It makes no difference. Our provincial rep Murray Coell hangs up his hat in Saanich, as does our federal rep Gary Lunn, when not going nuclear in Ottawa. What should it matter if chairman Kim chooses to spend half her life in ferry line-ups commuting back and forth to Keats Island?

But I start to get a little twitchy when she takes on one of our own native sons, the head of Islanders for Self-Government (ISG), Ken Marr. Ken Marr does live on Salt Spring. It's not like Ken is a "Johnny-come-lately," ramming through marinas or bending setback regulations around another god-awful townhouse development. He's a long-time resident Salt Spring mensch. His Windsor Plywood truck can be seen pretty much every weekend at Portlock Park, where he is coaching kids' soccer. He is a dedicated dad, a hard-working businessman and a passionate supporter of the island municipality movement.

And so when the Trust claws come out, we Salt Springers have to stand up and be counted. When Benson writes a three-page public diatribe casting aspersions on Ken Marr's integrity and veracity, we Salt Springers need to take a close look at those accusations.

Benson takes Marr to task over his rea-

soning that the upcoming official community plan (OCP) could "seriously affect employment, housing and property rights" in the future. At first blush, I can understand Marr's big chill. Some of the suggestions flowing out of the focus groups would make the most rabid tree hugger take a breath.

Thirty-metre setbacks from the water in case future global warming causes ocean levels to rise? Limiting house size to 3,000 square feet? Tourism taxes? Granted, these have been turfed by the Trust politburo, but it gives one pause as to what to expect further down the road when the official "review" is inked, doesn't it?

But let's get down to the "T and A" — Taxes and Assessments. Benson feels it's misleading for ISG to mention that Salt Springers would no longer pay rural-area taxes under incorporation while not referring to costs we would take on. Benson predicts taxes would go up under a Salt Spring municipality.

Well, let's see. Since 2002, the year of the infamous incorporation defeat, my rural taxes have increased 20 per cent, my Islands Trust contribution has gone up 32 per cent and overall taxes have jumped 34 per cent. I didn't need the help of a municipality to watch my taxes go through the roof.

And please, don't march out the soaring property values as the reason for the increase.



Peter Vincent

HEAD TO HEAD

The Trust could merely lower the mil rate to keep its part of taxes down. No, the Trust needs the money, particularly for the care and feeding of those other islands under its protective wing. Curiously, I have never heard a "thank you" coming from Lasqueti, Gambier or any of the other islands. I guess they feel they

have a right to our money.

Playing the tax card is nothing new for the anti-incorporation lobby. Back in 2002, they took out enormous ads in this newspaper (endorsed by such luminaries as Gary Holman, Peter Lamb and Briony Penn) predicting a municipality "could increase [property taxes] by up to \$1 million per year." Salt Spring would have to bow to development pressures, the ads claimed, "to pay for incorporation costs" and citing other places where incorporation led to big-box stores, casinos and the demolishing of a heritage building for a doughnut franchise. And Benson calls ISG's statements "misleading, inflammatory and alarmist?" Please.

I shudder to think what my tax notice will be in '08 and '09. What with money funnels like the new pool, the new library and a transit system, we will all be referring to the present as "the good old days."

I sure could use some of that \$1.75 million that ISG says Salt Spring offloads to the Islands Trust every year. And by the

way, given the above laundry list of voter-approved amenities, isn't Salt Spring sounding for all the world like a municipality? If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck, isn't it time we called it a duck?

Today the Trust Council is cooing "just wait," believing that adding a couple of more seats at the Trust table will somehow make it all better.

In 2002, it was "just wait for the Community Charter legislation" and the Trust's "improved governance option" coupled with dire warnings of the consequences of going municipal. Kudos to them. The threat of soaring taxes and a McDonald's next to Harlan's was enough to win the day.

It's like they tore a page out of George Bush's campaign playbook. Substitute the word "terrorist" with "developer" and there you have it. Apparently the end justifies the means. Whether Salt Springers will fall for the same line a second time remains to be seen. I sincerely hope that Marr doesn't let it get to him. This is only just beginning.

One thing is certain. Once someone has had a taste of power, it's hard to give it up. As Malcolm X said, "Power never takes a back step — only in the face of more power."

The Trust's extreme antithesis toward incorporation is not difficult to fathom. It's no longer protection of the fragile eco-system. It could well be defined as protection of the Trust's fragile "ego-system."

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OPINION

MORE LETTERS

continued from A9

Weak minister

In his Jan. 23 letter to the editor ("Supreme law"), Michael Friedman attempts to whitewash the hapless, ineffectual and incompetent Gary Lunn.

Saanich and the Islands is saddled with this conservative MP whose handling of the Atomic Energy Canada Limited/isotope fiasco earned him derisive comments even in the right-of-centre Globe and Mail.

Why did Lunn delay in telling his colleagues about the shut-down of the Chalk River reactor? Why did he wait till 10 p.m. to fire the head of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, a quasi-independent agency?

Carol Goar, a columnist for the Toronto Star, perhaps went too far on Jan. 16 when she described Harper as a "hot-tempered bully" and Gary Lunn as his "thuggish sidekick."

It is a shame that the concerned and involved citizens of Salt Spring Island have to be represented by this former member of the Reform Party, a weak minister among a slew of weak ministers in the Harper cabinet. We remember his advocating a referendum on "state murder," euphemistically known as capital punishment.

It's because we have to dump Lunn that this life-long New Democrat will vote strategically in the coming election for Briony Penn, who decided to move to the Liberals from the Green Party. I urge New Democrats and Greens to also vote strategically.

I'll end by stating I have

tremendous admiration for national Green Party leader Elizabeth May and hope that she will be in the national leaders debate and that she beats the pants off our weak defence minister in Nova Scotia.

JACK HALLAM,
NORTH END ROAD

Disturbing thefts

Recently my son had his iPod and \$50 stolen from him. It didn't happen while hanging out in Ganges or at a party.

The sad thing is that it happened during school while he was in class. The iPod was taken right out of his jacket while he was working on a project.

As a mother I am outraged that he is dealing with this kind of behaviour. His iPod was his first purchase from his first job; he worked hard and looked forward to spending his money the way he wanted to, and now someone has taken that experience away from him with no consideration or remorse.

I felt compelled to write the Driftwood about this issue because I think that this kind of thing needs to be addressed by parents and by the schools. I have heard numerous stories from other parents and students about thefts in the schools this year. It makes me sad to know that the students are stealing from each other because I was once a student here and I would never have thought that this kind of thing could happen.

I personally feel that part of the problem is that the teachers have no ability to discipline or interfere in this kind of situation. They can

do almost nothing for fear of legal action against them.

How are the students supposed to feel safe in school if the troublemakers and thieves are looked at with blind eyes? For example, why weren't all of the students in the class asked to empty out their pockets as soon as my son reported his iPod was missing? The teachers told him that there was not much that could be done, and so the little thief got off scot free, with no repercussions for his or her actions.

And as if that wasn't bad enough, he then had \$50 stolen out of his pants in the change rooms while he was in gym class. What? That's two thefts in one week, and still there is nothing the school, teachers or police can do about it.

I just hope that whoever is doing this to my son gets his/her just desserts and has something stolen from him/her.

Do we have to go so far as to have security at the schools here like in the city? Are we turning into such a big town that we cannot trust each other anymore? Salt Spring used to be a place where you could leave your door unlocked and no one would even think of violating your home. What is this island coming to?

TAMU MILES,
SALT SPRING

Mud source

After being taken to task by the Islands Trust regarding the misinformation campaign by Islanders for Self(ish) Government, its president Ken Marr is quoted in last week's Driftwood as saying the group will "continue to work hard to ensure that it does not happen again."

Mr. Marr also decries the "unnecessary mudslinging which only clouds the real issue here, which is to educate islanders on improved governance for Salt Spring."

Yet ISG's "educational" ad in the very same Driftwood belies this fine rhetoric, painting our current system of rural governance as "incoherent, irrational, ineffective."

Consider this statement in light of the achievements we have made as a community in recent years. We have protected over 4,000 acres of green space.

We have built or are building 160 units of affordable and seniors housing.

We are about to open a \$6-million indoor pool. We purchased an 18-acre liquid waste disposal site in Burgoyne Valley, on which we will be composting our sewage and septage to a Class A standard this year.

We have purchased a site for a new library in the village core, as required by our OCP.

We are upgrading water treatment facilities for six water districts and have upgraded both of our secondary sewage treatment plants.

We have upgraded Lady Minto hospital and have established a model "continuum of care" for seniors on the Greenwood/Lady Minto site. We have just launched a new public transit system.

Many of these accom-

plishments are supported and aided by our official community plan and required cooperation and coordination between CRD, Islands Trust and other levels of government.

Could any of these achievements have been made under a governance system that is "ineffective, irrational and incoherent?"

There have been local tax increases resulting from these initiatives, and most of these increases have been approved directly by rate-payers. But we have also raised more than \$35 million in additional capital funding, reducing the local taxpayer cost.

The provincial government has just recognized Salt Spring Island's accomplishments by awarding its first-ever Green City award to Salt Spring — the only one of 178 electoral areas so honoured. But ISG does not have the integrity to acknowledge these achievements even exist.

The ISG ad goes on to a contradictory and simplistic description of our unique, grass-roots form of local governance that anyone could have bettered by checking the facts. The ad states our governance as "widely dispersed," but then goes on to complain there is too much concentration of power. Which is it?

The ad falsely states that the local taxpayer share of public transit is unknown, even though the maximum limit is clearly defined in the establishing bylaw.

The new bylaw recognizing the role of the elected CRD Director in PARC appointments is not "in the works" as the ad states, but is actually in place, as I promised in the last election. Nor does the PARC bylaw preclude recommendations by an "independent community-based committee."

Mr. Marr is right. There is a good deal of mud being slung about.

He's just a little confused about the source.

GARY HOLMAN,
CRD DIRECTOR,
SALT SPRING

Help?

Rick Laing's suggestion for the disposal of Christmas trees ("Reuse trees," Jan. 9 Driftwood letter) was very sensible: "green" and eco-friendly. Most commendable.

But as a lady approaching (too rapidly!) the age of 80, living with constant, significant back pain, I lack not only the physical capability but also the tools necessary for the clipping, chopping and sawing he recommends. Consequently, the news that a disposal service was available at the transfer station for a small donation to the scholarship fund was very appealing.

I wonder, therefore, if Mr. Laing would permit me (and perhaps others who find themselves in the same predicament) to keep his name on file? We could phone him after next Christmas, secure in the knowledge that with his help our cast-off trees would be disposed of in the time-honoured, traditional manner.

I would love that!
SHEELAGH WEEKS,
WALKER'S HOOK ROAD

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OPINION

ISG responds to Trust missive

BY KEN MARR

Islanders for Self-Government (ISG) shares Trust Council's concern that all groups involved with the debate on governance for Salt Spring present complete and accurate information.

Many islanders felt misled by the "no" side after the last vote on incorporation and ISG will strive to ensure this will not happen again.

ISG is disappointed that the Trust has decided to publicly discredit our group with Ms. Benson's letter to me dated Jan. 15. Although her letter states that the Trust does not take an official stance in the debate on incorporation for Salt Spring, it is very clear where the Trust stands on this issue. (Examples can be provided if requested.)

ISG offers the following in response to Ms. Benson's allegations.

In my April 15, 2007 speech I did not state the OCP proposals were the policies of the LTC. Ms. Benson's allegation is inaccurate and irrelevant to the debate on incorporation.

My statement that restricting house sizes is "beyond the Trust's realm of authority" was inaccurate. I should have stated that it was beyond their land-use planning mandate, as were all of the items that were recently removed from the focus groups' recommendations. Had Ms. Benson attended all of these public meetings, she may have realized that the vast majority of islanders present felt that the changes proposed to the OCP were far reaching and amounted to a complete re-write of the OCP that would "seriously affect employment, housing, property rights, and culture." Our trustees were not elected on the platform of these far-reaching, radical OCP changes and therefore these recommendations were not within their mandate and should never have advanced that far in the process. These examples are quite clear to residents of Salt Spring; we would have gladly provided them had Ms. Benson asked.

Furthermore, as Ms. Benson points out in the same article, I ask citizens to express their opinions "before the OCP draft is done." The fact is that the LTC did "make some serious amendments" and I am confused by Ms. Benson's concerns and I stand by my wording. Again, her points, or lack thereof, are irrelevant to the debate on incorporation.

As far as the LTC chair's role for Salt Spring Islanders, I believe her most important role is as a tie breaker. That position has other duties and Ms. Benson may feel that some are more important to her. ISG disagrees and stands by our wording and we're surprised to hear that she feels our actions were "misleading, inflammatory and alarmist."

In fact, we are proud of the role ISG had in the decision by the LTC to remove certain recommendations from the OCP focus groups' recommendations.

Whether or not the Trust is a "local government" is fundamental to the debate on governance. The 2007 Trust-sponsored Neilson-Welch report states:

INDEPTH

"The nature of the Trust as a "trust" sets it apart from local governments in the province whose mandates focused on the provision of local services to people."

"In many key respects, however, the Trust differs quite significantly from local governments."

"In all, while the Trust was given certain characteristics of a local government, it was not created to be a local government. This point has important implications for discussions on structure."

"In many key respects, however, the Trust differs quite significantly from local governments."

NEILSON-WELCH CONSULTING INC.
Islands Trust Governance Review
April 2007

As our debate on incorporation revolves around structure, in this context, clearly the Trust is not a local government.

The question on taxes is very complicated. ISG is working on a full and complete report on taxation which is being released in parts in upcoming editions of the Driftwood. Once that information is made public, ISG believes the numbers will speak for themselves.

We are very encouraged by Ms. Benson's statement that "Council policies express the belief that community members can make the best decisions about governance topics if they are provided with accurate and complete information." With this in mind, ISG will be formally asking Trust Council to support an update on the incorporation study for Salt Spring and, with the exception of our two locally elected trustees, to remove themselves from our debate. ISG hopes Trust Council will support this so that community members can be provided with up-to-date, independent, "accurate and complete information" to make their choices unfettered by opinions of non-residents with different priorities.

During the last debate on incorporation, it was suggested that we look forward to a new and unique form of governance. Islanders were advised to wait for these options before deciding on incorporation. Years have lapsed and the Trust has offered the idea of increasing the number of trustees to four, combined with a more formal liaison between the Trust and the CRD. ISG supports incorporation within the Trust mandate. The citizens of Salt Spring now have two distinct, tangible options to choose from. ISG believes that we, as a community, have the right to openly debate these options without the mud slinging and name calling.

The writer is president of ISG.

ISG's big chance?

A wonderful opportunity has arisen for the Islanders for Self Government group to establish their credibility with islanders.

For over four years groups such as the Salt Spring Island Neighbourhoods Coalition have been working with the Islands Trust to create a new soil removal bylaw to replace the old, inherited, CRD bylaw which has been found to be inadequate.

Progress was being made until a specially formed industry group began bullying the trustees and staff into diluting the draft bylaw to the point that on many provisions it is worse than the CRD one, and less enforceable.

Examples of these retrograde changes are the

absence of any regulation whatsoever of Ministry approved commercial mines, and the extension of operating hours of any soil removal or deposit activities, anywhere on the island, until dusk.

It would seem to me that there are several reasons why ISG would want to support us in our fight for a clear, strong and enforceable bylaw:

1) ISG has been extremely vociferous in its support for the Trust's preserve and protect mandate, and it would want to demonstrate this to a skeptical public in concrete terms.

2) ISG would want to prove that it is not, as it has been suggested, "just a bunch of developers, realtors and builders." Surely they would want to help in a cause that is for the greater good of our neighbourhoods and our environment?

3) The bylaw we have been trying to enact is one which has been created by Salt Spring Islanders for our own island, to replace one imported from the CRD. ISG members are very enthusiastic about such self-determination.

We look forward to hearing, in this publication, that members of ISG are willing to help us in our efforts to protect our island and create a good bylaw, and we would welcome their support at the next local Trust meeting.

Of course, silence on their part could be interpreted as support for those special interest groups who want to be able to pursue environmentally damaging activities free of regulation.

MICHAEL WALL,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on A12

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Lions Publications

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DEAR MS. SALTYSPRINGER: I've been a widower for nearly a decade but I've always had my children and grandchildren living close by. My daughter and her family recently moved off the island and I'm feeling a bit lonely since they left. I'm in good health and am quite spry for my age, but I'm feeling a little isolated and would like to get out into the community a bit more. I enjoy socializing and would like to meet some people who enjoy lively conversation, cups of tea and maybe a glass (or two) of red wine as much as I do. Where do I even begin to look?

Sincerely,
Sad on Southey Point.

So cue up your questions and ask away!

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DEAR SAD ON SOUTHEY POINT,

If your mind is as open as your body is nimble then there are endless opportunities for you to make new friends and maybe learn a thing (or two) along the way. A new semester of Salt Spring Community Education is starting up and the variety of classes and seminars is as surprising as the topics are stimulating. From cake baking and soapstone carving to conversational French and computer word processing, there is something in there that will work your mind while introducing you to the like-minded.

As well as your mind, maintaining your muscles and stretching your sinuses becomes even more important as we get older, and nothing is better for doing this than yoga. Now this may not generally be your cup of tea, but

there are number of classes that are both gentle and fun no matter what your flexibility level (Ganges Yoga Studio, 537-2444, www.gangesyoga.com; Dorothy Price, 538-9453, www.dorothyprice.com; Salt Spring Centre of Yoga, 537-2326, yoga@saltspringcentre.com; Catherine Valentine, 537-1477, yogafarm@telus.net). While you usually do all the class work on your own, the support and camaraderie you'll get from your classmates and instructors could open the door to some wonderful friendships you may have otherwise missed out on.

Be daring. Be brave. Be fabulous. And you'll never be sad again.

DEAR MS. SALTSPRINGER:

I'm a 56-year-old divorced woman who just moved to the island last month. After spending my first Christmas alone with only my cat Perdita and dog Sola to keep my company, I've decided to get back into the dating scene. The only problem is, I don't know where to find someone to date. Please guide me.

- Lost on Long Harbour

WELL, MY DEAR MS. LOST ON LONG HARBOUR, you're already half way there! The decision to dive into the dating world again is the hard part, now finding a fun companion is easy... if you know where to look! You obviously love animals, so why not follow your heart?

Maybe it's time Sola got a refresher course in manners at a dog obedience class (Paws for Success, Sheri Standen, 537-5646, sstanden@saltspring.com, www.thestandens.com; Trekhond Kennels, Anne McPhee, 537-9505, trekhond@saltspring.com). While Sola learns to stay, you can swap puppy stories with that handsome gentleman and his Irish Setter. Trust me, a little puppy love never hurt anyone!

Or if you have a few hours a week to spare, you could volunteer at the SPCA (537-2123) or Wildlife Centre (537-0777). While you help to save injured and defenceless animals, you will also be meeting people who share your sense of compassion and have a keen interest in the same things you do. So get out there and say hello to fellow animal-lovers and possibly 'animal' lovers!



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OPINION

Training ground facts

There has been so much misinformation in the community about how the proposed training ground expansion will actually function that concerned citizens with the best of intentions seem to have based their opinions on rumours and fiction.

Unfortunately, this information is spread in the letters on the pages of the Driftwood, and people react without verifying what is factual. Take, for example, the letter in the Jan. 16 paper by Patricia Faurot ("Limit training centres"), which attempts to draw a parallel between the Justice Institute's fire-training campus in Maple Ridge and our proposed expansion. The extensive Maple Ridge facility is the main campus for fire training in B.C. and it serves firefighters from across the province on a daily basis. The Justice Institute facility also features large burn buildings for fire simulations and it utilizes diesel oil and other fuels in many of their props on a regular basis.

On the contrary, the proposed training facility at Fulford is a small-scale affair that actually aims to improve environmental practices of the training we already conduct at the same site. It will not include a live-fire building or utilize burning of diesel fuel, hay, plastics or contaminants of any kind. The live fire props will be fuelled exclusively with clean-burning propane (the only by-products are CO2 and water).

Another misconception about the training ground is that foam used on the site could contaminate the soil and jeopardize the organic status of neighbouring farms. The proposed training prac-

tices will enable us to simulate fire situations where foam is required without actually using foam on a regular basis in our training.

Still another rumour is that we will continue burning vehicles with plastics, batteries and other toxic materials still intact. The proposed vehicle-fire prop would be stripped and would be fuelled by propane alone. This same vehicle shell is used for as many as 500 consecutive burns. Furthermore, our training at the Fulford site will consist of two or three evenings a month and the odd weekend.

By improving our training practices to burn propane, instead of diesel, and by creating a containment system to collect runoff and recycle the water we use, we will actually create fewer concerns for neighbouring farms in the Fulford Valley.

Please keep in mind that firefighters have trained on this property for 25 years, and that out of necessity, will continue to train there using the same training practices if we are unable to expand and improve. Note that the Fulford fire hall site was given a very positive report following a recent environmental assessment, the results of which can be viewed on our website at www.saltspringfire.com.

Some islanders have expressed support for the project but oppose the location. However, we have searched for alternative sites to no avail, and we feel that purchasing another piece of property for this facility would be an additional expense and an unnecessary burden on taxpayers.

MARK WYATT,
SSIFPD TRUSTEE AND
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

Still misleading

If it wasn't so important, it would be funny! Another case of "Don't confuse me with the facts, I've made up my mind." I'm getting tired of it and I expect others are, too.

Once again, ISG is publishing information about the Islands Trust that is wrong and therefore misleading. Last week's Driftwood reported on a letter from Kim Benson, chair of Trust Council to Ken Marr, president of ISG, pointing out, as requested by Marr, inaccurate and misleading information in their published advertisements. Marr is reported to have replied that "Rest assured, if there have been inaccuracies produced by ISG, we will take responsibility and continue to work hard so that it does not happen again."

Yet, in the very same issue of the Driftwood, another very large advertisement appeared from ISG containing gross inaccuracies about the Trust operations. They claim that for Salt Spring's "\$1.75 million" in property tax revenues to the Trust, Salt Spring Island "receives only approximately \$300,000 in Trust services." This is plain and simply wrong.

In the fiscal year that ended March 31, 2007, the total contribution to the Trust from the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area (which includes 45 associated islands) was about \$1.9 million (of which \$1.82 million was from property taxes). We received back the following services:

- a. On-island planning staff and support services, bylaw enforcement, trustee remuneration, committee meetings, contract services,

office rent, telephone and other expenses amounting to \$682,000;

b. Trust area services for general administration, accounting, communications, computer equipment and support, legal, mapping services, Trust Fund Board support (land acquisition, covenants, stewardship), equipment and other services, our share of which was estimated this year to be \$920,000.

The balance of roughly \$300,000 is to support the preservation and protection of all areas in the Islands Trust federation of islands. As a federation, the larger, wealthier areas — like Salt Spring, Gabriola and North Pender — typically support the smaller, less populated areas. Frankly, I have no hesitation in accepting this commitment to supporting the broader Islands Trust.

If anyone in the ISG responsible for their advertisements had had the courtesy of contacting the Trust before publishing, they would have realized just how wrong and misleading their "facts" are. It is ironic that Ken Marr also said that "he would have preferred to deal with any allegations directly before having to make any public clarifications." He seems to be suggesting that a continuing series of uninformed and wrong public statements that mislead our community should just be corrected privately.

Enough of this. If ISG continues to publish misleading information about the Trust, we have an obligation to publish the facts. As I said in the press report, "To educate islanders with misinformation is very irresponsible."

PETER LAMB,
LOCAL TRUSTEE,
SALT SPRING

RANTS and Roses

A bunch of strong and vibrant wild roses to the RCMP, Emergency Social Services, Salt Spring Fire Department, the radio guys, Drew and Steve, and all the members of the Community Gospel Chapel for their assistance. They provided food, shelter and technical assistance to us and the other SAR teams from Pender Island, Victoria, PEMO, Duncan, Cowichan, and Campbell River during our intense search this past Saturday. Salt Spring Island Search & Rescue

Roses to Lightning Press for work expertly accomplished. JH

Roses to the young man who returned my lost wallet on Tuesday, Jan. 22 at GVM. AH

Climbing roses to Jono and Teal for filling my empty tank last Sunday. A quite stressful moment ended happy thanks to your sympathy and helpfulness. Thanks so much again. MW

Armloads of yellow roses to Ken and Sherrill Adshead and their band of elves who put on a great Santa's Breakfast at Fulford Hall in December. Not only did they do a fine job, they did it without

electricity as the power had gone off. Now that is the real Fulford Hall spirit.

Mike and Marjorie of Ruckle Farm deserve a beautiful bouquet of fragrant roses for the great job they do at Ruckle Farm preserving the fine farming tradition established by the Ruckle families over the past 130 years. The working farm really adds such a great dimension to Ruckle Park. Thanks also for the great work with your sheep dogs and thanks for showing them at the fall fair.

Roses to all our friends for your love and support during Brittany's recent illness. Your kind words and actions were a source of comfort for all of us. We would especially like to thank Salt Spring Fire Department members, who are always ready to help those in need in the community, and a special thanks to Darin Craig, who even though we did not personally know him, arranged a fundraising BBQ in the GVM parking lot on Brittany's behalf. Although it was a stressful and difficult time for our family, we are blessed to be surrounded by such a caring community and friends. Jim, Jane and Brittany Witherspoon

Endless long-stemmed

roses for everyone who helped with the Ronald McDonald House Christmas baskets. It was again a successful and appreciated year for the families staying there during the holidays. Special thank you to Mike Boizard and everyone at Thrifty Foods (and Ray Taylor at our Vancouver store), Salt Spring SeaChange and Salt Spring Winery for their generous yearly donations and to Shiona, Sandra, Angie, Petra, Tracy and Melissa for their delicious and creative baked goods. The baskets were beautiful! Leah Byron

Roses to the fine crew at Beaver Point Hall who came back the next Saturday in December to put on one more day of Christmas craft show due to a snowstorm the previous weekend. Thanks to Heidi, Ramona, Tali, Michelle and everyone else for the fantastic effort.

A thank-you and lots of potted yellow geraniums to Jacquie Severn for hosting an overwhelmingly successful tea for my 65th birthday. Thanks, too, to the many friends who joined the celebration and those who could not be there but sent best wishes. Jacquie, the 65 candles on the chocolate cake proved hilarious! Merry B.

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Follow William Krebs' example

BY ERIC BOOTH

Wow, I've never seen my name mentioned so many times, within one letter to the editor, as Mr. Brian Milne did in the Jan. 16 Driftwood ("Worthwhile projects" letter).

Mr. Milne, apparently an avid amateur investigator with a lot of free time on his hands to pry into other people's business, is the new owner (2006/2007) of two of the adjacent properties to Lot 23 Creekside Drive, the Creekside property which is currently proposed to be purchased by The Land Conservancy of British Columbia. He made a number of assertions in his letter, some of which are true, and some of which are patently false.

I have been asked to respond, in as clear a manner as possible, and state for the record:

1. I am the authorized agent for the owner of Lot 23 Creekside. I am not a director of the owner, however, as I have fully disclosed, I do have a "beneficial interest" in the property.

2. I am the authorized agent for Salt Spring Ventures Inc., (not Saltspring Ventures, as Mr. Milne stated) the owner of Lot 10 Park Drive, the property sometimes known as Swanson's pond. I am also the appointed sole director of the company and act on behalf of the owners of Salt Spring Ventures Inc. Those owners have requested anonymity and I have guaranteed to them they will remain anonymous. Anyone who follows real estate development on Salt Spring can appreciate why someone would make such a request and Mr. Milne's letter is another fine example as to why.

3. Mr. Milne's erroneous assertions about Mr. Wil-

IN RESPONSE

liam Krebs' involvement with either Lot 23 or Lot 10 were addressed directly by Mr. Krebs in last week's "Half truths" letter.

4. Mr. Krebs and I do have, as Mr. Milne noted, a close relationship with the Salt Spring Island Monetary Foundation (not Saltspring Monetary Foundation). I am one of the founding directors and Mr. Krebs is the current treasurer of this not-for-profit organization. Knowing the time and energy commitment it takes to run such an organization, I'd like to know just how many hours a week Mr. Milne perhaps volunteers to a local community group(s)?

5. As a newcomer to the island, Mr. Milne is obviously not aware of the many charities on the island Mr. Krebs personally and generously supports. He is also unlikely to be aware of Mr. Krebs' many contributions to less fortunate members of our community over the years. I find it disdainful for Mr. Milne to suggest Mr. Krebs is anything other than generous with both his time and resources.

6. The owners of Lot 23 Creekside have not, as Mr. Milne asserts "... used the coercion of property development as a penalty if the residents or The Land Conservancy of B.C. do not meet the demanded price." For Mr. Milne's information, the proposal to subdivide the property was well underway before anyone stepped forward to offer to purchase the property. The owners informally agreed, last July, to Maureen Moore's request to hold off doing any development until she could see if

there was interest within the community to purchase it. Since then the owners have gone out of their way in an effort to work with TLC, and have waited, patiently I might add, for six months, holding off the subdivision of the property. As far as the value of the property goes, the projected selling price of the property subdivided is worth substantially more than the agreed-upon price with TLC.

However, it now occurs to me that since Mr. Milne appears to be in favour of the preservation of Lot 23, then perhaps he would like to offer to give away or sell all or a portion of his 12-acre adjacent lot (Lot 22), which he's just purchased. I understand he purchased it primarily to build his rather large driveway (through the very same sensitive riparian area he purports to be concerned about, much to the alarm of his new neighbours) into his newly acquired waterfront property.

Or, perhaps, if that is suggesting too much, maybe he would just like to donate a public trail easement through his two Cusheon Creek area properties, which would help connect the proposed Creekside park to Peter Arnell Park, Deep Ridge Nature Reserve and potentially Ruckle Park, as I had proposed to do with my rezoning application last year (which, not so coincidentally, Mr. Milne opposed at the time).

7. Mr. Milne's assertion that the proposed development of Lot 10 on Park Drive will have negative "environmental repercussions" is based on either hearsay or an uneducated opinion, and I take extreme exception to his remarks. The plans for the development, which are only now being finalized, are for a

very environmentally friendly seniors housing project.

Yes, it's just great to waltz into a community and start slinging mud at the locals. But, let's all hope Mr. Milne's walk is better than his talk, because I'm sure our community could benefit greatly, based on his own implied philanthropic virtues. To that end, if he needs help getting a proposal together for TLC to purchase his property, he shouldn't hesitate to call me. I'd be happy to help. And, to perhaps make better use of his valuable time, if he needs the names of any local community organizations to get involved in, he should check out the Lions Directory.

I'd also like to suggest Mr. Milne get off to a new start by making a public apology for his false assertions, but, given his tone, I personally don't expect we'll see one.

The writer is the authorized agent for the owners of Creekside rainforest Lot 23 and Salt Spring Ventures Inc.



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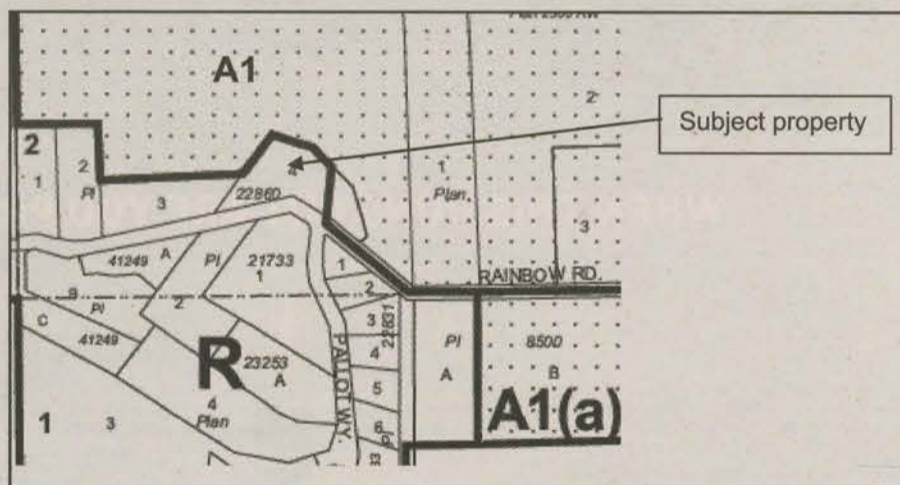
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NOTICE SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE TEMPORARY COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USE PERMIT SS-TUP-2007.2

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider a Resolution to issue a Temporary Commercial Use Permit pursuant to Section 921 of the Local Government Act for Lot 4, Section 2, Range 2 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan 22860 (440 Rainbow Road). The purpose of the Permit is to allow the operation of a Recycling Transfer Station on the subject property.

The location of the property subject to the proposed permit is shown on the following sketch:



The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider the proposed permit on February 7, 2008 at 1:00 PM, at ArtSpring, Jackson Avenue, Ganges. A copy of the proposed Permit and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee can be inspected at the Salt Spring Island office of the Islands Trust between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding Statutory Holidays, commencing 8:30 AM, Friday, January 18, 2008 and continuing up to and including 4:30 PM on Tuesday, February 5, 2008. Enquiries or written submissions concerning the proposed Permits may be directed to the Islands Trust at:

1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8
Tel: (250) 537-9144
Fax: (250) 537-9116
Planner Mark Brodrick at (250) 538-5602
Email: ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca

All applications are available for review by the public. Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review. However, those persons who choose to make written submissions by email prior to the time and date provided above ought to require confirmation of receipt of their email and, in any event, the risk that an email is not received lies with the sender.

Pauline Brazier, Deputy Secretary

Credit due

Recently I had the great good fortune to work with a group of volunteer students from Gulf Islands Secondary School on the Area Farm Plan dinner.

Along with Marcel, Nick and Milly from Hastings House and with dessert from Christine Godlonton, it was one of the best days I

have spent in a kitchen in a long time. The students who all volunteered to be there worked hard and produced a wonderful meal.

After putting in a long day they all kept up their good spirits and even with many dishes at the end they kept going and finished well. These young people deserve much credit for their hard

work and dedication in producing such a lovely evening.

Thanks also to Pat Reichert and the organizing committee for finding us such wonderful produce to work with and to all the farmers who provided the bounty we had to work with.

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

NEWSBEAT

Salt Spring's CRD tax portion up 10%

BY GARY HOLMAN
 CRD DIRECTOR

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Board has now received preliminary budget proposals.

After my amendments to PARC's requisition request, the current proposal for the Salt Spring Island CRD requisition increase is in the order of 10 per cent, compared to an average increase of about five per cent for the past two years.

Three major projects are driving this increase: construction of the Royal Jubilee patient tower (to which Salt Spring contributes through CRD's hospital facilities function), the new transportation service recently approved by counter-petition and the start-up of the new pool, approved by referendum in 2004. I will present a more detailed budget report prior to CRD Board approval at the end of March this year.

Emergency Response

The CREST Board has approved a plan to upgrade the emergency communications network within the CRD. These upgrades will significantly improve system performance throughout the region, including Salt Spring. While most of the improvements will be in place before the end of 2008, most of the additional capital and operating costs of the upgrades will not be incurred by taxpayers until 2009.

The counter-petition process to authorize minimal operating funding of up to \$15,000 per year (about \$2.40 per household) for Salt Spring's Search and Rescue

CRDREPORT

(SAR) group, ends on Jan. 31. SAR is an essential component of local emergency response and planning. The funding will be controlled by the CRD Emergency Planning Commission and will not be used for staffing, since SAR will continue to be a volunteer-run organization.

Pesticide Education

CRD is undertaking a region-wide education initiative aimed at reducing pesticide use. A survey has been completed indicating that 75 per cent of households would be willing to consider alternatives to pesticides, suggesting a strong role for education. The survey also provides some insight into factors influencing pesticide use. I am discussing with CRD staff and local stewardship groups how to implement the region-wide initiative on Salt Spring.

Septic Monitoring

Based on recommendations by Salt Spring Water Council (SSWC) and the Cusheon Lake and St. Mary Lake watershed plans, I have proposed the establishment of a septic monitoring program targeted at drinking watersheds and community well capture zones.

CRD staff have been researching options for such a program in the three electoral areas of CRD. For various reasons, this initiative has been delayed and it cannot be included in the 2008 CRD budget. I hope to obtain approval by residents this year for implementation in 2009.

Water

The SSWC, North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) and the Ganges Sewer Commission have agreed to contribute to an updated feasibility study of reclaimed water to be used for non-potable purposes, such as irrigation within the Ganges area.

CRD staff will be approaching other potential partners, but with funding from my administration budget and a planning grant from Ministry of Community Services, they are optimistic the study can be initiated and hopefully completed in 2008.

SSWC has been meeting regularly to share information and coordinate efforts to better protect water supplies and quality on the island. SSWC coordinator Murray Reiss has organized initial meetings of the St. Mary Lake watershed planning group comprised of Islands Trust, CRD, Salmon Enhancement Society, NSSWD and other stakeholder groups. A preliminary plan, based on some elements of the now completed Cusheon Lake plan, is being drafted. SSWC has also been working with the Ministry of Environment on a groundwater quality monitoring study to better document issues such as arsenic contamination, the results of which will be made available later this year. SSWC is also developing a groundwater quantity monitoring program involving local water districts and other property owners.

Transportation Commission

With the successful launching of the island's new pub-

lic transit service, Salt Spring Community Transit and Transportation Commission members will be turning their attention to other aspects of their mandate, particularly cycling and pedestrian infrastructure in and around our villages. The first priority for the commission will be the Island Pathways project from Wildwood Crescent to Blain Road, planned for completion by late spring of this year. Because of Island Pathways' successful fundraising and federal gas tax transfers, this project will be built at virtually no cost to local taxpayers. The commission will also be taking first steps to implement the North Ganges Transportation Plan.

Governance

I have been meeting regularly with Salt Spring trustees regarding a range of issues of common concern to the CRD and Islands Trust.

We will be developing more formal arrangements for a permanent committee, and have agreed that participation in this committee should be a mandatory requirement for the CRD director and trustees. We will also be developing a strategic plan for SSI, including OCP and related LUB implementation, as well as joint initiatives ranging from drinking water, affordable housing, solid and liquid waste treatment, to shared office space.

The permanent committee arrangements and a draft strategic plan will be completed for public review before the end of 2008.

Please contact me with any comments or questions on CRD issues at directors-si@crd.bc.ca or 653-2042.

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Use surge protectors for electronics and pull the plug on everything else. Be extremely careful if you're using candles, as they can be a fire hazard. Finally, keep a list of local emergency contact numbers and be sure to include 1-888 POWERON (1-888-769-3766) for reporting an outage.

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Starchoice	308	702	354	400	358		336	321		389	359		382	380	379	383	390	381	543	419

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 30

5 PM	:00	The Simpsons	Pieds dans la marge (N)	Timothy/(10) Mama M.	(4:00) NHL Hockey - Pittsburgh vs. Atlanta (Live)	CHEK News	Growing Pains	Early News	CTV News	Punjab Times	A Channel News at 5	The Ellen Degeneres Show (N)	My Wife and Kids	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	All Grown Up	(4:30) Poker After Dark
	:30	Arrested Development	L'Union fait la force (N)	(35) Babar The Gift			Happy Days	Global National		Phoenix World News			My Wife and Kids	The Simpsons	ABC World News				CBS Evening News	Sabrina Teen Witch	Pratt & Taylor
6	:00	News	Le Téléjournal	Kratts' Creatures		News	The Simpsons	News	News		CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Drake & Josh	Fresh Prince of Bel Air	Sportsnet Connected
	:30			Popular Mechanics	NHL Hockey - San Jose vs. Calgary (Live)		King of the Hill			CTI News	Vancouver Report	CityNews International	That '70s Show	Family Guy		KING 5 News					
7	:00	Coronation Street	Virginie (N)	Meerkat Manor		EI News	According to Jim	Entertainment Tonight	Etalk (N)	Hong Kong Express	Degrassi: Next Gen.	Wheel of Fortune	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune	Evening Magazine	Rick Steves' Europe	Human Voltage: Struck by Lightning	Entertainment Tonight	Malcolm in the Middle	Poker Red Rock Championship Series
	:30	Marketplace In Denial (N)	L'Épicerie	Sustainable Region (N)		The Insider	The Simpsons	Ent. Tonight Canada	Access Hollywood	Pure in Heart	Friends	Jeopardy	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Jeopardy	Inside Edition	Oregon Field Guide		The Insider	Prank Patrol Double Date	
8	:00	Little Mosque (N)	Le match des étoiles	Time Lifetime (N)		Deal or No Deal (N)	Coach	Power of 10	American Idol (N)	Vancouver Nights	Wife Swap McDonald/Robarge	Blood Ties Bad Juju	Crowned And the Tira Goes To... (SF) (N)	American Idol (N)	Wife Swap McDonald/Robarge (N)	Deal or No Deal (N)	America's Ballroom Challenge (SP) (N)	CBC News: The National	Old Christine Friends	Fries With That?	Poker European Tour
	:30	Sophie (N)	Quart de finale																Old Christine Frasier	Monster Warriors	
9	:00	the fifth estate	Une heure sur terre	RX for Survival	SportsCentre (Live)	S. Dogg's Father Hood	The Standard	Kitchen Nightmares	The Moment of Truth (N)	Sabor Latino	Lost Through the Looking Glass	"Serenity" ★★ (Sci-Fi, '05) Nathan Fillion.	Gossip Girl: The Wild Bunch	The Moment of Truth (N)	Lost Through the Looking Glass	Law & Order: Criminal Intent Senseless (N)	Eden at the End of the World (N)	CBC News: The National	Criminal Minds Children of the Dark	Futurama	Best Damn Sports Show Period
	:30				NFL Films Presents	Kimora: The Fab Lane	Ustat													Shadow Raiders	
10	:00	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	Eyewitness to War	AVP Beach Volleyball - Men's	Cashmere Mafia	Cold Case	Numb3rs Velocity	Law & Order Political Animal (N)	Hola Que Tal			Seinfeld The Stall	Q-13 Fox News at Ten		Law & Order Political Animal (N)	Oprah's Roots	Human Voltage: Struck by Lightning	CSI: NY Can You Hear Me Now?	Falcon Beach Strawberry Social Reject	Sportsnet Connected
	:30												Seinfeld The Finale								
11	:00	(05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal	Gordon Pinsent	SportsCentre (Live)	News	It's a New Day	News	News	TV Patrol	News		Frasier Shrink Wrap	Family Guy Holy Craps	News	News	BBC World News	CBC News: The National	News	Mystery Hunters	Sportsnet Connected
	:30												Frasier Radio Wars	King of the Hill	(35) News Nightline	(35) The Tonight	Nightly Business		(35) The Late Show	Ghost Trackers	
12 MID	:00	(05) Arrested	La zone	Masterworks Fixing the Shadows	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	International Laser Clinic	(05) Ent. Tonight	(05) The Daily Show	Jai Fiji	Show With Jay Leno	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	Show With Jay Leno	Tavis Smiley	The Hour	With David Letterman	Futurama	Pratt & Taylor
	:30	(35) Hour 22 Mins	(45) Fosse aux lions		Equestrian	(35) Late, Late Show	PR Maxx	(35) E.T. Canada	(35) Colbert Report	Caribbean Beat	(35) Conan O'Brien		South Park	M*A*S*H		(35) Conan O'Brien	Gourmet's Diary		(35) Late, Late Show	Malcolm in the Middle	

THURSDAY JANUARY 31

5 PM	:00	The Simpsons	Pieds dans la marge	Timothy/(10) Mama M.	Boxing - Trinidad vs. Jones Jr.	CHEK News	Growing Pains	Early News	CTV News	Punjab Times	A Channel News at 5	The Ellen Degeneres Show (N)	My Wife and Kids	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	All Grown Up	(4:30) NHL Hockey - Vancouver vs. Tampa Bay (Live)
	:30	Arrested Development	L'Union fait la force (N)	(35) Babar School Days			Happy Days	Global National		Phoenix World News			My Wife and Kids	The Simpsons	ABC World News				CBS Evening News	Sabrina Teen Witch	
6	:00	News	Le Téléjournal	Mentors/(-20) Tommy Reach for the Top		News	The Simpsons	News	News		CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Drake & Josh	Fresh Prince of Bel Air	Sportsnet Connected
	:30						King of the Hill			CTI News	Vancouver Report	CityNews International	That '70s Show	Family Guy Peterotica		KING 5 News					
7	:00	Coronation Street	Virginie (N)	Profiles of Nature	SportsCentre (Live)	EI News	According to Jim	Entertainment Tonight	Etalk (N)	Hong Kong Express	Degrassi: Next Gen.	Wheel of Fortune	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune	Evening Magazine	Rick Steves' Europe	The Nature of Things	Entertainment Tonight	Malcolm in the Middle	Sportsnet Connected
	:30	Who Do You Think (N)	Infoman	Purrrfect Predators		The Insider	The Simpsons	Ent. Tonight Canada	Access Hollywood	Pure in Heart	Friends	Jeopardy	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Jeopardy	Inside Edition	Ask This Old House		The Insider	Prank Patrol	NHL Hockey - Vancouver vs. Tampa Bay
8	:00	The Nature of Things (N)	Tous pour un Les plaisirs de la table	Arctic Mission Washed Away	Off the Record	Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader? (N)	Coach	My Name Is Earl	Lost: Past, Present, Future (N)	What's in Vancouver?	30 Rock	Friends	Smallville Persona (N)	Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader? (N)	My Name Is Earl	Nature Parrots in the Land of Oz	CBC News: The National	CSI: NY Some Buried Bones	Fries With That?	Monster Warriors	Sportsnet Connected
	:30							The Office [Part 2 of 2]		Main Office	Scrubs	Friends			The Office [Part 2 of 2]						
9	:00	Doc Zone Battle of the Bag (N)	Enquête	Voyages of Discovery The Figure of the Earth (N)	Motoring 2008 NFL Films Presents	"Obituary" ★ (Thril, '06) Josie Bissett.	The Standard Messages	Celebrity Apprentice (N)	Lost The Beginning of the End (SP) (N)	Teri Meri Duniya Sadabahr Nagmae	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Supernatural Maleus Maleficarum (N)	Supernatural Maleus Maleficarum (N)	Don't Forget the Lyrics	Lost The Beginning of the End (SP) (N)	Celebrity Apprentice (N)	Nova Secrets of the Parthenon	CBC News: The National	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Cockroaches	Futurama	Sportsnet Connected
	:30																				
10	:00	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	Glories of Islamic Art (N)	Poker	Cold Case			Eli Stone Pilot (P) (N)	Mor Deo Koi	The Collector	Across the River Walk Like a Man	Seinfeld The Pie	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	Eli Stone Pilot (P) (N)	Frontline Return of the Taliban	The Nature of Things	Without a Trace Run	Falcon Beach The Spins	Sportsnet Connected	
	:30									Desi Rhythms			Seinfeld The Finale								
11	:00	(05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal	No Price Too High Liberation: 1944	SportsCentre (Live)	News	It's a New Day	News	News	TV Patrol	News	Realty Television	Frasier	Family Guy	News	News	BBC World News	CBC News: The National	News	Mystery Hunters	Sportsnet Connected
	:30												Frasier	King of the Hill	(35) News Nightline	(35) The Tonight	Nightly Business		(35) David Letterman	Ghost Trackers	
12 MID	:00	(05) Arrested	La zone	National Geographic Into the Great Pyramid	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Full House	(05) Ent. Tonight	(05) The Daily Show	Punjabi Vibes	Show With Jay Leno	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park Awesom-o	RENO 911! Jet Ski Blues	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	Show With Jay Leno	Tavis Smiley	The Hour	(N)	Futurama	Pratt & Taylor
	:30	(35) Can. Reflections	(45) Fosse aux lions		Hockey	(35) Late, Late Show	PR Maxx	(35) E.T. Canada	(35) Colbert Report	Desi Rhythms	(35) Conan O'Brien		South Park	M*A*S*H		(35) Conan O'Brien	Mexico: One Plate		(35) Late, Late Show	Malcolm in the Middle	

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 1

5 PM	:00	The Simpsons	Match!	Timothy/(10) Mama M.	(4:30) NHL Hockey - Colorado vs. Detroit (Live)	CHEK News	Growing Pains	Early News	CTV News	Punjab Times	A Channel News at 5	The Ellen Degeneres Show (N)	My Wife and Kids	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	All Grown Up	(4:30) Poker After Dark
	:30	Arrested Development	L'Union fait la force (N)	(35) Babar			Happy Days	Global National		Phoenix World News			My Wife and Kids	The Simpsons	ABC World News				CBS Evening News	Sabrina Teen Witch	Pratt & Taylor
6	:00	News	Le Téléjournal	Fetch! With Ruff Ruffman		News	The Simpsons	News	News		CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	(05) Prank Patrol	Endurance	Sportsnet Connected
	:30			Kratts' Creatures			King of the Hill			CTI News	Vancouver Report	CityNews International	That '70s Show	Family Guy		KING 5 News					
7	:00	Coronation Street	Du coeur au ventre	Emily of New Moon Paradise Lost	SportsCentre (Live)	EI News	According to Jim	Entertainment Tonight	Etalk (N)	Hong Kong Express	Degrassi: Next Gen.	Wheel of Fortune	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune	Evening Magazine	Rick Steves' Europe	the fifth estate	Entertainment Tonight	Ghost Trackers	NBA XL
	:30	This Hour 22 Minutes				The Insider	The Simpsons	Ent. Tonight Canada	Access Hollywood	Pure in Heart	Friends	Jeopardy	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Jeopardy	Inside Edition	KCTS Connects		The Insider	Adrenaline Project	NBA Basketball - Charlotte vs. Golden State (Live)
8	:00	Air Force Live	Paquet voleur	Longitude (N) [Part 1 of 2]	1 vs. 100 (N)	Sikh Virsa	Bones The Man on Death Row	Ghost Whisperer Haunted Hero	Weekly News Forum	"Cheaper by the Dozen"	Friends	Friday Night Smackdown (N)	Bones The Man on Death Row	Grey's Anatomy The Heart of the Matter	1 vs. 100 (N)	NOW	CBC News: The National	Ghost Whisperer Haunted Hero	Naruto	Avatar	Sportsnet Connected
	:30	Rick Mercer Report													Washington Week						
9	:00	MVP Two For Interference (N)	L'heure de gloire	Boxing Meza Clay vs. Aiken	True Hollywood Story Donald Trump	The Standard 3D Dialogue	Friday Night Lights Leave No One Behind (N)	"Sticks and Stones" (Doc/Dra, '07) David Sutcliffe.	Here Comes Aajuma	"Johnson Family Vacation" ★ (Com, '04)	House All In	Housewives if There's Anything I Can't Stand	Friday Night Lights Leave No One Behind (N)	Bill Moyers' Journal	CBC News: The National	Moonlight Fever	Futurama				
	:30																				
10	:00	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	Masterworks Documents for Artists	20/20	Cold Case	Las Vegas 2 on 2 (N)		Open Concert	Jeff Ltd.	Cedric the Entertainer.	Seinfeld The Stand-In	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	20/20	Las Vegas 2 on 2 (N)	"The Ghost and Mrs. Muir" ★★ ★★ (Rom, '47) Natalie Wood.	the fifth estate	Numb3rs Velocity	Death Note	Sportsnet Connected	
	:30									Grand Star		Seinfeld The Truth									
11	:00	(05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal	Perspectives Cracking Up	SportsCentre	News	It's a New Day	News	News	TV Patrol	News	Reviews on the Run	Frasier	Family Guy	News	News	BBC World News	CBC News: The National	News	Shadow Raiders	Sportsnet Connected
	:30												Frasier	King of the Hill	(35) News Nightline	(35) The Tonight	Nightly Business		(35) David Letterman	Storm Hawks Velocity	
12 MID	:00	(05) Arrested	La zone	Perspectives OGD: The War Inside	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Full House	(05) ECW Wrestling	(05) CSI: Miami Big Brother	Vancouver Masala	Show With Jay Leno	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park	RENO 911! Rick's on It	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	Show With Jay Leno	Tavis Smiley	The Hour	(N)	Futurama	Pratt & Taylor
	:30	(35) Kenny vs. Spenny	(45) Fosse aux lions		Equestrian	(35) Late, Late Show	Kingstar			Music Bank	(35) Conan O'Brien		South Park	M*A*S*H		(35) Conan O'Brien	Burt Wolf: Travels		(35) Late, Late Show	Invader Zim	

STATION	CBC-CBUT	SRC-CBUFT	Knowledge	TSN	CH Victoria	OMNI BC	Global BC	CTV BC	Channel M	A-Channel	Citytv	CW-KSTW	FOX-KCQP	ABC-KOMO	NBC-KING	PBS-KCTS	NewsWorld	CBS-KIRO	YTV	Sportsnet
Shaw	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	13	14	15	16	18	19	20	21	22	23
ExpressVu	257	120	268	400	255		251	250	254	256	253		290	288	287	291	502	289	552	407
Starchoice	308	702	354	400	358		336	321		389	359		382	380	379	383	390	381	543	419

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 2

5 PM	(4:00) NHL Hockey - Ottawa vs. Toronto (Live)	400 fois Québec 5 sur 5	Miss BG/(15) Dive, Oily	Boxing Meza-Clay vs. Aiken	CHEK News	Growing Pains	Family Guy	First Story	(4:30) Swiat Polskiej	Star Trek: Voyager Basics	Relic Hunter Under the Ice	MGM Presents	Everybody Loves Ray	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Amer. Test Kitchen	Antiques Roadshow Australia Special	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Yu-gi-oh"	Billiards World Pool Championship
6 PM		Le Téléjournal	Meerkat Manor	Into the Wild	News	Eagle Com Time Sale	News	News	Xin Tan Ren	Bravo/Fact Presents	Speaker's Corner	That '70s Show	Friends	ABC World News	News	Lawrence Welk Show	Saturday Report	News	Prank Patrol Car Wash	
7 PM	NHL Hockey - Dallas vs. Calgary (Live)	3600 secondes d'extase	National Geographic	SportsCentre (Live)	The Next Great Chef (N)	Diya	Global Currents	Sinner in Paradise (N)	Entrepreneurial Leader	The New Canoe	Stargate Atlantis Misbegotten	CSI: Miami Extreme	Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune	NW Backroads	Rosemary and Thyme The Italian Rapscallion	Doc Zone Battle of the Bag	Entertainment This Week	Mystery Hunters	Poker European Tour
8 PM		Le moment de vérité	Heartbeat No Laughing Matter	PGA Golf FBR Open - Third Round	"War of the Worlds" ★★ (Act, '05) Tom Cruise.	Islam 101	Mutant X Divided Loyalties	Whistler Blindside	Phoenix Gathering Satrang	Kool Countdown	The Murdoch Mysteries The Glass Ceiling	The King of Queens	Cops Wild Chases (N)	"War of the Worlds" ★★ (Act, '05) Tom Cruise.	Law & Order: Criminal Intent Seeds	Antiques Roadshow As Time Goes By	Saturday Report	Ghost Whisperer	Smallville	UFC Fight Night
9 PM		Dre Grey, Leçons Disparitions (N)	Midsomer Murders Painted in Blood			Sikh Virsa	Painkiller Jane Thanks for the Memories	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Paternity	Vanna Malargal	"The Fraternity" ★★ (Thrill, '01) Robin Dunne.	"Marine Life" ★★ (Dra, '01) Cybill Shephard.	Frasier	America Most Wanted	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Paternity	Here He Is... The Only Groucho	Saturday Report	48 Hours Mystery Flood of Blame (N)	Falcon Beach Local Heroes		
10 PM	Hockey: After Hours (Live)	Le Téléjournal	Zone doc Chroniques afghanes (N)	Canterbury Tales The Wife of Bath	SportsCentre (Live)	True Hollywood Story	Mad TV	News	Bubble Gang	Star! at the Movies	Role That Changed	Cold Case Revenge	Mad TV (N)	News	News	Austin City Limits	Saturday Report	News	Ghost Trackers	Poker FulltiltPoker.net
11 PM	Hockey Night in Canada: Replay	(45) "France boutique"	Life Begins Maggie, Brenda and Eric	NFL Films Presents Hockey	Spike Feresten (N)	Full House	Jack Van Impe	(05) Pageant (35) Diary Enrique	"Hum" (Dra, '91) Amitabh Bachchan.	Professional Poker Tour	Cold Case Files	Spike Feresten (N)	Chappelle's Show	(35) Girls B. Badly	Saturday Night Live	Globe Trekker Eastern Caribbean	the fifth estate	(05) Paid Program (35) Paid Program	Futurama	Ultimate Fighter

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 3

5 PM	Chicken Little ★★	Oniva	Miss BG/(15) Dive, Oily	Poker Premier League	CHEK News	Growing Pains	Family Guy	(3:00) NFL Football Super Bowl XLII - N.Y. Giants vs. New England	Spazio Libero	Star Trek: Voyager Flashback (P)	(4:00) World Poker Tour Chapter II	Girlfriends	(3:00) NFL Football Super Bowl XLII - N.Y. Giants vs. New England	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	(4:00) M. Theatre The Reclaimers	The Oil Curse	KIRO 7 News	(4:00) "Catch That Kid" ★ (Adv, '04)	(4:00) Billiards World Pool Championship
6 PM		Le Téléjournal	Emily of New Moon	Paradise Lost	News	According to Jim	News	NFL Post-Game Show	"Hum" (Dra, '91) Amitabh Bachchan.	Relic Hunter Treasure Island	Speaker's Corner	One Tree Hill I Forgot To Remember To Forget	News	News	News	Oregon Field Guide	CBC News: Sunday Night	News	"The Adventures of Sharkboy and Lavagirl"	Darts World Premier League
7 PM	Heartland Born to Run (N)	Laffaque	National Geographic	SportsCentre (Live)	The Biggest Loser	Voices of Hinduism Vitality	House Frozen (N)	(15) Nip/Tuck (SP) (N)	America's Funniest Home Videos	"Head Over Heels" ★★ (Com, '00) Freddie Prinze Jr.	CW Now	Aliens Rocket Club	(15) House Frozen (N)	Ext. Makeover: Home Byers Family	The Biggest Loser	Antiques Roadshow Orlando (Hour One)	Enron: Smartest Guys in the Room	CBS Reports (N)	★ (Act, '05) Taylor Lautner.	
8 PM	Monarchy: The Royal Family At Work The State Visit (N) [Part 1 of 3]	Tout le monde en parle	Doc Martin Sh-Happens	NFL PrimeTime		Sikh Virsa	"Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous" ★ (Com, '05) Sandra Bullock	To Be Announced	"AntiStupid" (Thrill, '06)	To Be Announced	"Notting Hill" ★★ (Rom, '99) Hugh Grant	Crowned And the Tiara Goes To...	Family Guy	"Meet the Fockers" ★★ (Com, '04) Robert De Niro.	The Biggest Loser	Masterpiece Theatre The Complete Jane Austen: Miss Austen Regrets (N)	CBC News: Sunday Night	Shark Eye of the Beholder	Falcon Beach The Blame Game	Ultimate Fighter
9 PM		Le Téléjournal	Life Begins Maggie, Kathleen and Sam	PGA Golf FBR Open - Final Round	The Biggest Loser	Sufi	Fabulous" ★ (Com, '05) Sandra Bullock	To Be Announced	"AntiStupid" (Thrill, '06)	To Be Announced	"Notting Hill" ★★ (Rom, '99) Hugh Grant	Crowned And the Tiara Goes To...	Family Guy	"Meet the Fockers" ★★ (Com, '04) Robert De Niro.	The Biggest Loser	Masterpiece Theatre The Complete Jane Austen: Miss Austen Regrets (N)	CBC News: Sunday Night	Shark Eye of the Beholder	Falcon Beach The Blame Game	Ultimate Fighter
10 PM	CBC News: Sunday Night	(15) Le Téléjournal	Canterbury Tales The Knight's Tale		Leprosy Mission	American Dad	Nip/Tuck (SP) (N)	The Simpsons	Stargate: SG-1 [Part 2 of 2]	Seinfeld The Wife	Q13 FOX News	(35) Q It Up Sports	De Niro.	The Biggest Loser	Masterpiece Theatre The Complete Jane Austen: Miss Austen Regrets (N)	CBC News: Sunday Night	Shark Eye of the Beholder	Falcon Beach The Blame Game	Ultimate Fighter	
11 PM	CBC News: Vancouver the fifth estate	On fait tous du business	The Leading Edge Undersea Explorer	SportsCentre (N)	News	It's a New Day	News	News	I-Watch News	Idea City	Without a Trace	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Parasites	(35) Ebert & Roeper	(45) Upront	The Clinton 12	News	Mystery Hunters	Sportsnet Connected		
12 MID	Canadian Reflections	Arctic Mission	TSN Reporters	IHF Hockey	Wild On	Kingstar	(05) Popoff Ministry (35) Jack Van Impe	(05) CSI: Miami Bait	"AntiStupid" (Thrill, '06)	"Tycus" ★ (Sci-Fi, '99) Todd Allen.	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy	Without a Trace	24 Day 5: 1:00 AM - 2:00 AM	(05) Da Vinci's Inquest (45) Kevin Gerald	In the Life	The Oil Curse	Hutch Awards	Futurama	UFC Fight Night

MONDAY FEBRUARY 4

5 PM	The Simpsons	Kif-kif	Timothy:(10) Mama M.	(4:00) NHL Hockey - Pittsburgh vs. New Jersey (Live)	CHEK News	Growing Pains	Early News	CTV News at Five	Punjab Times	A-Channel News	The Ellen Degeneres Show	My Wife and Kids	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	The Hour	KIRO 7 News	Naked Brothers	(4:30) Poker After Dark
6 PM	Arrested Amigos	L'Union fait la force (N)	(35) Babar		News	The Simpsons	News	News	Phoenix World News		CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Just Jordan Mister 500	Pratt & Taylor
7 PM	Coronation Street	Virginie (N)	The Leading Edge (N)	SportsCentre (N)	El News	According to Jim	Entertainment Tonight	Etalk (N)	Hong Kong Express	Degrassi: Next Gen.	Wheel of Fortune	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune	Evening Magazine	Rick Steves' Europe	Passionate Eye A Year in the Life of J.K. Rowling	Entertainment Tonight	Malcolm in the Middle	NBA Basketball - Denver vs. Portland (Live)
8 PM	Countdown to Beijing	Rumeurs	Historylands Union Station		The Insider	The Simpsons	Ent. Tonight Canada	Degrassi: Next (N)	Pure in Heart	Friends	Jeopardy	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Jeopardy	Inside Edition	Antiques Roadshow (N) [Part 2 of 3]	CBC News: The National	How I Met Your Mother	Fries With That?	Adrenaline Project
9 PM	The Week the Women Went Carpe Diem (N)	L'Auberge du chien noir Je pars et je reviens (N)	SPAM: The Documentary	Off the Record	10 Items or Less (N)	Coach	Prison Break Under & Out (N)	Corner Gas	Founding Emperor of the Ming Dynasty	To Be Announced	American Gladiators (N)	Gossip Girl The Wild Bunch	Prison Break Under & Out (N)	Dance War: Bruno vs. Carrie Ann (N)	American Gladiators (N)	CBC News: The National	How I Met Your Mother	The Captain Pilot (P)	Fries With That?	Adrenaline Project
10 PM	The Border Compromising Positions (N)	Les Boys (N)	Perspectives (N)	Poker Premier League	Deal or No Deal	The Standard	"The Fantastic Four" ★★ (Adv, '05) Jessica Alba.	Terminator Heavy Metal (N)	I Luv New York	To Be Announced	Girlfriends (N)	Terminator Heavy Metal (N)	Notes Underbelly	Deal or No Deal	American Experience Grand Central (N)	CBC News: The National	Two and a Half Men	Old Christine (SP) (N)	Shadow Raiders	NBA XL
11 PM	CBC News: The National	Le Téléjournal	Journey to Little Rock	Paradise Hotel (N)	Cold Case Resolutions	CSI: Miami Bang, Bang, Your Debt	GMA Telesine	October Road We Lived Like Giants (N)	October Road We Lived Like Giants (N)	Friends	Seinfeld	Q13 FOX News	October Road We Lived Like Giants (N)	Prince Among Slaves (N)	Passionate Eye A Year in the Life of J.K. Rowling	CBC News: The National	News	CSI: Miami Bang, Bang, Your Debt	Falcon Beach Tidal	Sportsnet Connected (Live)
12 MID	(05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal	Profiles of Nature Purrfect Predators	SportsCentre (N)	News	It's a New Day	News	News	TV Patrol	News	Reviews on the Run	Frasier	Family Guy Death is a...	News	BBC World News	CBC News: The National	News	Mystery Hunters	Sportsnet Connected	
	(05) Arrested	La zone	Time Lifetime	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Laser Clinic	International	(05) Ent. Tonight	(05) The Daily Show	Kurd TV	Show With Jay Leno	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	The Hour	Tavis Smiley	The Hour	With David Letterman	Futurama	Pratt & Taylor
	(35) Rick Mercer	(45) Fosse aux lions	Can. Sportfishing	(35) Late, Late Show	PR Maxx	(35) E.T. Canada	(35) Colbert Report	Wiadomosci	(35) Conan O'Brien	(35) Conan O'Brien	South Park	M*A*S*H	(35) Conan O'Brien	Travels to	(35) Conan O'Brien	Travels to	(35) Late, Late Show	Malcolm in the Middle		

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 5

5 PM	The Simpsons	Kif-kif (N)	Timothy:(10) Mama M.	Poker Premier League	CHEK News	Growing Pains	Early News	CTV News at Five	Punjab Times	A-Channel News	The Ellen Degeneres Show	My Wife and Kids	Malcolm in the Middle	KOMO 4 News	KING 5 News	Charlie Rose	NewsWorld Special Super Tuesday	KIRO 7 News	All Grown Up	Pratt & Taylor
6 PM	Arrested Good Grief	L'Union fait la force (N)	(35) Babar		News	The Simpsons	News	News	Phoenix World News		CityCooks	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	News	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Sabrina Teen Witch	NHL Hockey - Vancouver vs. Dallas (Live)
7 PM	Coronation Street	Virginie (N)	World of Gardens	SportsCentre (N)	El News	According to Jim	Entertainment Tonight	Etalk (N)	Hong Kong Express	Degrassi: Next Gen.	Wheel of Fortune	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Wheel of Fortune	Super Tuesday Special	Super Tuesday: Primaries/Special Report (N)	CBC News: The National	Entertainment Tonight	Malcolm in the Middle	Prank Patrol The Mummy
8 PM	Just for Laughs (N)	La Fature	Recreating Eden		The Insider	The Simpsons	Ent. Tonight Canada	Access Hollywood	Pure in Heart	Friends	Jeopardy	The King of Queens	Two and a Half Men	Jeopardy	Super Tuesday: Primaries/Special Report (N)	CBC News: The National	NCIS Chimera	Fries With That?	Monster Warriors	Canucks TV
9 PM	Rick Mercer Report	Providence	Beethoven Love and Loss	In This Corner (N)	The Biggest Loser (N)	Coach	NCIS Chimera	American Idol (N)	II Caffe	"Primary Colors" ★★ (Dra, '98) John Travolta.	Reaper What About Blob	Reaper What About Blob	American Idol (N)	ABC News: Super Tuesday: Showdown (N)	The Biggest Loser (N)	CBC News: The National	NCIS Chimera	Fries With That?	Monster Warriors	Canucks TV
10 PM	iPPD Crappy Birthday To You (N)	Les Lavigueres Le cinéma (N)	Oscar Peterson: Keeping the Groove Alive	Boxing HBO After Dark - Chambers vs. Povetkin	The Biggest Loser	The Standard	House Don't Ever Change (N)	Women in Cold	The Guard Coming Through the Fog (N)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Schauplatz Europa	Seinfeld	Q-13 Fox News at Ten	Super Tuesday: Special (Live)	An Evening with Quincy Jones	A Perfect Fake	Super Tuesday: Prim. (Live)	Falcon Beach Turn Card	Sportsnet Connected (Live)	
11 PM	(05) The Hour	Le Téléjournal	Growing Up Canadian School	SportsCentre (N)	News	It's a New Day	News	News	TV Patrol	News	Reviews on the Run	Frasier	Family Guy	News	News	CBC News: The National	News	Mystery Hunters	Sportsnet Connected	
12 MID	(05) Arrested	La zone	Glories of Islamic Art	Off the Record	(05) Chelsea Lately (N)	Full House	(05) Ent. Tonight	(05) The Daily Show	Aina-e-Afghan	Show With Jay Leno	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	South Park	RENO 911!	(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	The Hour	Tavis Smiley	The Hour	With David Letterman	Futurama	Pratt & Taylor
	(35) Red	(45) Fosse	Billiards	(35) Late, Late Show	PR Maxx	(35) E.T. Canada	(35) Colbert Report	Pass Da Mic	(35) Conan O'Brien	(35) Conan O'Brien	South Park	M*A*S*H	(35) Conan O'Brien	Travels to	(35) Conan O'Brien	Travels to	(35) Late, Late Show	Malcolm in the Middle		

People & Community



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

NEW LOOK: Enjoying the newly-renovated space at the Lady Minto Thrift Shop is customer Melba Sutcliffe and volunteers, from left, Mary Neil, Jean Williams, Joan Buckley and Shelagh Tulloch.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Rats worthy of top spot in Chinese zodiac cycle

Islander provides annual horoscope

BY LING WESTON
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

The Year of the Rat starts on Feb. 7, 2008. Kung hey fat choy!

It's a year for the rat race! Just think of the elections in the U.S.A., which have already started, and the Olympic Games due to start on Aug. 8, 2008 in Beijing.

And how did the rat get to the top, starting the 12-year zodiac cycle of the Chinese horoscope zodiac calendar?

The legend says that the Jade Emperor who rules the Eastern Skies decreed that all animals assemble by a holy river to hold a swim marathon to decide which animal should have the honour to start the zodiac cycle.

The scheming rat was anxious to compete, wanting to team up with his best friend the cat. The cat at first was not too keen on joining the game. As we all know, cats hate getting wet and are also poor swimmers. However, the persuasive rat assured the cat that he had enlisted the good-natured water buffalo to give them a ride on its back to cross the river without wetting a single hair or whisker! The comfort-loving cat then thought, "Well, why not?" So the two signed up for the race.

The day for the game arrived and the Jade Emperor in the heavens blew the whistle and started the race. All animals, homo sapiens or mythical, big or small, jumped into the river to swim to the opposite bank, cheered on by the multitudes of others on shore. The water buffalo is an excellent swimmer and loves the water too, so exerted little energy to swim across, even bearing the rat and the cat on its back.

However, just a fraction of a second before the water buffalo set foot on the shore, the rat was struck by a winning streak and gave his best friend the cat a hard push so the cat fell into the river. In a flash, the rat hopped onto the buffalo's head and then stepped on shore before the buffalo!

Seeing this, the Jade Emperor, with a clap of thunder and a flash of lightning, declared the rat the winner of the zodiac cycle, followed by the ox (water buffalo), tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster,



dog, and ending in the pig.

The poor cat finally swam the last few laps to shore all wet and shivering with cold, and spotted the rat grinning from ear to ear, holding out his trophy of heading the zodiac cycle. He realized he had missed out altogether, not even coming last (the pig did!), and worst of all, he had been betrayed by his best friend the rat! So the cat, steaming with fury, went straight after the rat... thus starting the new game of the cats always chasing the rats and keeping the rats in check!

Rats are all born clever, intelligent, but very sensitive in nature so quick in temper. They are blessed with great personal appeal. They are ambitious. But they also have perseverance in any task they undertake, always finishing the jobs they set out to do. However, rats are also very opportunistic and cunning by nature, which is not always a bad thing. They make great entrepreneurs. Rats are good providers and loving to their family.

Babies born between Feb. 7, 2008 and Jan. 25, 2009 are Earth Rats. Out of the five types of rats (the other four are metal, wood, water and fire) the Earth Rats are endowed with the earthy traits of being more practical and wise.

They love to give advice and counsel to others and they make caring partners and supportive friends (with cats?). They also love to be esteemed and get praise and recognition for their work. But don't we all? So nurture those little Earth Rats when they arrive in your family (or if you already have them).

Rats are born lucky. They have the tendency to attract good luck and bring good luck around them. Think of all these famous rats: Sir Winston Churchill, Shakespeare, Mozart and Lucretia Borgia all reached great heights in their lives. So I have great expectations for my grandson, who is a Fire Rat!

HOT TUB SERVICE

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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

SEE PAGE B6

The Living Word

John 1: 1 & 2

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.

WINSOME WHITE
Please Read: John 1: 10-14
Isiah 49:6



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FARMERS' MARKET

MASTER GARDENER HELP DESK

DOOR PRIZES

10:45 - 11:45

HONEY BEES

with Sharon Sullivan

Noon - 1:00

THE NEW VICTORY GARDEN:

Growing Food for our Future

with Carolyn Herriot

1:15-2:15

CONTAINER GARDENING

with Marsha Goldberg

3:30 - 4:30

SEED SANCTUARY

AGM

Salt Spring Island Farmers Institute

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Info and Registration Ben Luna 538-0115

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PEOPLE & COMMUNITY

EDUCATION

Grants keep island school kids on stewardship path

SSI Conservancy field days return in 2008

Seven grades of local school children will once again be able to participate in the Salt Spring Island Conservancy's Stewards in Training program, thanks to three grants received this year.

"A grant from the B.C. Gaming Commission (Direct Access Program Grant) and a grant from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation will ensure that free field trips

encouraging stewardship of the land will be offered in 2008," states a recent press release. A third grant from Mountain Equipment Co-op will cover costs associated with creating a manual for the program, developed over the past four years.

Last year, the conservancy provided field trips to students from Grades 2 to 8, with 560 of them receiving full-day experiences.

"A field day means hands-on activities, such as water testing, invertebrate studies, compass use, journaling and First Nations

plant technology. This program has been a community effort from the get-go. Last year 46 islanders assisted, each offering to the students their unique expertise."

This year the conservancy will offer programs from March until June for Grades 2/3, 6/7 and 8 classes. The Grade 8s will study marine and freshwater ecosystems, the Grade 2/3s will study wetlands and the Grade 6/7s will learn about Garry Oak ecosystems in the Andreas Vogt Nature Reserve.

The program is continually recruiting new

and returning volunteers to aid in the implementation of the field trips. The conservancy provides a training session for volunteers, then allows them to decide if they would like to shepherd a small group of students around to the field activities, or to teach a specific station activity. Volunteers typically spend one or more days in the field program.

For those interested in supporting any of these programs as a volunteer, contact the conservancy office at 538-0318 or at ssiconservancy@saltspring.com.

Ganges Village Market News

CLOSER TO THE COMMUNITY

TUESDAYS ARE 10% OFF DAYS
(some restrictions apply)

MONDAYS ARE DOUBLE COUPON VALUE DAYS

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Extra Virgin
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Simply Natural Organic
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Shopping list:

- 1 can shrimp
- Mayonnaise
- Lemon juice
- Dill
- Cayenne pepper
- 2 eggs
- Milk
- Garlic
- Parsley flakes
- Sourdough bread
- Smoked cheese
- Oil



THE GANGES VILLAGE MARKET **FRENCH SHRIMP MELT**
Short cuts to cooking for one or two @ with Sarah Lynn

Shrimp: "Squilla" is the Latin word for shrimp. According to the food historians, both ancient Romans and Greeks had ready access to very large specimens and enjoyed their shrimp prepared many different ways. Shrimp and prawns are a group of small river and sea creatures; in ancient cuisine they were roasted, or fried in a skillet, rather than boiled. This is a delightful shrimp melt you can eat with a fork for breakfast, lunch or dinner.

In a small bowl, combine 1 can shrimp drained, ¼ cup mayonnaise, 1 teaspoon lemon juice, ¼ teaspoon dill & sprinkle of cayenne pepper. In small bowl, beat together 2 eggs and ½ cup milk, 1 clove minced garlic, 1 teaspoon parsley flakes. Dip 4 slices of sourdough bread into the egg mixture both sides Cook on preheated oiled skillet, turning once, after turning fill 2 bread slices with shrimp mixture & a slice of smoked cheese put together & cook 4 to 5 minutes or until browned and heated through. Top with a prepared hollandaise sauce & serve warm

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

- This Thursday 1:00pm - 5:00pm
- This Friday 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Lotto Centre

OPEN DAILY 8am - 9pm

Wed., Jan. 30 - Mon., Feb. 4, 2008





PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

GARBAGE ART: Dan Brackett is seen with his bear sculpture at the Blackburn Road transfer station.

ISLAND ACTIVISM

Sustainability symbol celebrated this Friday

Citizens called to park event

Salt Springers are being asked to show up in force to celebrate the three-fingered salute that has taken the world by storm since its inception one year ago.

Participants of all ages are asked to bring signs and musical instruments to the ceremony set to begin Friday, Feb. 1 at 1 p.m. in Centennial Park.

"We want to show that Salt Spring is part of the solution," said Julianna Slomka, organizer of the anniversary party.

The salute, consisting of a peace sign with the addition of an extended ring finger, is meant to symbolize the unity of society, environment and economy.

The symbol's master-

mind is Philip McMaster, who has been living on Salt Spring but is currently lecturing university professors, civic officials and business leaders in Beijing about the need to integrate the environment with their policy decisions.

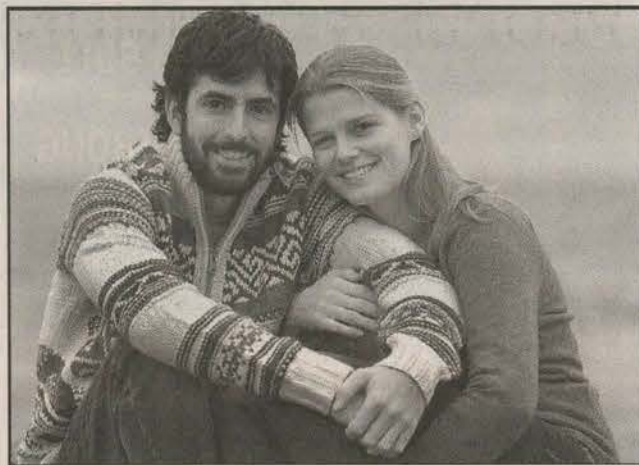


photo: johncameron.ca

Photo solution by John Cameron: 537-5830

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Youth urge parents to take workshop series

Grade 7s provide compelling reasons

This article is one in a series on "Respectful Relationships." Respectful Relationships is an award-winning violence prevention project created by SWOVA (Salt Spring Women Opposed to Violence and Abuse) Community Development and Research Society.

Living with adolescents is seldom boring and often challenging. How can we provide our growing and changing youth with the support they need while respecting their desire to act more independently—without, perhaps embarrassing them by our very presence?

Though it may appear otherwise at times, our youth really do want and need our input, guidance and support. Several months ago, Grade 7 students in the Respectful Relationships (R+R) workshops were asked if they thought adults should participate in a parents' version of the program, and if so, why. Here are some of their responses:

"This is a place to help stress and everything else."
"I think they could have the same problems as us youth."

"Because they could learn some good skills, like how to

listen."

"They could understand each other, children, and their kids in a better way."

"Some parents hit their kids and need help to stop."

"They are setting an example for younger people's future. Imagine if your parents were fighting and screaming at each other. That kid could grow up thinking that's normal, because that's how she/he grew up."

"To be able to set a good example."

"If they are homophobic to kids that are gay, it hurts the homosexual kids a lot."

"Allow them to have the same knowledge as us which then allows families to have much improved communication."

"Help them understand everyone around them better."

"A lot of parents and kids have personal issues with each other."

"Because they didn't get [R+R] as a kid."

"They might learn new things."

"Even adults deal with bullying at places like work."

"To learn how to communicate respectfully with their kids."

"Healthy parents = healthy, happy kids."

SWOVA heard what the youth had to say and, through generous grants

from the B.C. Ministry of Community Services, United Way and the Salt Spring Island Foundation, has developed a six-week workshop series for parents called "Respectful + Relationships at Home."

The free workshop series will provide an opportunity for parents to interact with other parents in a supportive and safe environment, and to participate in adult-oriented exercises that will introduce them to the language and activities of the youth R+R program.

Workshops will cover skills such as assertive communication, listening skills practice, understanding a spectrum of violence and anger, and will also provide opportunities to form parent support networks. The series complements SWOVA's R+R youth curriculum serving all of School District 64's Grade 7-10 students.

The workshop series will take place six consecutive Tuesdays, Feb. 12 to March 18, from 6:30-9 p.m. at Lions Hall.

Childcare for younger siblings will be provided (upon request) and snacks are also available. The workshop is limited to 20 participants and facilitated by Chris Gay and Peter Morin. (See their bios at www.swova.org/the_people.php.) Call 537-1336 to register.

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Islands Trust

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SALT SPRING ISLAND
LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE
Proposed Bylaw No. 430**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will hold a public hearing concerning Proposed Bylaw No. 430, for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained therein. At the public hearing, all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaw shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions. The information session and public hearing for this bylaw will precede the regular monthly Local Trust Committee Meeting to be held on the same day.

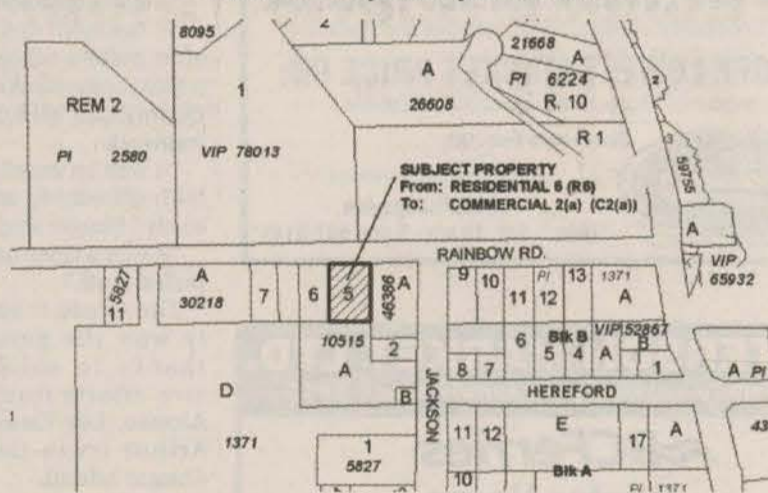
DATE: Thursday, February 7, 2008
LOCATION: ArtSpring, 100 Jackson Avenue, Salt Spring Island
TIME: 1:30 PM – Public Information Session, followed by Public Hearing

1. Proposed Bylaw No. 430, cited as "Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 1, 2007".

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 430 is to amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw No. 355 as follows:

- a. by creating a new Commercial 2 Zone Variation (a) – C2(a);
- b. by changing the zoning of Lot 5, Range 3 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan 5827, from Residential 6 to Commercial 2 Zone Variation (a) – C2(a), in order to permit the current use, a parking facility for employees working in Ganges Village, while maintaining flexibility in the zoning to allow for potential future uses such as mixed use commercial and/or residential development.

Plan No. 1 – Proposed Bylaw No. 430



Copies of the proposed bylaw, and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee, may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, commencing Friday, January 18, 2008 and up to and including Wednesday, February 6, 2008 at 4:30 PM. Proposed Bylaw No. 430 may also be viewed on the Islands Trust website at: www.islandstrust.bc.ca

Enquiries regarding the proposed bylaw may be directed to the Islands Trust at (250) 537-9144, or to Planner Justine Starke, at (250) 538-5603. For Toll Free access, request a transfer to the Islands Trust via Enquiry BC: in Vancouver at 660-2421, and elsewhere in BC at 1-800-663-7867. Written submissions may be delivered as follows:

- 1. By mail to the Islands Trust at 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8; by Fax to (250) 537-9116; or online at the Islands Trust website via the following URL: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltr/ss/meetings.cfm> by completing the **Public Hearing, February 7, 2008 Submission Form** before 4:30 PM on Wednesday, February 6, 2008.
- 2. To the **Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing.**

Email comments should not be considered as complying with the requirements of this notice. The Islands Trust does not guarantee that any email comment will be received by the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide email comments, if they are opened and received, to the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee for consideration, but the public should not rely on email as a means of providing a written comment.

All applications are available for review by the public. Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

NO REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED BYLAW WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Pauline Brazier
Deputy Secretary



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Sports Schedule

MEN'S SOCCER
SS FC Div.-1 vs. Comox
Sat., Feb. 2
Portlock Park
2:15 p.m.

SS Old Boys vs. Nanaimo
Sun., Feb. 3
GISS
10:30 a.m.

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BASKETBALL

SIMS b-ball teams flying high

Grade 8s defeat Vancouver Island teams

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Spirits are soaring at Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS) as basketball fever has taken hold of students and staff.

"The basketball season is going really well," said Jude Shugar, coach of the Grade 8 boys team.

"The sport is highly popular. We have 18 players on the girls' team and 16 on the boys'."

Shugar's boys showed they have the spirit and the skills after pulling off two seven-point comebacks against Quamichan Middle School last week.

"It was an excellent game both offensively and defensively," Shugar said.

"It was a close one but we pulled it off."

The Grade 8 boys finally won the game 39-32 thanks to solid offensive efforts from Adrian Alonso, Luc Comeau and Arthur Irwin-Campbell, Shugar added.

The Grade 8 girls pulled off a one-point victory in a foul-ridden match against Prevost Middle School on Vancouver Island.

"It was a rough game with a lot of fouls from the other team," Shugar said.

Jasmin Lundy and Alanna Hillis played a strong offensive match as Sami Clemente and Olivia Keddy did their part to limit Prevost scoring opportunities.

"They really stood out," Shugar said.

In upcoming middle school basketball action, the girls will host Chemainus on Wednesday while the boys play Thursday against Quamichan.

Games start at 3:30 p.m. in the middle school gymnasium.

Shugar reminded prospective players and spectators that the SIMS Tsunami intra-mural league offers mid-week basketball action every Wednesday between 6 and 8 p.m. at the school gym.



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

BASKETBALL SLAM: Gulf Islands Secondary School junior girls basketball player Kirsty Girard goes up for a basket in a game against Brentwood last week. The local squad won the game 76-18.

YOUTH SOCCER

Try-out dates set for Super Y-League

Evaluation dates have been set for two age groups of those interested in participating in a high-level soccer program this summer.

Tryouts for U13 and U14 girls and boys Super Y League teams have been set for two Saturdays — Feb. 16 and 23 — at the UVic turf fields. The U13 evaluations run from 4:15 to 5:45 p.m., while the U14s try out from 5:45 to 7 p.m.

Program coaches are expected to be named the first week of February, and evaluation dates for players aged U15-U18 will also be announced soon.

The Super Y-League program is touted as being one of the best in the province, running just under the provincial teams program in the "hierarchy" of B.C. soccer. It includes both Canadian and American teams.

The Pacific Northwest league, which runs from the beginning of May until the end of July, includes several teams from around B.C. and Washington. The Vancouver Island teams combine top players from both upper island and lower island clubs.

Players interested in attending the evaluations camps should send contact information (name, e-mail, age group, date of birth and phone number) to lower island head coach Dante Zanatta (headcoach@lower-islandsoccer.com). They should arrive 15 minutes early and expect to pay a one-time registration fee of \$10.

Players should also be aware that Super Y-League age cut-offs are different than those of regular club soccer, and participants with birth dates between August 1 and December 31 are able to play at a younger age level.

Week's top bowlers announced

Following are recent reported high scores in bowling play at Kings Lane Recreation:

Special Olympics, Jan. 9: David McEachern, 140; Mahjor Bains, 173; Gloria Dale, 180; Jason Newport, 187-174

HIGHROLLERS

Special Olympics, Jan. 16: Mahjor Bains, 144-154; Gloria Dale, 172; Jason Newport, 182

Circus League, Jan. 14: Harald Repen, 224; Anne Fleiger, 245; Russ Crouse, 205.

Circus League, Dec. 17: Brian Hartley, 211; Myles Wilson, 200; Sharon Armstrong, 210

SOCCER

Salt Spring youth gets approval as summer games assistant coach

Olivia Morgan to work alongside Sue Spencer

BY SUSAN LUNDY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Hard work and a passion for soccer has helped open the door on a once-in-a-lifetime coaching opportunity for a Salt Spring teen.

And when the B.C. Summer Games open in Kelowna this July, 17-year-old Olivia Morgan will be there as assistant coach for the Vancouver Island girls soccer team.

Heading up the U12 squad will be Salt Spring Soccer Association's technical director Sue Spencer, who has recently been confirmed as head coach with Morgan as her assistant.



Olivia Morgan

Spencer has coached her on several teams and given her specialized training for years.

"[It's] because of all of her help [that] I've become a coach myself."

Last year, Morgan took on the assistant coach's position of a local U10 girls team.

She said it's different coaching her U11 boys.

"I find that boys are generally a little bit more of a challenge just because they [at this age especially] need constant activity so you always have to be prepared."

Coaching locally and at the summer games will add to Morgan's resume as she looks to a teaching career in an elementary school and coaching a higher level of soccer.

"I have always loved working with children and I think that I'm fairly good at it," she says. "I [can] easily relate to them and I'm patient, enthusiastic and motivated."

In the meantime, focussing her life around soccer has meant giving up other passions as she tries to balance her commitments.

"It seems like each year gets busier and busier and I have to keep on choosing which activity is more important to me," she says. "My time is always occupied by either school, my soccer team, coaching soccer or doing extra soccer training. I barely have time for other sports or music."

Morgan used to play the piano and flute as well as sing. Now she can only manage singing in a choir.

"Giving things up that I love is always difficult, but I love soccer the most. When I'm doing some kind of soccer, I don't miss the other things that I've had to let go."

Spencer notes that Morgan trains hard and "always tries to invest her personal time to give back to her peers and younger athletes."

She says the summer games event is just the first of many coaching opportunities for the latest local in the mentorship program.

the Coaching Mentorship Program and were approved by a selection committee.

Spencer recommended she and Morgan do the program this summer so it could include the summer games event.

"Over the past two years I have mentored several female student coaches in our program and I decided to offer this to Olivia as she has a keen interest in not only the sport but in leadership and coaching," Spencer said.

"She has wholeheartedly embraced every leadership/coaching opportunity that I have ever offered her."

Morgan, who started playing soccer at age five, is currently a keeper for the Upper Island U18 metro team.

In addition to coaching her U11 boys, she trains every Sunday at the Island Keepers Clinic in Victoria, every Tuesday with her up-island team and Thursdays with Spencer.

She also travels to Denman Island once a month to train with Shel Brodsgaard, the former national teams goal-keeping coach for the Canadian Soccer Association.

"I have known Sue since before I can remember," Morgan said, adding that

'When I'm doing some kind of soccer, I don't miss the other things that I've had to let go.'

OLIVIA MORGAN
Coach Mentorship Program

Two other island teens — Gordon Havelaar and Tavis Morton — coached the boys' soccer team at the summer games two years ago.

"I am extremely excited about the summer games position," said Morgan, a Grade 11 student at Gulf Islands Secondary School, who currently co-coaches a U11 boys team on Salt Spring.

Spencer said she offered Morgan the opportunity to work with her through a mentorship program funded by PROMOTION Plus, a B.C. organization that supports the participation of women in sport and leadership.

The two had to apply separately to

TRAIL AND NATURE CLUB

Hikers warm up for spring with outings

Plus Italian slides at social night

At our social event at the United Church on Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m., Sheila and Barry Spence will show slides of their hikes in Liguria and Tuscany in Italy.

If you have not yet paid your annual fees for the 2007/08 season, this will be your last chance, but late fees are now \$25.

Please complete and sign the membership/waiver form and leave it with your cheque at the Cobbler's Box or present them to our membership secretary Barry Spence (537-2332).

At www.saltspringtnc.ca you will find more details on our activities.

Following is the February schedule:

Hikers

FEB. 5: Kees Visser leads a moderate but long hike through Peter Arnell and Bryant Hill Park.

Assemble at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or join at the top of Stewart Road in Peter Arnell Park behind the concrete barrier.

FEB. 12: As last year, Zeke

Blazecka will lead a pre-Valentine moderate hike in Goldstream Park. Meet at Portlock Park at 8:30 in order to carpool for the 9 a.m. Vesuvius ferry.

FEB. 19: Lynn Thompson will lead us to the top of Mount Erskine via a new route.

This will be a moderate uphill hike but with a few steep sections. Assemble at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m.

FEB. 26: Sheila and Barry Spence are leading a moderate hike from Seymour Heights around Mount Maxwell.

Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or join at the Fulford-Ganges Road/Dukes Road junction at 9:50.

Walkers

FEB. 5: Nieke Visser leads a walk up Mount Erskine "the easy way" from Toynbee Road. This is mainly moderately uphill, but with a few steeper sections. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

FEB. 12: Ailsa Pearse is leading a moderate walk with a steep section or two in the Channel Ridge area. Meet at Portlock Park at 10 a.m. or join at the trail sign at the north end of Sunset

Drive at 10:10.

FEB. 19: The monthly nature outing will be an investigation of the geology of Vesuvius Bay, led by Mary Lou Bevier.

We will be walking on the rocky intertidal area so appropriate footwear should be worn. Meet at Portlock Park at 9:45 a.m. (note the earlier time!) and carpool to the Vesuvius Dock parking lot to meet Mary Lou.

FEB. 26: Margaret and Art Simons will lead a surprise walk. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

Ramblers

FEB. 5: Rita Sagness will lead a walk in the Southey Point area. Carpool from Centennial at 10 a.m.

FEB. 12: Harold Page will take us to Burgoyne Bay. Carpool from Centennial at 10 a.m. or join at 10:20 from the Burgoyne Bay triangle.

FEB. 19: Allan Robertson will lead us on a walk on Sunset Drive starting at the "Christmas Tree" at the intersection of North End and Southey Point roads.

Carpool from Centennial at 10 a.m. or 10:10 a.m. from Portlock Park.

FEB. 26: Beth Ranney will take us on a ramble in the Toynbee Road area. Carpool from Centennial at 10 a.m.

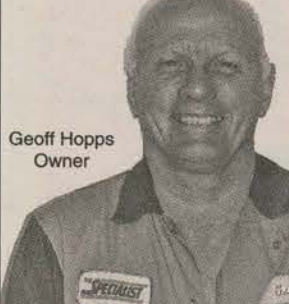
New members

Interested in joining us? Contact Barry Spence (membership) at 537-2332 or Zeke Blazecka (president) at 653-4782, or come on Tuesdays to the meeting point for the activity you are interested in.

To our friends on Salt Spring!

"Thanks for stopping by."

- Geoff



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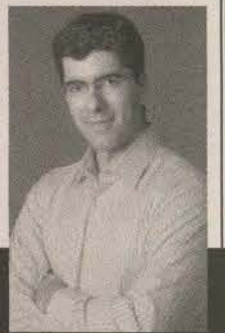
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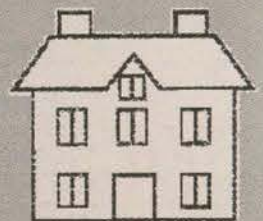
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OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

SEA SCENE: A couple of motor boats putter out of Ganges Harbour as sailboats race in the background.

MORE LETTERS

continued from A14

Radio update

I attended Sunday night's radio tower meeting and learned a lot about the plans and future of Salt Spring's future local radio station.

It is a great idea, but I believe they have a lot of work to do before they will reach their summer goal of actual broadcast. For example: When I asked them about their community support numbers and percentages, they said that they had a lot of community support, as shown by the number of GVM receipts they have received over the last 10 years. But I didn't see the numbers in the room to prove it. Except for the media, Mr. Brooks' family members and the board members, there was really only five interested people from the community who attended the meeting.

When I asked them about their website, where the public could go for more information, one of the board members of the communications company said they did not have one and they did not want to "put the cart before the horse."

After 10 years of striving for broadcast in a communications industry, with plans to fund the business on local paid business advertising dollars, it only makes sense to increase community and business support by using all means necessary, including the world-wide web.

They are planning to run their business with volunteers from the community,

which I think is a great idea, allowing many a voice to be heard and a forum for discussion and motivation. But sooner or later, people will want to receive a paycheque for their hard work and input and I hope the company is prepared for that inevitability. While there was opposition to the tower site, based on health hazards caused by radio frequency signals in the atmosphere, I think the board did a good job of providing enough information to numb those fears. There is far greater risk to our health with higher-powered radio frequencies from other sources that we should be more worried about and focussed on.

In closing, I would like to thank the board and company for providing the public meeting and opportunity to learn more about the project and I wish them the best of luck in their success.

SANDI POYSTILA,
SALT SPRING

Canadian talent

Vincent; Vincent; Vincent . . . Peter? Who?

What to say — Peter Vincent thinks Canadian content in the arts is to be shoved up the bum? (Jan. 16 Driftwood column.)

What about the Olympics, Peter — do you think we should not support our amateur Canadian athletes and leave it up to the Americans to win medals for us?

I introduced Michael Bubl  to my American cousins (full blood) years before he was on U.S. radio. Moreover, they loved him and

wanted more.

As for Celine Dion — they think she is American, along with Shania Twain, Brian Adams and Randy Bachman.

Thank god for Canadian publishers who introduced me to wonderful writers like Gail Anderson-Dargatz, Bill Richardson and Elizabeth Hay (to name a few).

Thank god I find This Hour Has 22 Minutes funny even though my American cousins cannot comprehend it.

In addition, I am sorry to say Peter, but I like CBC . . . it has good intellectual shows. I'm sorry you do not like them.

My husband has been a professional musician from the age of 16. I bet Peter would not recognize his name or his music, even though I am sure everyone has listened to him on CBC radio. (Sorry, I forgot, Peter dislikes CBC.)

In addition, he gets royalties from iPod downloads as a professional musician, but my husband has never received money from the Canada Council for the Arts. Despite this, I support it 100 per cent.

If we do not support Canadian talent, we would be left to identify ourselves with American culture . . . and that would do us all a big disservice.

If we did not have Canadian content, we all would be subjected to predictable, unimaginative books and predictable humourless TV and non-musical rap music.

Go Peter go . . . go to America.

DIANE ALTON-KAIGHN,
VANCOUVER

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