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PAGE B11

Fall Fix-Up
Islanders' renos and gardens
PAGES B1-5

**FALL
FIX-UP**

PAGES B1 - B5

Driftwood

Wednesday, October 14, 2009 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 49TH YEAR — ISSUE 41 \$1.25 (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY DERRICK UNDY

IN THE PATCH: Amelie Niedziela and friend hang out with the pumpkins at Country Grocer, creating a seasonal image.

COURT

Fulford slasher pleads guilty

Handed six-month conditional sentence

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An island man arrested last month in connection with two bizarre attacks in the Fulford area pleaded guilty to two counts of assault with a weapon on Oct. 6.

A provincial court judge in Duncan issued Lorne Nelson a six-month conditional sentence after the Salt Spring man confessed to slashing two men with homemade "Freddy Krueger-style" gloves.

Salt Spring RCMP described the weapon as a pair of gloves with blades attached.

Two men, aged 54 and 66, reported the incidents to police after they were attacked in separate incidents near the Fulford Inn at around 10 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 7.

The men sustained facial lacerations as a result of the attacks. Both have since recovered from their injuries.

Crown counsel Brad Tomlin said Nelson and the victims were acquainted. He said the assault resulted from an alcohol-fuelled personal dispute between the men. Officers discovered the bladed glove with the assistance of a Cowichan Valley-based canine unit in a ditch near where Nelson was arrested.

Nelson, 39, must serve three months of his sentence under house arrest, not initiate contact with the victims and undergo counselling as directed.

Prior to last week's sentencing, Nelson underwent a 30-day psychological assessment while in police custody.

The judge issued a stay of proceedings to associated charges of uttering threats, mischief and possession of a weapon.

FEDERAL POLITICS

Islanders greet federal Green leader

Elizabeth May delivers pre-election rhetoric

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It was farewell to Nova Scotia and hello Gulf Islands as Green party leader Elizabeth May offered Salt Spring Islanders an election-style speech at Mahon Hall on Thursday evening.

"This time, wouldn't it be exciting to cast a vote that changed the history of Canadian politics?" May asked an enthusiastic crowd of about 150 people. "What we have to do is make the case to our friends and neighbours that there is only one candidate in the race that has [Conservative party MP] Gary Lunn worried right now — and it's me."

The Thursday evening fundraiser marked May's first official function on Salt Spring since

she confirmed her intention to run as a candidate in the Saanich-Gulf Islands riding last month.

May's rhetoric made clear that she and her party are already gearing up for the quest to make her the country's first Green member of parliament.

She said her party is prepared to launch a major campaign that will place an unprecedented emphasis on the riding whenever an election is called.

"We are going to run the first really major campaign that's effective and well organized to defeat the current MP," May said. "It's not personal. I'm sure Gary Lunn is lovely, but his decisions and his record condemn him and he doesn't deserve

to be in the House of Commons."

May specifically criticized Lunn's 2008 decision to fire the head of Canada's nuclear safety watchdog.

"Every form of health and safety regulation in this country was weakened [when he made that decision]," she said.

During the two-hour event emceed by island folk musician Valdy, May touched on topics that included climate change, deficit spending, aquaculture, run-of-river hydro projects and the need to resuscitate the country's ailing democracy.

May attacked what she said was the Conservative government's failure to promote more renewable energy initiatives as part of the latest round of infrastructure spending.

MAY MEETING continued on A2

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NEWSBEAT

ENVIRONMENT

Trust takes action on climate change

Local government follows provincial directive

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Trustees representing communities throughout the Gulf Islands are getting ready to ask island residents for input on strategies to lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the region.

"Trustees will engage islanders in discussions as they identify GHG reduction targets and strategies to meet those targets," reads a press release about the Climate Smart Island program.

Here on Salt Spring Island, trustees

George Ehring and Christine Torgrimson said they want to initiate the dialogue as part of climate change awareness events planned for Oct. 24 at the Gulf Islands Secondary School.

"We should be poised to act, to let people know about the process that we're planning," Torgrimson said. "I want to see us fold that event into our strategy."

Formal public consultation about GHG reduction targets is anticipated to take place between November 2009 and March 2010.

Trustees at Thursday's local Trust committee meeting passed a resolution calling on staff to report back with a list of greenhouse gas emission inventories at

next month's meeting.

The program stems from the BC Climate Action Charter and Bill 27 — legislation that requires local governments across the province to amend official community plans to include targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

"Climate change is a global challenge that demands creative solutions at the local level," said Sheila Malcolmsen, chair of the Islands Trust Council.

"Because the Islands Trust's primary responsibility is land use planning, we are uniquely positioned to take leadership on reducing greenhouse gas emissions with land use planning tools."

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Keith Oliver

CULTURE

Island gets national spotlight in Song Quest contest

Salt Spring among national playlist finalists

Salt Spring Island is among five British Columbia communities in the running to become immortalized in song as part of the Great Canadian Song Quest radio contest.

Vancouver, Tofino, Barkerville, the Okanagan Valley and Salt Spring are the five finalists vying to represent the province on a national 13-track compilation.

The B.C. towns and cities are up there with such iconic

Canadian locales as Love, SK, Flin Flon, MB, Alert, NU, Old Crow, YK and Dildo, NF.

Voters have until Friday, Oct. 23 to choose from a shortlist of places from each province and territory.

Voters are also being asked to select the artists they'd like to see create the song for each location.

British Columbian artists include Barney Bentall, Oh Susanna, Alex Cuba, Ndidi Onukwulu and Salt Spring resident Harry Manx.

Votes can be registered online at www.cbc.ca/radio2.

Once voting wraps up, 13 winning artists will get four weeks to compose and record an original song, inspired by the most popular Canadian location from their province or territory.

"We can't wait to see the final list of locations and artists chosen by Canadians," said Mark Steinmetz, director of music programming for CBC Radio, in a press release issued on Monday. "By inspiring these artists with Canada's special locales, we will create a distinctly Canadian playlist. This initiative is a great way for

Canadians to share their collective passion for music and our country."

The shortlist of locations is a result of nominations submitted by Canadians over the past two weeks, through the website, campaign-style blogs, Tweets and Facebook comments, and photo and video postings.

More information on how to vote and spread the word about your community is available on the CBC Radio 2 website.

The end results will be released on Nov. 23.

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TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT
	m ft		m ft
OCTOBER			
14	01:20 2.5 8.2	17	05:32 2.9 9.5
WE	07:56 1.2 3.9	SA	10:32 2.0 6.6
	15:17 3.3 10.8		16:28 3.2 10.5
	21:34 1.8 5.9		23:15 0.8 2.6
15	03:02 2.6 8.5	18	06:33 3.1 10.2
TH	08:52 1.4 4.6	SU	11:21 2.2 7.2
	15:43 3.2 10.5		16:52 3.2 10.5
	22:07 1.5 4.9		23:50 0.6 2.0
16	04:23 2.8 9.2	19	07:29 3.2 10.5
FR	09:43 1.7 5.6	MO	12:12 2.5 8.2
	16:06 3.2 10.5		17:17 3.2 10.5
	22:41 1.1 3.6	20	00:27 0.5 1.6
		TU	08:23 3.3 10.8
			13:07 2.6 8.5
			17:43 3.1 10.2

Green leader speaks to crowd at Mahon Hall

MEETING

continued from A1

Even China's \$600 billion in infrastructure spending emphasizes its transition from being the world's predominant supplier of cheap consumer goods to a leading producer of energy-efficient and renewable energy-related technologies.

May called on her supporters to speak with friends, family and neighbours in an effort to reinvigorate the political pro-



ELIZABETH MAY

Commons as the leader of the Greens, I'm in a different position than a backbencher for

cess in the riding and beyond.

"Electing anybody else isn't going to change anything," she said.

"When I'm in the House of

the Liberals or a backbencher for the NDP, or even a downwardly mobile minister of state for sport."

Despite its leader's optimistic spirit, the modest Green party machine will have to contend with Lunn's longstanding popularity in the riding.

Lunn has held the seat since 1997 as a member of the Reform, Alliance and Conservative parties.

In the 2008 federal election, one in which the NDP had

no official candidate, Lunn grasped victory with a respectable 43.43 per cent of the riding's total vote.

The Liberal party's Briony Penn finished in second place with 39.36 per cent of the vote and Green party candidate Andrew Lewis received 10.45 per cent of the vote.

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Newsbeat

Heads up!

SSI Fire Protection District

Public meeting of trustees at Ganges hall
Mon., Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m.

FIRE PROTECTION

Equipment upgrades could lower fire insurance rates

New tanker brings more homes within reach

BY SEAN MCINTYRE

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It isn't often an organization can acquire up-to-date equipment and offer residents a financial bonus all in one fell swoop.

But that's exactly what the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) expects will happen if it passes an upcoming test administered by representatives from the nation's Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS).

According to an SSIFPD press release, the test involves firefighters showing independent observers that they can move more water faster from one location to another on the island over the course of a two-hour period.

Now when the fire department talks about "moving more water faster," they really aren't joking around.

To earn what's known in the business as a Superior Tanker Shuttle accreditation, the SSIFD will have to supply 900 litres/minute (200 imperial gallons/minute) to a location five kilometres from the source.

That comes out to almost 500 average-sized bathtubs full of water, transported five kilometres within two hours.

In an effort to streamline the transportation of water, firefighters routinely practise loading and unloading procedures. A second and more significant element in passing the test is getting ahead of a larger container.

Last summer, the fire district announced the purchase of a 10,000-litre (3,000-gallon) water tender to replace the department's 23-year-old tanker three. Including hoses, breathing apparatuses and other fire-suppression equipment, the tanker will cost approximately \$225,000 and will be paid for by reserve funds.

The SSIFD has informally attempted the test three times over the past few years. Though it has proven a useful training exercise, members found existing apparatuses insufficient to meet the test's requirements, said Arjuna George, deputy fire chief of the Salt Spring Fire Rescue Department.

"We were able to provide 200 gallons/



The Salt Spring Fire Rescue Department's new water shuttle (top photo) will move more water faster than the department's outdated 23-year-old tanker three (bottom photo). The increased capacity is expected to reduce fire insurance costs for many island residents.



minute for some long time frames, but we couldn't maintain it continuously for anything like an hour," George said.

Because the new tanker can carry about twice the amount of water as tanker three, the district expects a very different result

this time around.

"A larger tanker will definitely help firefighters save more property with less life-safety risk in neighbourhoods both with and without hydrants," George said.

Not only will the new vehicle offer

increased fire protection, passing the test will mean insurance rates for people living outside of areas covered by fire hydrants will drop.

"Homes in well-protected areas pay less for fire insurance. And those located near fire hydrants receive additional discounts for fire insurance," states an SSIFPD press release. "In rural communities, Superior Tanker Shuttle accreditation provides hydrant-protection equivalency for insurance customers."

According to research conducted by the SSIFPD, Superior Tanker Shuttle accreditation in the Vancouver Island community of Errington led to ratepayer discounts of between \$200 to \$800.

On Gabriola Island, ratepayers' average annual home insurance costs were reduced by between \$300 and \$400 once Superior Tanker Shuttle accreditation was attained in 2007.

"A key component of our 10-year plan is to improve service to lower insurance rates for the ratepayers of the fire protection district," said Michael Schubart, chair of the SSIFPD.

"It seems probable, from the experience in nearby communities, that the ratepayers will save the equivalent of the cost of the new truck each year in reduced insurance premiums," he added.

The quality of fire protection is determined by a fire department's response capability. This capability is determined by such elements as the quality and quantity of apparatus, training and organization of firefighters, and the community's access to water for firefighting purposes.

Currently, FUS has graded homes located near fire hydrants on Salt Spring with a Public Fire Protection Classification (PFPC) of six (on a 10-point scale where one is best), but the PFPC rating of Salt Spring homes outside of hydrant-protected areas stands at a nine.

Following a successful Superior Tanker Shuttle test, any home within eight kilometres of an SSIFD firehall would receive hydrant equivalency with a PFPC of six, states the SSIFPD.

Test results will be reported in the Driftwood when they become available.

News briefs

Ferry fire leaves cold turkeys

A generator fire on the Spirit of Vancouver Island Friday had a delayed-sailing domino effect throughout the Thanksgiving long weekend.

Passengers travelling between Swartz Bay and Tsawwassen were backed up and instead of spending holiday time with friends and family, they idled away two (and sometimes three) sailing

waits reading, texting and standing in lineups.

Back-ups remained throughout Tuesday morning.

Although smaller vessels were deployed to supplement service, sidelining of one of the vessel resulted in a substantial drop in carrying capacity.

The cause of a generator fire on the Spirit of Vancouver Island is yet to be determined, said BC Ferries spokesperson Deborah Marshall on Tuesday.

Friday's fire also delayed the Spirit of Brit-

ish Columbia annual refit.

Instead, the Spirit of Vancouver Island will instead undergo a refit starting today until the end of November.

A problem with a generator on the Howe Sound Queen also grounded service between Vesuvius Bay and Crofton last Tuesday afternoon beginning at 3:30 p.m.

The ferry was back in service by Wednesday morning.

A water taxi for foot passengers was put in service on the Crofton-

Vesuvius route.

BC Ferries also added an extra sailing at Swartz Bay to ensure passengers with vehicles could get home on Tuesday night.

Mount Maxwell fire

Approximately five hectares of Mount Maxwell Provincial Park land were burned in a fire that began Sunday and continued until Tuesday morning.

As of Tuesday afternoon, the fire was under control and only "hot spots"

remained to be managed, said Salt Spring Fire Chief Tom Bremner.

Bremner said while the cause of the fire remains unknown, human interactions are suspected and the official cause is under investigation.

Fire damage was restricted to vegetation, he said.

A Vancouver Island resident reported the fire to the Coastal Fire Centre in Parksville on Sunday.

The B.C. Forest Service, which is responsible for dealing with fires in the Mt. Maxwell park region

of Salt Spring, sent firefighters and a helicopter to douse the flames using buckets of water from Mt. Maxwell Lake.

The lake was the only source of water available, as there were no fire hydrants nearby or road accesses to the site, said Brian McIntosh, acting regional wildlife control officer at the Coastal Fire Centre.

"It was a tough area to get into and to work on," said Bremner, who sent Salt Spring firefighters to assist forest service crews on Sunday and Monday.

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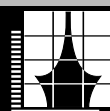


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SALT SPRING ISLAND TRANSIT SYSTEM Riders Guide

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 28, 2009 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

2 Fulford Harbour										
Monday - Saturday										
	A	I	J	K	E	E	K	J	I	A
	Lv. Visitor Info Centre	Lv. Cushman Lake Rd.	Lv. Burgoyne Bay Rd.	Lv. Park 'N' Ride, Fulford Inn	Ar. Fulford Harbour	Lv. Fulford Harbour	Lv. Park 'N' Ride, Fulford Inn	Lv. Burgoyne Bay Rd.	Lv. Cushman Lake Rd.	Ar. Visitor Info Centre
M-F	7:10	7:16	7:23	7:27	7:30	7:40	7:43	7:47	7:54	8:00
	9:10	9:16	9:23	9:27	9:30	9:40	9:43	9:47	9:54	10:00
	11:10	11:16	11:23	11:27	11:30	11:40	11:43	11:47	11:54	12:00
	3:10	3:16	3:23	3:27	3:30	3:40	3:43	3:47	3:54	4:00
	5:10	5:16	5:23	5:27	5:30	5:40	5:43	5:47	5:54	6:00

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.

3 Vesuvius				
Monday - Saturday				
	A	F	G	A
	Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Lv. Portlock Park	Ar. Vesuvius	Lv. Portlock Park
M-F	6:30	6:37	6:45	6:57
	8:30	8:37	8:45	8:57
	12:10	12:17	12:25	12:40
	3:30	3:37	3:45	3:57
	4:30	4:37	4:45	4:57
	6:05c	6:19	6:25c	—

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.
c - Combined route: Trip routes from Ganges via 1 Ganges Local & continues as 3 Vesuvius.

5 Fernwood				
Monday - Saturday				
	A	M	A	
	Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Ar./Lv. Fernwood Dock	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	
M-F	10:30	10:43	11:00	
	2:30	2:43	3:00	
	6:05c	6:38	6:53	

c - Combined route: Trip routes from Ganges via 1 Ganges Local & 3 Vesuvius.

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4 Long Harbour		
Monday - Saturday		
	A	A
	Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges
M-F	1:15	1:35
SAT	1:50	2:10
M-S	3:00	3:20

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.
SAT Trip operates Saturday only.
M-S Trip operates Monday to Saturday.

1 Ganges Local					
Monday - Saturday					
	A	D	H	C	A
	Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Lv. Meadowbrook	Lv. Hospital	Lv. Brinkworthy Place	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges
	8:05	8:08	8:11	8:15	8:22
	10:05	10:08	10:11	10:15	10:22
	12:55	12:58	1:01	1:05	1:12
	2:10	2:13	2:16	2:20	2:27
	4:05	4:08	4:11	4:15	4:22
	6:05	6:08	6:11	6:15c	—

c - Combined route: Continues as 3 Vesuvius & 5 Fernwood. Drop off only at Brinkworthy Place.

NEWSBEAT

TOURISM

SSI still a hot spot for summer tourists

'Staycationers' and 'daycationers' lead growth

BY AMY GEDES
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

On the brink of 2009 with a global economy in downturn mode, Salt Spring braced for a hit at its economic heart: the summer tourism industry.

But visitor centre stats just released show tourism did not suffer (at least not where visitor counts are concerned) — numbers were up two per cent over last year.

"Half the people we asked were here only for the day."

GAIL SIBLEY
Visitor centre manager,
Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce

In 2009, from July to September, 23,818 visitors were counted, versus 23,307 in 2008.

Counts from April to June saw an even more substantial jump. An 18 per cent increase was calculated with 11,194 counted in 2009 versus 9,488 in 2008.

Attendants at the Visitor Information Centre

in Ganges count people who enter the info centre only, so the number of tourists would in reality be even higher, explains visitor centre manager Gail Sibley.

The numbers may be up, but people were not spending as much money as hoped.

"We need them to spend more," she said.

"Half the people we asked were here only for the day," she said, echoing the woes of accommodations owners who voiced their low-occupancy woes to the Driftwood in February this year.

Summer tourists to Salt Spring can be characterized as both "daycationers" and "staycationers" — the latter being a buzz term coined during the recent financial crisis where close-to-home vacations were chosen over far-off locales.

"Interestingly, the bulk of visitors came from B.C.," Sibley said.

Between July and September, of the 6,049 visitors that attendants managed to record "place of origin" data for, 2,181 were from B.C.

Salt Spring residents were the second largest group of visitors, with 1,077 counted.

"Alberta used to be a huge number for us," said Sibley, who noted only 510 Alberta residents came through the visitor centre during this time.

On the flip side, while locals tend to spend less, there are positive implications when people explore their own backyards instead of travelling elsewhere.

The money that may have been spent off-island is presumably kept within the local economy. However, there are

ISLANDS TRUST

SS Marina gets final project go-ahead

Expansion, upgrades to proceed

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Owners of the Salt Spring Marina are ready to proceed with expansion plans after the island's local Trust committee gave third and final reading to bylaws 439 and 440 on Thursday.

"With this decision today, the marina will get its consolidated zoning and can go ahead with its plans to expand and upgrade

STAYCATIONERS PREVAIL

B.C.	2,181
SALT SPRING IS.	1,077
OTHER PARTS OF CAN.	622
ALBERTA	510
EUROPE	501
WASHINGTON	370
OTHER US/MEXICO	311
ASIA/AUSTRALIA	242
CALIFORNIA	176
OTHER	59

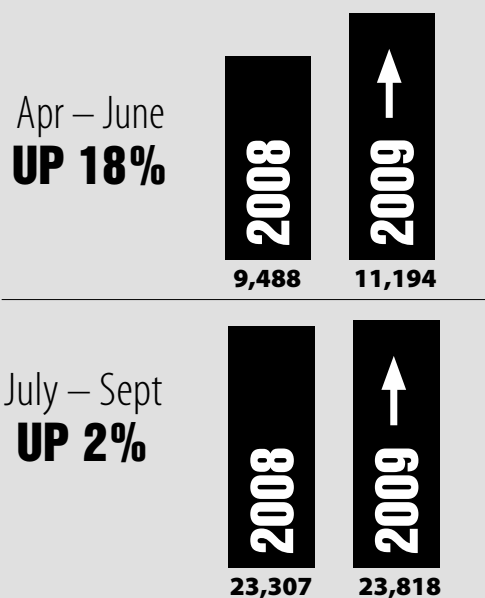
Of 6,049 summer visitors (July to Sept) for which the Visitor Info Centre in Ganges gathered place of origin data from, most were from B.C. or Salt Spring Island.

Daycationer — a day-tripper who visits a tourist destination or visitor attraction from their home and returns home on the same day.

Staycationer — a neologism for a period of time in which an individual or family stays at home and relaxes at home or takes day trips from their home to area attractions.

Definitions source: Wikipedia

SUMMER TOURISTS UP



its the advent of Salt Spring's transit buses that service ferry terminals.

"It has been a real boost," he said about the bus system.

While summer visitors could be seen waiting in bulk at the Ganges bus stop, Oudenaarden said the benefits of local transit outweigh any minor overflow problems.

The lesson to take from the summer stats, Sibley says, is for businesses to advertise to locals and to advertise in B.C.

"It is important for people to know that they need to keep their advertising very local," she said.

Currently, the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce's role is to help businesses understand the tourism market, but Sibley hints that a Salt Spring marketing plan is in the works to be created by an official tourism committee that has just been formed.

no official studies to verify that theory.

According to Bob Oudenaarden, a visitor centre volunteer and trainer who has worked at the centre for 12 years, a lighter ecological footprint is going hand-in-hand with the

swelling staycationing movement.

Visitors from Victoria and Vancouver, he says, are leaving their vehicles at home and taking day trips to the Saturday market via public transit alone.

Oudenaarden cred-

its docks," said trustee Christine Torgrimson. "Its operations and business will be strengthened and its owners, workers, customers and the Salt Spring economy will all benefit."

Zoning changes and amendments to the island's land-use bylaw give the marina's ownership permission to increase the marina's water lease from 2.6 hectares (6.4 acres) to 3.6 hectares (8.9 acres).

The changes will create enough moorage space for between 60 and 72 boats, according to an

Islands Trust staff report.

The marina owners have agreed to install a publicly accessible marine pump-out facility, abide by Clean Marine BC standards, increase moorage space for local boats, and assure long-term public and emergency access to a boat ramp on the property.

"In the end, I believe we arrived at a collective win-win solution," Torgrimson said.

Salt Spring Marina is located off Upper Ganges Road, near Harbour's End Marine and Moby's.

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NEWSBEAT

ISLANDS TRUST
Hurdles
 remain for
 Park Dr.
 project
 Process to
 resume at Nov.
 meeting

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee wants confirmation that construction of a 33-unit housing complex on Park Drive won't increase the chance of flooding on nearby properties.

"As a trustee, I have been troubled by the degree of disturbance at this site, including the alteration of drainage patterns, and the consequences for neighbouring and downstream properties," said trustee Christine Torgrimson at Thursday afternoon's LTC meeting.

"It is my hope that the drainage analysis requested in the staff recommendation will clarify how we can protect both the public and other properties along Ganges Creek from the consequences of development of this property."

Torgrimson's comments were part of the discussion of Salt Spring Ventures Inc.'s development permit application for the Park Drive Garden Homes project.

The proposed development covers 3.28 acres on the lot commonly referred to as the Swanson's Pond property.

Speaking at Thursday's meeting, developer Eric Booth told trustees he has submitted an updated drainage report, although Trust staff hadn't had enough time to consider it before Thursday's meeting.

He encouraged staff and trustees to consider the matter along with any other outstanding details in time for the November LTC meeting.

The development will feature four buildings containing 33-units of what Booth called "much-needed low-end market housing" close to community amenities and services.

"I am proud of the fact that this development will have more green space than any pre-existing multi-family project on the island," he told trustees.

"In short, this will be the greenest multi-family project on Salt Spring."



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

CHEERS: Manager Nicki Hockley holds a \$255 bottle of champagne — the most expensive in the store — as she welcomes patrons to the new Upper Ganges Liquor Store next to Country Grocer. The store replaces the former cold beer and wine store at the Harbour House Hotel.

BC PARKS

Open house gives park users a say on proposed draft plans

Event runs next
 Tuesday, Oct. 20

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An open house event will offer Salt Springers a chance to comment on how the province manages the island's four provincial parks and two ecological reserves.

"We just want people to have a look at the plans and tell us what they think," said Peggy Burfield, a Ministry of Environment planner based in Nanaimo.

Discussion and presentation of the draft management plans for each protected area will be offered during an informal one-on-one information session held at the Salt Spring Lions Club on

Tuesday, Oct. 20 between 2 and 6 p.m.

A more formal presentation will be offered alongside refreshments at the Salt Spring Island BC Parks Celebration, held at Lions Hall after the open house between 7 and 9 p.m.

The events precede extensive focus group discussions scheduled throughout the day on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Burfield recommends the events for any island residents who have an interest in management of the island's protected areas.

Copies of the draft management plans for each park and ecological reserve can be downloaded from the BC Parks website (www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks). The website offers people a

chance to submit comments about individual plans.

"We received a lot of input at the beginning of the process," Burfield said.

"That's been taken into account and incorporated into the plans."

Plans address topics like permitted uses, access, preservation of sensitive ecological areas and other management issues. The events mark the culmination of more than a year's effort and discussion with local governments, First Nations groups and concerned citizens.

The meetings touch on issues affecting Ruckle, Burgoyne Bay, Mount Erskine and Mount Maxwell provincial parks, as well as the Mount Maxwell and Mount Tuam ecological reserves.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Peter McCully, Publisher of the Gulf Islands Driftwood, is pleased to announce the appointment of Sharon Glynn as Sales Representative.

Sharon is excited to be joining the Driftwood team, her background includes running her own business, marketing, graphic design and photography, which will be invaluable in assisting clients. She brings fresh ideas, enthusiasm and a great sense of humour.

Sharon comes to Salt Spring Island via Victoria - originally from Nova Scotia. She loves nature, hiking, photography and singing. She is delighted to be a new member of the vibrant community of Salt Spring Island.

Sharon will be helping to market the Gulf Islands Driftwood, Driftwood Weekender and Gulf Islands Real Estate, as well as websites: gulfislandsdriftwood.com and gulfislandstourism.com

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NEWSBEAT

BOATING

Upcoming courses will help boat operators get 'the card'

Local coast guard auxiliary leads three PCOC sessions

The deadline for boaters to obtain a Pleasure Craft Operator Card was Sept. 15, but for those who have not yet taken the test to acquire the card, the local coast guard auxiliary can help.

On three separate dates this month and next, Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Unit 25 is offering a three-hour course in which boaters will be prepared and take the test for their PCOC.

The course covers the rules

and the tools for safe boating as well as basic seamanship and safe trip planning. Some literature will be provided. Knot tying and simulated vessel traffic will help participants use the knowledge they gain.

Classes will take place at Gulf Islands Secondary School (Room S107) from 2:30 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 22 and Oct. 29, and Wednesday, Nov. 4.

Pre-registration is required as space is limited to 25 people per course.

Recommended registration fee is \$30 (which includes the \$10 Transport Canada processing fee and a \$20 donation to

the Gulf Islands Marine Rescue Society).

To register, e-mail Tom McKeachie, Unit 25 training officer, at tymck@telus.net (preferred) or call 250-537-5637.

Holders of approved equivalency qualifications are not required to carry the card, but may, for their convenience, apply by simply showing their document with \$10. (No test is required.)

For a list of accepted qualifications, see www.tc.gc.ca/marine-safety/debs/obs/courses/pcoc/list-marine-safety-certif.htm.

A Pleasure Craft Operator Card is good for life.

RCMP

Reported thefts prompt RCMP advice

Vacation home and boat owners victimized

Thefts from a water-access only vacation home and boat were reported to Salt Spring police on Oct. 10.

As a result, Salt Spring RCMP are reminding boat owners and those with vacation homes to ensure due diligence is shown to secure their property and to report any suspicious activity to

police immediately.

Boat security can be enhanced by:

Locking and securing all entries;

- Installing a battery disable switch or chaining the boat to the dock. (Check with the local harbour authority before doing so.)

- Removing all valuables if leaving the boat unattended.

- Installing a locking device on all outboard motors.

For updates and more information, go to the Stolen Boats website at <http://www.stolenboats.ca/> or Coastal Watch British Columbia, 1-888-855-6655, www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/caw-sca/index-eng.htm.

To protect vacation homes, RCMP advise use of a property representative to check one's property regularly. Property representatives should report any suspicious incidents to the RCMP immediately.

MENTAL HEALTH

Trauma talk, networking at Community Gospel

Guest speakers the focus at Oct. 17 event

For people with an interest in mental health issues, the first of a variety of presentations runs on Salt Spring this Saturday.

Trauma — Education Awareness for the General Public is the title of the event at Community

Gospel Chapel on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Guest speakers are Cheryl Bell-Gadsby, director of adult services at Salt Spring Community Services, and counsellor Judith Boel, who has specialized in the area of trauma's effects.

They will speak at 10:30 a.m., and the discussion will be fol-

lowed by informal networking.

The event is sponsored by the Southern Gulf Islands Mental Health and Addictions Advisory Committee, the B.C. Schizophrenia Society (Victoria), Canadian Mental Health Association (Cowichan Valley branch) and Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society.

Salt Spring Island Provincial Protected Areas Management Planning Project

The Ministry of Environment (BC Parks) will host the final Open House and public sessions to discuss the draft management plans for Burgoyne Bay, Mount Erskine, Mount Maxwell and Ruckle Provincial Parks and Mount Maxwell and Mount Tuam Ecological Reserves and celebrate the BC Parks on Salt Spring Island.

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OPEN HOUSE

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

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SALT SPRING ISLAND BC PARKS CELEBRATION

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Presentation and refreshments

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 21, 2009

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Informal group discussions on each park's draft management plan

- 1:00 - 3:00 Mount Erskine & Ruckle Provincial Parks
- 3:00 - 4:00 Mount Maxwell & Mount Tuam Ecological Reserves
- 4:00 - 6:00 Burgoyne Bay & Mount Maxwell Provincial Parks
- 6:00 - 7:00 All parks & ecological reserves

For more information, please call Ministry of Environment BC Parks Planning Section at 250 751-3206 or visit the BC Parks Website at www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/future.html



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RED TIDE

Shellfish ban recently announced

Red tide has gripped the southern Gulf Islands, resulting in a large shellfish harvesting closure.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada says areas 17-1, 17-2, 18-1 to 18-5, 18-9 and 18-11 are closed to the harvesting of all bivalve molluscs, including all clams, oysters,

mussels and scallops. In laymen's terms, that includes water surrounding North and South Pender islands, Mayne, Samuel, Saturna and Tumbo islands, the east side of Galiano Island, including Swanson Channel, Trincomali Channel, Navy Channel, Plumper

Sound and Active Pass.

Several sanitary closures are also in effect in a number of areas.

For more information about shellfish closures, visit the Fisheries and Oceans website at www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca or call 250-754-0230 or 250-746-6221.

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NEWSBEAT

TRANSIT

Smashed bus to be fixed, not replaced

Replacement bus drives in to fill gap

The smashed bus taken out of service after an Oct. 5 collision with an SUV will not be replaced, confirmed transit operator Ineke de Jong Tuesday.

A BC Transit appraiser who examined the bus decided the bus will be repaired, not replaced with a new one as Salt Spring Transit had hoped.

"We always hoped for a new vehicle," de Jong said.

"But the bus is very fine and fixable; it's only two years old."

As of Tuesday, de Jong had not yet queried Commercial Body Builders on Annacis Island about how long repairs are expected to take.

Commercial Body Builders has been tasked with making the necessary repairs to the destroyed front and rear axles from the impact of the SUV on the bus' front, left side.

De Jong said while some people may worry the repaired bus will "never be the same," the appraiser was confident adequate repairs could be made.

During the past week while the damaged bus was being appraised, Salt Spring Transit buses were on time despite running with one less vehicle than usual.

BC Transit has issued a replacement bus with the same 24-passenger carrying capacity as the damaged bus.

De Jong said the replacement bus will be on the road today (Wednesday), restoring the Salt Spring Transit fleet to three.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

CONTRATORS FAIR: Ken Marr of Windsor Plywood hangs out at last Friday night's Contractors' Fair with, from left, Jesslyn Unwin, Shannon Cotnam and Karmel Franklin.

ISLANDS TRUST

Yurt variance denied

Applicant plots appeal

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

What was supposed to be a routine development variance permit application turned into a nasty surprise for a Horel Road resident at last week's local Trust committee meeting at ArtSpring.

Trustees not only denied the applicant Chrislon Robinson's development permit application but asked the Trust's bylaw enforcement branch to investigate alleged land-use violations that surfaced as part of the application process.

"I have several concerns about the use of this property and the things that I see going on there," said trustee George Ehring.

"I am really concerned that if we were to approve the variance, we would be dealing with yet more illegal uses."

Robinson sought the permit so she could legally use the yurt for her home-based massage therapy business.

The yurt, constructed on one of the waterfront property's few level areas, extends one metre into the Ministry of Transportation right of way along Horel Road. According to the island's land-use bylaw, no structure is permitted within 7.5 metres of the right of way.

"I want to comply with the bylaws so I can continue to support myself on the island," she told trustees at Thursday's meeting.

Neighbours contacted by the Trust about the application expressed

concerns about the property's alleged impact on the Cusheon Lake watershed, the residential use of the yurt and other accessory buildings on the property, the use of the main dwelling as a vacation rental and encroachment over the property line.

Despite neighbours' concerns, Islands Trust staff recommended that trustees approve the permit given the property's topography and the yurt's negligible impact on neighbours' views.

"Any other issues that have arisen from this application may not be relevant to the matter at hand, which is a setback relaxation issue," reads a staff report dated Oct. 1.

In an interview following the trustees' decision, Robinson said she will investigate whether or not she can appeal the decision.

She also seeks an apology from the Capital Regional District's building inspection office for disseminating what she called inaccurate information about her property.

"I'm still licking my wounds, but I intend to be pro-active about this," she said. "I feel like I've been pushed over the edge here."

Speaking at Thursday's meeting, trustees defended their decision to reject the permit based on the property use's potentially negative impact on water quality in Cusheon Lake.

"I want to send a message to other residents around the lake that we take the health of the lake and the health of the public very seriously," said trustee Christine Torgimson.

CLUB NEWS

Toastmaster wins area-level competition

Bud Bowes off to Courtenay next weekend

BY DANA PENNINGTON
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Once again Salt Spring Toastmasters have triumphed.

At the Salt Spring club level humorous speech competition held on Sept. 21, Bud Bowes was selected the first-place winner. With his speech called Good Friends and the Law, Bowes then continued to compete and win at the Area-10 level, covering Ladysmith, Duncan, Nanaimo and

Salt Spring. That win now allows Bowes to compete on Oct. 24 at the Division-G level in Courtenay.

At the local club competition, Rowan Metcalfe also placed first in the impromptu speech category, drawing upon her lively sense of imagination to entertain the audience with a spontaneous two-minute speech. Providing sharp competition for Metcalfe was Kathyne Holm, who placed second, and James Falcon, who placed third.

Among those competing against Bowes at the club level were promising newcomer Denis Fortin in second place, while

masterful toastmaster Holm placed third.

Toastmasters International is an organization dedicated to communication and leadership, with 12,500 clubs throughout the globe.

Anyone interested in developing their communication and leadership abilities should call 250-537-6934 for further information or visit the website at <http://saltspring.freetoasthost.ws/index.html>.

The public is also welcome to attend Toastmasters meetings, which are held every Monday at 7 p.m. in the Crofton Room at the Harbour House Hotel.



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Michael Winter, membership chair, renews the membership of branch president Bill McKenzie and Legion pipe band member Peter McCully.

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Opinion



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2009 BC and Yukon Community Newspapers Association Awards

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 GOLD - Best Editorial Page, 4,000-6,499 circ. / GOLD - Best Front Page, 4,000-6,499 circ.
 SILVER - Best Local Cartoon, Circ up to 9,999, Dennis Parker
 SILVER - Best Ad Design, 4,000-12,499 circ. "Pegasus Gallery"
 BRONZE - Best Special Section, Circ. 4,000 - 12,999, AQUA
 BRONZE - Best Feature Photo, Circ. 4,000 - 12,999, Derrick Lundy
2009 Canadian Community Newspaper Association Award



EDITORIAL

Watery future

Water stories. They're a staple of the news on Salt Spring and the other Gulf Islands. Whether talking about water quality, security of supply, fresh water, ground water, or the nuts and bolts of infrastructure, there's always something water-related in the works.

But sometimes the impact of the story can be hard to grasp. As long as potable water continues to flow from one's pipes, any problems lurking in the future are easy to forget.

However, two separate stories in the Driftwood last week should cause more than a few people to pay attention. In one, the North Salt Spring Waterworks District suggests a sewage system for lakeside properties

may be required to ensure the long-term health of St. Mary Lake. No price tag is attached to the preliminary idea, which arises out of the just released St. Mary Lake Watershed Management Plan, but we can be sure such a system wouldn't come cheap, regardless of who ends up paying.

THE ISSUE:

Complexity of water issues

WE SAY: Full communication needed

In another story, and with shorter-term implications, we learn the NSSWD did not receive hoped-for provincial-federal funding for a new \$7-million water treatment facility, which is needed to meet increased demand and new provincially mandated drinking water regulations. Without the grant, district ratepayers could be left to foot the whole bill.

Islanders should also be aware of coming discussions about the merits and downfalls of more water districts becoming entities of the Capital Regional District. As small water districts face the need for infrastructure upgrades, they've had to join the CRD to be eligible for federal-provincial funds, since improvement districts don't qualify to receive those grants on their own.

For Cedars of Tuam, Fulford and Beddis water districts, the hoped-for infrastructure improvements did not unfold exactly as planned, and/or within the originally estimated budget, for a variety of reasons.

Volunteers on Salt Spring's various water committees are likely well apprised of the issues and are a valuable community resource for the rest of us when it comes to dealing with water issues.

We should listen to what they have to say, and we also urge the NSSWD to be as communicative as possible with its ratepayers about what might be coming down the pipe.



Eating locally as a radical act

BY ELIZABETH MAY

In 2007 when the New Oxford American Dictionary chose "locavore" as new word of the year, the New York Times coverage spawned a wave of locavore frenzy. Even the Obamas have planted a vegetable garden at the White House, the first since the World War II "Victory Garden."

This summer, every community I visited included a tour of local community gardens.

Whether in Thunder Bay or Halifax, Whitehorse or Winnipeg, the move to grow healthy food and share it has been growing exponentially.

At a community garden in Winnipeg, the First Nations practice of accessing fresh food in winter is being taught. The source of fresh winter vegetables is Jerusalem artichokes, well mulched to be protected from the deep freeze. Meanwhile in Nanaimo, a gardening group has lined up the individual backyards of suburban residents into a patchwork of organic gardening spaces, converting the private space back to a commons.

The launch of Salt Spring Islander Brian Brett's new book, *Trauma Farm: A Rebel History of Rural Life*, will doubtless give the movement greater impetus. Brett has used his powerful talents as a story-teller to a deeper understanding of the ways in which a cultural set of assumptions about food is driving us toward a nutritional dead end characterized by species extinctions, loss of genetic diversity, poisoned soils and ever-rising fossil fuel consumption.

The reasons for supporting local food do not need to be stressed in a place like Salt Spring Island that boasts one of the most fabulous farmers' markets anywhere in Canada. But as Brett points out, Salt Spring is only producing a small percentage of its total food. In the past, the island exported food to Vancouver Island and beyond. Even accounting for population growth, the farm fields grown over in alders point to a loss of agricultural production.

Why should it matter? The reasons are almost too numerous to mention for fear of omitting one more compelling argument. One

VIEWPOINT

can point to the nutritional value of fresh and healthy foods, the reduced impact on the environment of the move away from pesticides and chemical fertilizers, the benefits to maintaining

a wide variety of species, the heroic work of seed savers in defying the corporate control of Monsanto, the reduced greenhouse gases in eating a 100-mile diet, the imperative for food security of accessing local food, our ability to adapt to a changing climate through small, mixed farms, and the myriad of ecological services maintained by an agricultural community alert to that role.

Perhaps the strongest case for local food is captured in the word "resilience." The ability to bounce back from shocks — whether from climate impacts, economic downturns, pandemics or even terrorism — depends on a society's resilience. If the trucks across the border were to stop rolling, most Canadian cities would run out of food in about two weeks. Our preference for "more and global" needs to be replaced by "less and local." Although food security is undeniably urgent for the global south, it also an issue in Canada.

We need to ensure that farmers are able to earn enough producing our food that they will continue farming. Most Canadian farmers now earn the bulk of their living off-farm. We also need to turn more urban space into gardening opportunities. Benefits include that a rooftop garden reduces the air conditioning demand in a modern high rise by 25 per cent, while also cooling "heat islands" of pavement and concrete.

To be radical, we go to the root. And the root of the problem, as Brian Brett argues, is the stuff between our ears. We need to re-orient governmental regulation promoting globalized "agribusiness" to healthy and local food as a top order goal. It all can be done. It takes that potent combination of public pressure, creativity, imagination, and political will.

Elizabeth May is the leader of the Green Party of Canada and nominated candidate for Saanich-Gulf Islands.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

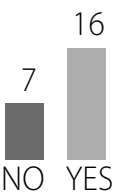
Should Obama have won a Nobel Peace Prize?

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LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you have a household fire escape plan?



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IslandVoices

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:
"I'm still licking my wounds, but I intend to be pro-active about this."

CHRISLON ROBINSON

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What public utility/facility, if any, is needed on Salt Spring Island?

ROBERT PATERSON

I think a community centre would be good for sports groups and other organizations.


ORION MARCANO

As long as we don't get a McDonald's, I'm stoked.


MIKE GRUENDEL

I think the hospital should be expanded and staffed accordingly so that it's more friendly to the entire population.


LINDA DARES

I know a lot of people would like to see an arena built and I'd skate if it was there.


PAT WOLFE-MILNER

We need a 20-year plan and accountability for expenditures before we can work on more facilities.

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 letters online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com under the Opinion tab.**

What the grant means

The library board is naturally delighted at the news that we have been awarded \$4.55 million towards the construction of a new library building.

The board is pleased to announce that all of the grant money will be applied to lowering the cost to the community. The total cost of the project is \$7.3 million. Deducting the amount of the grant from that sum, we will be asking the community to approve a referendum to borrow \$2.75 million for capital funds.

Under the conditions of the grant, one-third of the total construction cost — approximately \$2.25 million — must come from local property taxes; the remain-

der of the capital funds that will be requested in the referendum will cover costs not eligible under the grant. The bulk of those ineligible costs will be used for interim financing.

Here's why: it would be wonderful if we were handed a cheque for \$4.55 million! Alas, the system does not work that way. The CRD on our behalf will establish a line of credit that will enable us to take out short-term loans to finance the start of construction.

At intervals during construction we will submit paid invoices to the government and will be repaid two-thirds of the total costs submitted. We will therefore need to finance short-term debt during all the years of construction.

We do not have a crystal ball, and we cannot predict

how quickly the government will refund monies spent, nor can we be sure how much interest rates will rise over the period of construction. We have been careful to make an adequate allowance for both these unknowns, and also to continue to budget for inflation and unexpected contingencies.

At the end of the construction period, the funds raised by referendum — our one-third of the capital costs plus those costs not covered by the grant — will be amortized for 15 years under a Municipal Funding Authority loan which provides for capital projects at a lower than average interest rate.

The annual requisition on property taxes for the library will combine the cost of financing the short-term and long-term capital costs

and the annual operating expenses. Thanks to the grant we can now provide revised figures for the cost to households that of course are substantially lower than those we published earlier.

Property taxes vary with assessed value. The table shows the approximate cost to two sample households for the current year; for the gradually increasing costs in 2010-12 as construction is carried out; and — beginning in 2013 — for both funding the capital costs and for covering higher operating costs of the new library (more insurance, increased janitorial services and more paid staff).

Note that the amounts for the years 2010 are not in addition to the amount you are paying in 2009 — they are the total amount required each year. For

example, a resident whose home is assessed at \$300,000 will pay \$20.64 more in 2010 than he paid in 2009.

The following figures represent approximate annual costs; those who prefer to budget on a monthly basis can simply divide by 12.

Property assessment of \$300,000, in 2009, the cost is \$13.04; 2010, \$33.70; 2011, \$42.11; 2012, \$51.26; 2013 and after, \$52 (approximately).

For a property assessment of \$535,000 in 2009, \$23.27; 2010, \$60.16; 2011, \$75.17; 2012, \$91.52; 2013 and after, \$93 (approximately).

Remember that there are no additional costs above what you pay in property taxes; all the services provided by the library are free to every man, woman and child.

TILLY CRAWLEY,
LIBRARY BOARD CHAIR

Do it right

I must confess I have not been following the minute details of the library debates.

I have grown weary of people saying nasty things to each other. However, I do know two things.

1) We need a new building.

2) It needs to be in town.

A library needs to be accessible to all and that means within walking distance of the centre and that means Ganges.

There are things that require spending the extra dollars... the library is one.

We have all seen what happens when we do not.

Please, Salt Spring. Let's do this right.

RACHEL JACOBSON,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on A10

Entrepreneur's tale dampens award aspirations

People often ask Bill Gates and me what we feel is the secret to our financial success. I wouldn't want to speak for Gates, or his Microsoft empire, but I can say for sure that my own personal business acumen and savvy dates back to when I was a schoolboy in Grade 5.

It all began quite innocently. On my way home from school one day, I stopped off at my corner convenience store to blow my weekly 25 cents allowance on some gum and candy. Sammy, the proprietor, took me aside and showed me a new item that had just arrived in the store. It was a cellophane wrapped package containing two "Pocket Rockets."

These small plastic missiles could be armed with a piece of red cap tape behind the metal nose tip. When thrown up in the air, they landed with a resounding explosion.

I was impressed. Each pair of rockets cost only five cents, so I bought three packages, a roll of caps, and my usual supply of Smarties to get me through the next day. It dawned on me that since I was the only kid at school who had moved out of the district, nobody else would have been in Sammy's store or seen these pocket rockets. I had a plan.

The next morning, I arrived at school early and started showing off my new toy. The other boys crowded around me and watched in awe. They lined up to buy the rockets from me. I sold them for 10 cents each. I was making a 300 per cent profit!

I learned pretty quickly that nothing succeeds like success. Suddenly I became the

"big man on campus," or at least the "big boy in the school yard." My head was in the clouds and my feet hardly touched the ground. Within a couple of days, I was strutting around with a beautiful babe hanging off each arm (well, maybe they were only nine years old, but I had just turned 10 myself). I even had my own posse watching my back. A trail of Smarties tumbled from my overstuffed pockets, marking my daily movements. If a "Fat City" existed anywhere, I was its mayor.

The dimes kept rolling in as each recess and lunch hour was punctuated with the blasts of exploding rockets.

The school resembled a war zone. I soon realized that my opportunity for growth was diminishing as nearly every boy in the school had by now purchased my product. How was I to keep the demand going?

My solution was brilliant, if I say so myself. On a whim, I taped two of my pocket rockets together and was able to get double the blast noise when they hit the ground together. After a couple of demonstrations, the innovation became an instant hit and once again I had the boys lining up to give me their money for a second or third little missile. I had discovered "repeat customers." If anybody purchased a minimum of three rockets at one time, I offered them tape and a roll of caps at no extra charge. I had discovered "customer service."

Success was intoxicating. I began making

plans to increase my net worth. Perhaps there was a way to diversify or to expand my target market. I toyed with the idea of painting some of my rockets pink so they would attract more of the female sector. I realized that if I wanted to have room for my empire to experience growth, I would have to begin franchising. The future seemed so endless with promise.

As it turned out, the future (and my life as a school yard "weapons dealer") lasted only about a week. Just as fast as my empire had climbed to its zenith, it suddenly came crashing down around me. One morning, as I arrived at school, I noticed a large swarm

of boys waiting for me outside the front door. I assumed they were lining up to buy more pocket rockets. I was wrong.

Apparently my exclusive supply of pocket rockets was a thing of the past. The product had now moved into all the other corner stores in the area. Everyone now knew that they had cost me five cents for a package of two and that I had been flogging them at an exorbitant profit. My former "satisfied customers" had suddenly turned into a "class action" mob. I had just discovered "hostile takeover."

I tried to explain myself and somehow talk my way out of this predicament. The boys would have none of it. They demanded their money back and they wanted it now. The next thing I knew, I was being held upside down by my ankles and shaken up


Shilo Zylbergold
NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

OPINION

Board clarifies library location

BY TILLY CRAWLEY

My Sept. 23 letter to the Driftwood about Rainbow Road zoning as it relates to the location of the new Salt Spring library has upset some people, and for this I am sincerely sorry.

I thought I was just making a statement of fact, but I now realize that I should have explained the grounds for my statement.

Perhaps I have been too close to the project and overlooked the fact that the community in general does not have the background information that I have.

For several years, the library board has been attempting to acquire infrastructure funding from the federal and provincial governments to substantially reduce the cost of the new library to islanders.

We have finally been successful in acquiring \$4.5 million in funding from the federal government's Building Canada Fund.

However, this funding comes with conditions.

When we applied to this fund, we understood that the granting authority was looking for "shovel-ready" projects.

In our grant application, we

IN RESPONSE

were able to demonstrate that we were actively working on a design and would be able to start site preparation and construction in the first half of 2010.

We think that was an important factor in our securing the grant.

A second grant condition stipulated that the project be consistent with "official municipal plans," in our case the OCP, which states "the Local Trust Committee should not consider rezoning applications that would result in the following land uses outside the Village Designations: ... libraries."

A third condition was that our referendum to approve the borrowing of additional funds required to complete the project "must be completed within six months of receiving BCF-CC approval for the project." Finally, we are required to notify the government of any changes to the approved project.

If we were now to decide to locate the library on Rainbow

Road, we would have to obtain an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw, which would take at least one year, with no guarantee that it would be passed.

We would also have to carry out an extensive environmental assessment of the Rainbow Road site. In addition, we would have to develop a new site-specific design at additional cost and time delay.

An optimistic timetable for the construction of a new building on the Rainbow Road site would require a delay of two to three years.

We would no longer be "shovel-ready" and might therefore risk losing the federal-provincial infrastructure grant.

I had simply assumed in my previous letter that we would not want to take these risks and incur additional costs when the image of the new library is so tantalizingly before us.

Once again, I apologize for causing concern by not providing adequate background in my letter.

The writer is chair of the library board.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

ALL FIRED UP: Jamie Shukaliak, of Bellavance Welding, applies some finishing touches at the new liquor store next to Country Grocer.



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OPINION

MORE LETTERS

continued from A9

Cinderella's stepsisters

As I observe the library board's attempt to squeeze a very large building onto quite a small (and expensive) space while ignoring voices of reason regarding cost and suitability, I think of Cinderella's stepsisters who were so determined to get into those shoes that they ultimately lost the prize they desired beyond all reason.

Please, members of the library board, start really listening to the community whether it be local building contractors, folks who really walk to town and probably of great importance at the moment, those of us who will be paying the tax for your dream edifice whether we be renters or owners on our island.

Enough of your contrived questions and answers about your project since at the same time you're telling us everything is a done deal - so why are you pretending to ask for input?

Some of us suspected the library shoe wasn't to be an island fit when we saw the confusing wording of the referendum regarding the McPhillips purchase and the library board seems to have been squirming ever since to try to prove to us that the shoe will fit on McPhillips.

Please, take a lesson from the fate of Cinderella's stepsisters, and listen to the varied voices of reason within our community who would deliver a better facility at better cost and perhaps finer design on a property that would most definitely be a better fit.

RON AIRD,
GANGES

Excellent support

In the aftermath of the accident that occurred between our bus and another vehicle on the morning of Monday, Oct. 5, I would like to extend a deeply grateful thank you to all those involved in the accident response.

We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful emergency response team. It is also fortunate that no one was more seriously hurt than they were.

The careful extrication of the driver out of the other vehicle involved also resulted in no further injuries to this person. Our team knows what they are doing... big time!

We have had a great degree of concern coming from the community at large both

about our bus driver Tao Kimball and the other vehicle's driver. Concern was also there for myself, being the operator of the transit system. This can be quite a blow and people seem to be aware of that.

There are times this community feels like family and this is one of them. We are moving on, seemingly none the worse for wear, partly because of this support. BC Transit's response also played a part in that.

Living here and feeling you know the road is not enough reason to not take care. The bend in the road where our accident happened has had at least one fatality that I know of and maybe more.

I know it's been said before by many others and at the risk of sounding boring and like a repeat record, "Please be careful. Drive defensively."

It cannot be overstated how dangerous some of these roads are as far as visibility goes when travelling at excessive speeds. When one adds to that the fact that we get lots of visitors who are not aware of this and all the curves in the road, it adds another element of danger that we have to be cognizant of.

Let's look after each other like the family we seem to be.

INEKE DE JONG,
SALT SPRING TRANSIT OPERATOR

George Breden saluted

George Breden was a fellow-comrade at Branch 92, Royal Canadian Legion. He was also a long-term Salt Spring Garden Club member, and often brought lovely bouquets for all the tables in the Legion lounge and other island venues.

As a Lions Club member, George spent many days splitting and bundling kindling to be sold as a fundraiser. Knowledgeable in many areas, his opinions on historical and current events could be counted on to stir up a lively conversation wherever he went.

We'll miss you, George.

KATHLEEN MCCURDY,
RON STACEY,
QUEBEC DRIVE

Help from 500

I wish to bring the community up to date on the recent renovation of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.

The project is now complete, on time and on budget.

With the help of our friends as volunteers from all over Vancouver Island, our Kingdom

Hall, originally built in 1972, was completely refurbished. Every day from Aug. 22 until Sept. 20, at least 30 and many other times up to nearly 200 volunteers arrived to lend a hand. In total about 500 different people specializing in various fields supported the project. About 5,000 meals were served.

Our local congregation saved for many years to accomplish the project and needless to say we love our new meeting hall.

All this was accomplished with some disruption and inconvenience for our neigh-

bours, so on behalf of our congregation I would like to thank them for their patience and understanding. To be thanked also are the fine folks at the Salt Spring Community Centre for the use of their parking lot on the weekends. They have been excellent neighbours over the years.

We appreciate the use of some of the Search and Rescue parking area.

Thank you to the local businesses for their support with great prices and on-time delivery. We certainly appreciate Benjamin Moore, Country

Grocer, Gulf Coast Materials, Laurie's Waste Removal, Slegg Lumber, Salt Spring Golf and Country Club, Windsor Plywood and others for their help. Thank you for the timely inspections by the local authorities which allowed us to complete our hall on time.

KEN SMITH,
FOR THE SSI CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

End war

To date, 131 Canadian soldiers have been killed and many more seriously wounded in Afghanistan.

For what? Are we defending a corrupt, incompetent and fraudulently elected government?

Canadian soldiers are in Afghanistan under U.S. command and with a U.S. agenda. Perhaps it is worth looking beyond the official reasons given for this war of occupation.

In his recent book, *Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace*, prominent American writer Gore Vidal, says: "We need Afghanistan because it is the gateway to Central Asia, which is full of oil and natural gas. That is what

the war in Afghanistan is all about. It is about establishing American control over Central Asia."

Does Canada want to be a part of that? Canada needs to end its military mission in Afghanistan no later than December 31, 2011, as the Harper government has promised, by having all Canadian military personnel out of Afghanistan by then and not one soldier left behind for "non-combatant roles."

GEORGE TAYLOR,
FULFORD-GANGES ROAD

LETTERS continued on A12

To Preserve and Protect THE TAX ADVANTAGED WILL And How to Avoid Making Costly Mistakes

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What's for Dinner?

CHILI

Short cutz to cooking for one or two © 2009 with Sarah Lynn

Shopping list:

- Ground meat of your choice
- Canned beans of your choice
- Large can diced tomatoes
- Onion
- Green bell pepper
- Chili powder
- Garlic
- Ground cumin
- Salt and pepper
- Salsa

CHILI POWDER: is a generic name for any powdered spice mix composed of chili peppers, most commonly either red peppers or cayenne peppers. It can be made from virtually any hot pepper including Ancho, Cayenne, Chipolte, New Mexico and Pasilla chilies. The spice mix may simply be pure powdered chilies, or it may have other spices added like cumin, oregano, garlic powder, black pepper, cinnamon, cloves, coriander, mace, nutmeg, or turmeric. As a rule, the purer the chili powder the spicier it is. This recipe will help take the chill off any cold day. Leftovers are no problem...served over tortilla chips you have a wonderful taco salad.

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, cook **1 lb. ground meat** until brown. Stir in **1 small onion chopped, 1 chopped green bell pepper, 2 tablespoons chili powder, 2 cloves garlic - minced, 1 teaspoon ground cumin.** Cook until vegetables are soft and add **2 small cans beans - undrained, 1 large can diced tomatoes, and 1/2 cup salsa** of your choice. Reduce heat and simmer 30 minutes. Add **salt and pepper** to taste. Serve with soft tortillas or tortilla chips & a dollop of sour cream.

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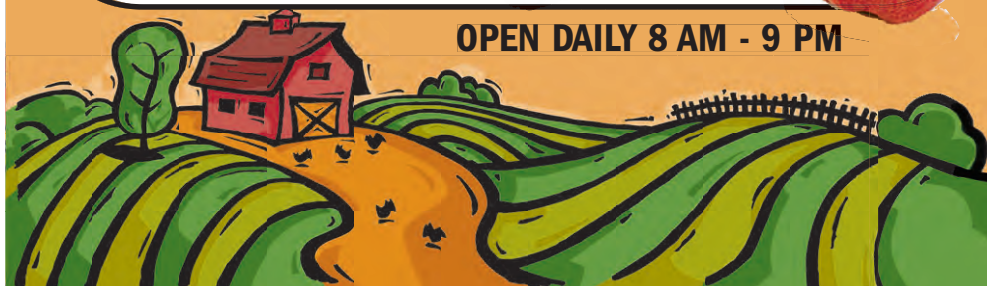
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OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

BIRTHDAY BALLOONS: 100 balloons were released in honour of Koreena Rochelle Leeanne Findlay, who died of SIDS this summer. The baby girl would have been one year old on Friday, Oct. 9.

RANTS *and* Roses

Roses

Rugosa, Austen and hybrid teas roses to members of the garden club who donated and potted up tons of plants to make this fall's plant sale the biggest and best ever!

Roses to Geoff and Craig of Gaylin Construction for your timely help. Fast, efficient and generous — quite a combination! It's having friends like you that makes living on this island so wonderful. T and I

A wheelbarrow full of thank-you roses to the kind people who put out free apples in their driveway at 130 Vesuvius Bay Road! We've been getting these much appreciated treats in our feed buckets all week. They're a taste sensation! Love, Joe, Rocky, Lance and Wheels (stablemates at neighbouring Blennerhassett). P.S. We let our humans have some, too.

Well done to Arnie Hengstler for staying with the off-island

schoolchildren in Crofton who were unable to catch the 3:30 ferry home when the Vesuvius/Crofton ferry broke down on Oct. 6. Arnie stayed to make sure all the children were loaded into the numerous water taxi trips, before driving down Vancouver Island to catch another ferry home. Thank you to Mark Rithaler who came to pick up his children (and took my child) in his boat, only to do a few more runs to assist with the line-up of travellers. Thank you to BC Ferries for buying the schoolchildren a snack and drink while they waited for the water taxi. Thank you to Emma at the Crofton booth for being patient and pleasant while being inundated by question seekers and impatient adults. Everyone worked well together, and although the breakdown was inconvenient, it was not the end of the world. Cydney

We wish to send a lumber yard of roses to Mark Rithaler (manager of Slegg's) for his assistance in providing boat transportation for our team of Toastmasters from

Vesuvius to Crofton. Our team was travelling to Ladysmith to compete in the area humorous speech contest when the ferry broke down and travel plans were put in jeopardy. With time running out, Mark came to the rescue and took the team to Crofton in his boat where they were picked up and rushed to Ladysmith with minutes to spare. We won the competition; and that in part is due to Mark's generous help and assistance. Thanks, Mark. Salt Spring Toastmasters

A truckload of summer roses to the crew at the Blackburn Road transfer station for helping me fix my broken car key, and for lugging away my garbage like true gentlemen. You guys rock! Thank you! Andrea Cutts

Jonathan Seagull wishes a netful of salmon-coloured roses to Arnie and staff at The Fishery for the breakfasts of fish scraps he enjoys every day at his winter stop at Connie Hardy's Cusheon Lake residence. Thanks!

LETTERS

continued from A12

Basic rights

How can Bill 13 even be contemplated? Does it not tell us that there is too large a corporate component to hosting the Olympics?

Historically we have granted corporations full citizenship rights since the 1930s. This now needs a second look as deep pockets seem to have too much influence in the process of our government. Clearly peaceful dissent is a fundamental right in a functioning democracy. This has to be done in a public forum.

A law is only "temporary" after it has been removed, otherwise it stands!

Long, costly prison sentences for peaceful dissent? Wow!

If heavy-handed curtailing of civil liberties is the only way to rein in rogue companies in an Olympic situation, then clearly the price is much too high. And does not the deportation of homeless people to Prince George remind us of another war measure act that we have come to deeply regret?

I wonder if they have started building the air raid sirens in Vancouver to announce the daily approach of Saltspring Air. How

can we be so irresponsible in the stewardship of our basic democratic rights?

KEN ROTHAM,
MOBRAE AVENUE

Ban unreasonable

With regard to the float planes landing on Salt Spring lakes.

It is a pity that what appears to be Wayne Hewitt's vendetta against float planes has for the moment resulted in the RCMP planning to ticket float plane pilots landing on St. Mary Lake (and others). This vendetta it seems was sparked by a small seaplane landing on Cusheon Lake last summer — in Mr. Hewitt's back yard.

Most of the lakes on Salt Spring are designated electric motors only (EMO). This classification was brought in to prevent the use of two-stroke outboard engines that utilize a gas/oil mixture and are quite heavy polluters. With this I agree, since there are substitute means of propelling a boat for pleasure, i.e. electric motors, oars and paddles.

Float planes do not pollute and have used St. Mary Lake for at least 50 years to my personal knowledge. Long-time

Salt Spring resident Ed Davis has operated his Beaver aircraft from his residence on the lake for more than 30 years.

Transport Canada has decreed that a float plane taxiing on the water becomes a powered vessel. This, I believe, is for the purpose of navigation and rights of way with other waterborne craft, only — a necessity, as can be seen with the mix of aircraft, boats, dinghies, etc. in Ganges Harbour.

This classification of a float plane on the water as a "powered vessel" was not intended to be a "technicality" to ban them from landing on an EMO lake when anti-pollution was the intention of the EMO designation.

Mr. Hewitt's statement that "There's no reason why our lakes shouldn't have the same level of protection as other water bodies used for drinking water in the province" brings to mind the Capilano dam and watershed of the Vancouver area. This, for Salt Spring lakes, would mean no boating, fishing, swimming, farm animals, septic fields, pesticides, fertilizers, roads and vehicles in near proximity and — yes — no float planes!

RAY MARTIN,
SALT SPRING

CONSERVANCY

Michael Ableman on
Thinking Like an Island

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OPINION

For what it's worth — conservancy program is priceless

BY WENDY HILLIARD

It's a sunny fall day, and along with other volunteers I'm waiting with anticipation for the yellow school bus to arrive, carrying about 30 Grade 4/5 children.

As they scramble excitedly off the bus and form a big circle in the meadow, I reflect on the varied richness of this Salt Spring Conservancy school program called "Stewards in Training" and the pleasure of discovery it has given kids and volunteers alike. Children are never more alive, open and curious than when exploring (for example) the squiggling life in a pail of springtime pond water; or when encountering near the beach a moon snail big as a dinner plate.

The field trips bring the children to a variety of special places and ecosystems on the island, and teach them awareness, care and respect for the natural world. Today, in one of the four "stations," they learn about stinging nettles. Initially, most of us would agree nettles are an irritating weed you have to watch out for. Maybe so, but the group of seven kids explores the subject with their station volunteer (a gifted outdoor educator) and discover not only the contribution the lowly nettle has made to human and soil health, but also the uses of its strong fibres. They stare at pictures of the ropes First Nations people made with the plant, then run off to don gloves and harvest their own nettle plants. Soon they are learning how to pound, crack and twist stems, and are excitedly braiding twine. This hands-on learning is not only fun — in a half hour it has given them insight into how humans and nature can interact.

We older folks may forget that this new generation is less likely to simply "go out and play" when not at school. Increasingly, television, computers and video games take up their attention. As well, our society has become more fearful and safety conscious about children playing freely outside. However, research suggests that being sedentary and "plugged in" has contributed to attention deficit disorder, obesity and depression in today's children. Even in the midst of the natural world on this island, children, like their counterparts in the city, may be involved in a range of organized activities from hockey to horseback riding, and not have much unstructured time in nature.

Not only does playing in nature increase children's health, concen-

INDEPTH

tration and happiness, it can develop a kinship with the outdoors that evolves into an informed appreciation and love of the natural world. There are huge challenges facing all of us. These children will be among those dealing with necessary changes so that we may live sustainably on this beautiful troubled planet. Going outside to learn about nature connects students with where they live and inspires them to grow into active engaged citizens who value the natural world and wildlife.

Later in the afternoon at Cusheon Cove, at closing circle, the children call out what they enjoyed most about the day. Some enjoyed learning about the main types of trees on the island, testing the properties of various woods, and using simple tools to try their hands at whittling. Some liked learning to use a compass. Of course, making nettle ropes is a big hit. And a quiet girl confides to me that she'd like to come back here with her family, just to explore and poke around.

As the bus leaves, I have to shake my head that the provincial government has cut funding for this highly developed and rich program for 700 students in grades 1 to 8. Until now the \$20,000 required to run this program has come mostly from the B.C. Gaming Commission. This seems a paltry sum to pay for two highly qualified coordinators who recruit, train and organize over 50 volunteers yearly, organize over 30 field trips and teach the program. What amazing value!

I hope somehow the Stewards-in-Training program can be saved and supported for the future. Contact the Salt Spring Conservancy if you can help.

As for my day volunteering, I always come away with a favourite image. Today it was the young girl at picnic-time playing dreamily on her own, arranging the golden cut grass into a large soft circular nest. I ask her what she made. She replies she hopes maybe a bird will come down and nestle there. Or maybe the bird will pick up the grass bit by bit and rebuild a nest in a tree.

That's what it's about.

The writer is a volunteer with the Salt Spring Conservancy's Stewards-in-Training program.

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The Community

SSI Volunteer Fire Department / CNIB for Talking Books on SSI / Fulford Community Hall Assn. and Drummond Park / Gulf Islands Marine Rescue Society / In From The Cold Emergency Shelter / Island Farmers' Institute / Island Women Against Violence for the Transition House / Japanese Garden Society / Mary Hawkins Library (SSI Public Library) / RCMP Victim Assistance Program / SSI Community Services Society / SSI Historical Society / SSI Public Transportation Society / SSI Search and Rescue Society / SSI Society for Community Education / SWOVA / Victoria Human Exchange Society for Grandma's House and Bittancourt Manor / Volunteer Salt Spring (SSICS) / Ruckle Park Family Farm Day

The Environment and Animal Care

Gulf Islands Centre for Ecological Learning / I-SEA (Institute for Sustainability Education and Action) / Gulf Islands Marine Rescue Society / Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society / Islands Trust Fund for the Ruby Alton Nature Reserve and McFadden Creek Heronry / Island Wildlife Natural Care Society / The Land Conservancy of BC for Burgoyne Bay and Creekside Rainforest / SPCA, SSI Branch / SSI Conservancy for various projects

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PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Sean Norgard beats the defender and keeper as Alumni FC drops a 5-3 game to Castaways in men's soccer action on Salt Spring last weekend.

MEN'S SOCCER



Alumni FC slides into seventh with three consecutive losses

Old Boys look to recover

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

After a promising start to their 2009 season, Salt Spring's Alumni FC dropped a third consecutive match on Sunday afternoon.

Alumni FC dominated play against the Castaways Juniors for the better part of the first half.

Goals from Sean Norgard and Jesse Fisher gave the team a seemingly insurmountable two-goal lead midway through the half.

"We had a good start and I thought we outplayed them, but they countered well and took advantage of their chances," said Alumni FC's Jesse Fisher.

The Castaways battled back to tie the match 2-2 before the half. With momentum on their side,

the Castaways found the Alumni FC goal three more times in the second half.

Fisher scored his second goal of the match but it was far from enough to complete a comeback. The Castaways held on to preserve a 5-3 victory. The win was the Castaways' first victory of the season.

"I don't think we've ever given up five goals," Fisher said.

He said Alumni FC players may have been too confident after building up a quick two-goal lead.

"The lesson learned is that we can't let our guard down," he said.

The team's third-straight loss puts Alumni FC in "uncharted territory" as pressure mounts to keep pace with top teams in the Vancouver Island Soccer League's Masters-A division.

The loss drops Alumni FC to

seventh place in their division with a 2-3-0 record. Only three points separate Alumni FC from second place.

Alumni FC players travel to Victoria where they go up against sixth-placed VicWest (2-2-1) on Saturday at 6 p.m.

In other soccer news, the Salt Spring Island Old Boys suffered a stinging defeat at the hands of the Prospect Lake Lakers on the weekend.

The 6-1 loss drops the Old Boys to fourth place in the VISL's Masters-C division with three points and a 1-2-0 record.

Old Boys goal scorer Mike McCormick offered the lone ray of hope in the lopsided defeat.

The Old Boys will try to climb the division standings when they host last-place Juan de Fuca (0-2-0) on Sunday, Oct. 18 at 10:30 a.m.

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COLIN NICOL
General Manager, Wealth Management
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SPORTS & RECREATION

RUNNING

Islanders set marathon pace

Local runners post strong finishes

Salt Spring runners took advantage of ideal conditions on Sunday morning to post strong results in various events at the 30th annual Royal Victoria Marathon.

Seventeen island runners in 11 distinct age categories competed with 12,492 athletes in the 8K, half-marathon and marathon races.

Veteran marathoner Judith Beaglehole placed second in her division (F65-69) with a time of 4:15:35. Lorraine Kopetzki completed the 42-kilometre (26.2-mile) course in 4:28:30.

Kurtis Buyze finished the 21-kilometre (13.1-mile) half-marathon circuit in 1:30:04. He finished 116th overall and 22nd in his age category (M25-29). Melanie Van Soeren was the island's fastest female runner with a time of 1:44:04, enough to place 18th in her division (F20-24).

Other half-marathon finishers were: Jason Jewkes (1:39:15), Sean McIntyre (1:46:18), Keith Cloete (1:50:07), Greg Taylor (1:56:15), Janice Dickie (1:56:20), Lise Fraser (1:56:26), Natsuko Inaba (1:59:24), Karen Berg (2:03:20) and Julie Van Soeren (2:24:25).

Vladimir Pomajzl topped the island's 8K racers with a time of 36:10 and a fourth-place finish in his age category (M60-64).

Lynn Thompson finished less than a minute out of first place in his age category (M70-74) with a time of 42:40. Carolyn Pomajzl ran the 8-km event in 40:02. She placed 12th in her division (F20-24). Karen Pedersen completed the event in 45:37.



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

UP AND AWAY: Rhys Hardy executes a flying header in high school senior boys soccer action last week. The local squad went down 2-1 to Cedar.

SAILING

Strategy makes for thrilling Prevost race

Fine weather greets annual fall event

Peter Toby single-handedly skipped his way to a first-place finish on corrected time in the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club's annual Round Prevost race.

Toby's Naru was among 12 boats entered in the Oct. 4 event, held under bright sunshine and warm northwesterly winds.

"[The Round Prevost event] is a challenging tactical race where choice of direction, wind and tides can have a big effect on the outcome," said Pete McGovern, the sailing club's fleet racing captain.

Wind speeds for racers leaving a white-capped Ganges Harbour topped out at 15 knots.

"Caliente (Ole Andersen), wing on wing down the harbour kept up well with Oasis (Bob Jones) under spinnaker and Oasis chose to run down past the Channel Isles for an anti-clockwise circuit around Prevost. Electra (Roger Kibble), having also committed to a similar course, made a late decision to head for Captain Passage and the rest of the fleet followed as winds appeared to be stronger on the backside of Prevost," wrote McGovern in his post-race report.

"Caliente and Electra entered the harbour first with Electra slightly ahead but Caliente having the better line," McGovern said.

Steady winds allowed Caliente to proceed with minimal tacks and cross the finish line first.

All boats finished the course,

with Tara's Whisper (Mario Tello) crossing the line 80 minutes after Caliente to great cheers from the peanut gallery on the dock, McGovern added.

The top-three finishers, on corrected time, were Naru in 2:32:32, Kay D (Martin Herbert/Tony Meek) in 2:34:01, and Electra in 2:34:35.

"Ultimately, the direction probably had little bearing on which boat won, as the corrected times of the top six boats were within 10 minutes," McGovern said.

"A fantastic day on the water and a rare race where conditions suited all the boats equally."

The Salt Spring Island Sailing Club's next official event is the Captain Passage Race on Sunday, Oct. 18.

Thank You



On behalf of the Salt Spring Island Junior Golf Program special recognition is extended to all those involved in making the 9th Annual Richard Vermeulen Memorial Fundraiser another resounding success. The tremendous community spirit exemplified in the generous support of this important event is very much appreciated. Our sincere thanks go out to the many individuals and organizations, without whom this special day for JUNIOR GOLF would not have been possible.

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A huge thank you to:

Jesse Blanchette and his staff from the Falconshead Grill & Lounge for an amazing dinner. And to Shelly Vermeulen, Steven Marleau, Brett Savin & Gord Hollingsworth for all their hard work, without them this event would never have happened

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Finally, thanks to all of the golfers for their continued participation. This year the tournament added just over \$10,000.00 to the Junior Golf Fund. Without YOU this event would not be possible. We look forward to seeing you all again next year for the 10th Annual Richard Vermeulen Memorial Cup Fun Day in support of Junior Golf.



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SPORTS & RECREATION

BASKETBALL

Four tapped for invitation-only basketball

Part of elite 45 at Thanksgiving event

Four SIMS students were honoured this week by being invited to participate in an invite-only pre-season basketball camp sponsored by Passion Sports.

Tai Levitt, Eric Weatherby, Billy George and Lukas Wenzel received the good news in a letter that began:

"You have been identified by your school as one of Victoria's top basketball prospects" and goes on to say that their skill potential has earned them an invitation to participate in the program held over the Thanksgiving weekend at Saint Michael's University School.

"Only the top 45 U14 players in the Victoria area were selected for this special training and the fact that four of the 45 come from Salt Spring's middle school says quite a bit for our basketball program, headed by Jude Shugar



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Three of the four basketball players, from left: Tai Levitt, Billy George and Eric Weatherby.

and Diane Weatherby," states a release about the invitations.

The boys were coached by current Canadian Inter-University Sports players, with guest coaching from the staff of UVIC's men's team, including its assistant coach Gord Thatcher.

An added bonus was being coached by Ian Hyde-Lay, who coached two-

time NBA MVP and local hero Steve Nash, when Nash was in high school at SMU.

Passion Sports, whose motto is "I Work Harder", ran an extraordinary summer basketball program on Salt Spring this summer, which gave the coaches and boys a chance to work together and get to know one another.

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WOMEN'S GOLF

Golfers leave their mark at Zone 5 foursomes

More finalists than other regional clubs

BY SUSAN RUSSELL
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It must have felt like a tsunami hit Vancouver Island golfers Sept. 25 when 10 teams showed up from the Salt Spring Island Golf Club for the annual Zone 5 Foursomes.

Eight of the ten teams made it past the first day at Cedar Hill Golf Club. After games at Uplands, Arbutus Ridge, and Olympic View, four Salt Spring teams made it

into the finals last Friday at Gorge Vale. There were more Salt Spring finalists than from any other club.

The women really excelled in the tournament. In Flight #2, Darlene Wellington and Julie Tyler were the runners up. They had defeated the perennially winning Salt Spring team of Melanie Iverson and Linda Joyce earlier in the week.

In Flight #6, Tricia Simpson and Pat Low were runners up to a team from Cordova Bay.

The big winners were in Flight #8 where April Wright and Deb Hamilton defeated Femmy Schuurmans and Gladys Campbell in a very competitive match.

Wright attributes their win to the fact

that despite the record rainfall on Tuesday, they kept their sense of humour and enjoyed the game.

"It was pretty exciting to see 20 women enter the competition, and eight women, four teams, were in the final on Friday, more than any other club," said women's captain Linda Woodley.

Golfer Pat Low, who with her partner Tricia Simpson has participated for several years, said, "We were very excited to last the five days of the competition, and astonished, too! It is great fun to play five different courses and because of the format of alternate shot/match play, not all the pressure rests on one person."

Meanwhile, back on our local course, there

have been lots of winners and losers. On Aug. 25, in a unique competition named Three Blind Mice, Bev Menzies and Carole Pearce were the winners, with Pearce winning the putt pot and Mona Coulter the KP.

The ladies are enjoying the variety of matches on Tuesday mornings.

On Sept. 1 in Stableford competition, the winners were Kathy Luke, Marlene Rista and Pat Low, with KP going to Linda Woodley, and a three-way tie for the putt pot, Franki Johnstone, Marlene Rista, and Janelle Holmes.

The last cup of the season is the Criers Cup, for all those golfers who failed to win a cup earlier in the season.

This last chance event

was won by Gladys Campbell, just returned from a week of non-stop golf, with runner up Heather Lawler.

Alice Richards and Gladys Campbell shared the putt pot, and KP winner was Joanna Barrett.

The Monday Night Ladies wound up a very successful season last Monday with their end-of-year tournament. Franki Johnstone was the low gross winner, Trudy Sloan won low net and MaryLou Bompas took home the prize for most improved.

The season has come to a close with the final awards luncheon for all women golfers. The great weather, good course conditions and friendly competition made for an exceptional season.

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Salt Spring Bikers



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p.s. next year's ride is already being planned and promises to be the best ever....

FLOOR HOCKEY

Slapshots and saves return to Fulford Hall

For all ages and levels of experience

The puck drops on "hockey night on Salt Spring" this Monday evening when weekly floor hockey ses-

sions start up again at Fulford Hall.

Organizers of the floor hockey nights say the event is open to people of all ages and abilities.

"It's a lot of fun and a good workout," says player Peter McFarlane. "The age ranges from

teen to pretty much triple digit."

Typically, about 10 to 20 people turn out for the sessions, which have been running on Salt Spring for numerous years.

Floor hockey starts at 7 p.m. and runs for about two hours.

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SPORTS & RECREATION

MEN'S SOCCER

Salt Spring FC stays on the ball with another win

Gremio earns another draw

BY SEAN MCINTYRE

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring FC is still undefeated and in first place in their division after defeating Gordon Head over the weekend.

FC's Leroy Coombs gave his team the lead after about 20 minutes of play, taking full advantage of a misplayed ball by the Gordon Head keeper early in the first.

The goal was among few highlights as FC

struggled through the first half. FC gave up a tying goal within 15 minutes of taking the lead.

"We played a pretty bad game in the first half," said player Jordon Morrison. "We gave up a lot of turnovers and had no composure."

Things took a turn for the better in the second as FC gained the lead for good on Coombs' second goal of the match.

"Steve Severn found Leroy unmarked and Leroy hit the bottom corner," Morrison said.

With five minutes left to play, FC put

the game out of reach when Rodrigo Cruz hooked up with some fancy passing from Severn and Bobby Byron.

The win gives FC a 4-0-1 record. The team has a three-point hold on first place in the Vancouver Island Soccer League's second division.

FC travels to Vancouver Island again this weekend to play second-place Bays United FC (3-1-1) at Royal Athletic Park.

"They're probably as tough as they come," Morrison said.

• In Div.-4C soccer action, Ganges Gremio improved its record to 1-0-3 after playing to a two-all draw against the Golden Wings on Sunday afternoon.

Dave McColl and Colin McDougall provided the offence against the division-leading Golden Wings (4-0-1).

Gremio is in sixth spot with six points. The team will try to climb the standings when players take on SPL (0-4-0) on Sunday, Oct. 18. The game's location will be announced on the VISL website.

Referee training underway this weekend

Various levels and courses need participants

The soccer season is well underway for Salt Spring United as the teams are all formed and playing and miraculously the weather continues to hold. Usually one tends to think of rain when the soccer season gets underway.

The best part of this weather has been the good crowds out watching our many youth and adult teams competing, especially decked out in our new uniforms of white, red and black — they definitely all look sharp. With their coaching staff in place and our technical director Josip Brantonovic overseeing this program, as well as adding his own training sessions, we expect to see some good results this season.

The technical committee, led by Brantonovic and Colin Walde, are not only doing their regular player training sessions but this year are doing training sessions for coaches, as well as being game-side for individual instruction. (Details of



Malcolm Legg

SOCCER ROUND-UP

this will be under coaching on the www.saltspringsoccer.com website.)

Of course there is one more element that our club develops at the beginning of the season and that is the referees program, led by the head referee who happens to be this writer. As usual we need more referees to help cover the games we have scheduled every weekend and so training becomes an integral part of this process.

New referees can enter the program at two levels: entry level for 12- to 14-year-olds or adults who want to learn the laws of the game and referee small-sided games or

run lines; or as district referees for youth

and adults 14 years and older who can referee all games, based on abilities and age.

Salt Spring United will be offering an Entry Level Clinic for all youths 11 and older and any adults who wish to be an assistant referee (run the side-lines with a flag). The clinic costs \$50 per individual wishing to become a referee. (If you're just interested in the laws of the game or want to run lines for a team, there is no cost.) The fee includes a book on the laws

of the game, BCSA badge, referee's shirt and socks, whistle, flags and a notebook for scores.

The course that begins on Sunday, Oct. 18 will teach the basic 17 laws of the game in a simplified form, as well as the laws for the small-sided soccer games, and will be followed by practical application of the use of the flags and an exam.

The course will run from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Portlock Park portable with the second part initially set for Friday, Oct. 23 (time and place TBA) and will be conducted by Malcolm Legg.

The flag session will occur at Portlock Park on Sunday, Oct. 25 and will be done by Grant Eckberg. This session will be open to all parents who wish to learn how to run lines.

To register for the course please contact Malcolm Legg at 250-537-4970 or via e-mail at mallegg@shaw.ca. Payment for the course is collected at the first session.

Refereeing is a great way for youths and adults to learn the laws of the game, a good way for youths to earn money for doing the games and a great way for individuals to learn how to manage and control a group of athletes. Why not give it a try? Your help is needed by our club.

From Vancouver to Salt Spring
and back

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to say about a story
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THANK YOU!



From left-to-right: Linda Matteson-Reynolds, Jeff Hopkins, David Feitelberg, Ann Marie Davidson, Janine Fernandes-Hayden and, Grades 2/3 from Salt Spring Elementary.

Lady Minto Hospital Foundation wishes to thank the following people for making our "Kids Making Change" campaign such a success.

Foxglove – Chris & Marilyn Schmah

Windsor Plywood –

Ken Marr & Mike Stefanicsik

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Ganges Fire Hall

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Shaw Cable

Jeff Hopkins, Superintendent,
School District 64

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Display deadline: **Monday 4 pm**
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Driftwood WEEKENDER

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Display deadline:
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DEATHS

DEATHS

CELEBRATIONS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

Andress
Alice Marie
 (née Metzger)

Alice died quietly on October 9, 2009 in Nanaimo, surrounded by her loving family. Alice was the beloved wife of Claus Andress for 52 years, and much-loved mother of Catie (Tim), Mary (Gilles), Caroline (Perry) & Peter (Sylvia). She was a very special grandma to Megan, Noah, Sophie, Madeleine, Lucie, Alice, Alyssa and Cyrus, adored aunt to Julie, Peggy, Jackie, Jonathan, John, Bob, Al, Tina, and Michael, and great-aunt to many. She will be remembered always with love, and very much missed.

Alice is predeceased by her infant children Claus & Stephanie Andress, cherished parents Alvin and Laura Metzger, brother John Metzger, and sister Margaret Klinck.

Alice was born on July 23, 1929 in Hanover, Ontario, where she grew up amidst a large and loving family. She graduated with honours from Western University in mathematics and physics, and went on to complete a Masters degree in mathematics at Queens University, and commence PhD studies at Columbia University. She taught mathematics at Waterloo Lutheran College (now Wilfrid Laurier University), where she was also appointed first Dean of Women. Alice was an independent and adventurous young woman, and traveled extensively in Europe, leading tours and teaching at a private school in England.

Throughout her life, Alice was very committed to the church. She gave selflessly of her time, resources, and energy to help others. In her early years, she was Sunday School Superintendent at St. Mathews Lutheran church in Hanover, and later worked on the Board of World Missions, representing the Lutheran church in India. After moving to British Columbia in 1967, she was elected to the Abbotsford School Board.

In 1975 she moved with her family to Salt Spring Island, where she was a well-loved and respected member of the community. She dedicated herself to the raising of her four children and supporting her husband as 'the vet's wife', while also running the parish Sunday School. Over the years she organized placements for Vietnamese refugees, was heavily involved in the peace movement, campaigned for nuclear disarmament, and worked to raise money for World Development. She tutored jail prisoners in mathematics for the Open Learning Agency, and volunteered in extended care at Lady Minto Hospital, faithfully baking a cake every Monday for 25 years to serve to her beloved 'oldies'. Alice also acted as hostess at the soup kitchen at All Saints Church. After moving to Nanaimo, she provided cookies and conversation to prisoners at the correctional institute.

Alice struggled with an undefined neurological condition for 25 years, with particular difficulty over the last 10 years. In spite of it all she lived her life to the very end with generosity, gratitude and love.

A memorial service in celebration of Alice's life will be held on Wednesday, October 14th 2pm at Saint Philip's Church in Lantzville, with tea to follow. In lieu of flowers, Alice would have liked donations to Save the Children Canada (www.savethechildren.ca) or Loaves & Fishes food bank (www.loavesfishes.org).



**JAIME SANDS/
 LIAM DONNELLY**
Married
 August 22, 2009
 Nanaimo, BC

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

**DANCE TO
 Bande Grande**
 Beaver Point Hall
 Saturday, Oct. 17th 8pm
 Tickets \$15 (at the door)

BINGO
 MEADEN HALL
 Royal Canadian Legion
 7 PM THURSDAY
 October 15
 Early Birds, 6:30 pm
 Sponsored by
 Ladies Auxiliary
 Royal Canadian Legion Br. 92
 All proceeds to bursaries
 for Salt Spring Students.

CURRENTLY AVAIL. Garden Suite: 2 bdrms, shared HE W/D, shared lrg. yard, river rock fireplace and insert, laminate/tile floors, NP, NS. \$900 + Hydro. 250 526-0211 eve.

ROTARY SPOOKTACULAR tickets now on sale at the Local, Manulife Securities, Pemberton Holmes, Raven Street Cafe. Casino and Dance, Friday Oct. 30.

IN MEMORIAM

**A Special Person
 Loved & Remembered**

FRANCIS RICE
 December 23, 1946 to October 12, 2001



**FIRE PROTECTION
 DISTRICT MEETING**
 7:30 pm at Fire Hall #1
Oct. 19, 2009
 PUBLIC WELCOME

FOR A complete calendar of coming events check the Driftwood Community Calendar, in our office in the Upper Ganges Centre, 328 Lower Ganges Road, or on our website at www.gulfislands.net. Use the calendar for event planning and to make sure your date doesn't conflict with someone else's.

GUN SHOW
 Courtenay Fish & Game
 3780 Colake Road
BUY, SELL & TRADE
 Sunday, Oct 18th, 2009
 9 am - 2 pm
 Breakfast & Lunch available
BRING THE FAMILY
 For more information call
 Bob 1-250-339-1179, Comox

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 CHOCOLATES &
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Knotty Threads
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 Fulford Village.
 Hours: Thurs - Mon.
 11:00am-5:00pm
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**MESSAGE OASIS CHAIR
 MASSAGE**
 Miss your Saturday Market Massage fix? Maxine is now offering chair massage at North End Fitness, Saturdays, starting Oct. 17 from 10 to 3 in the stretching room. Same great price - \$1.00 per minute - for the same great service: "Working out the tight spots." 250-538-1769.

MEETING: BOARD of Directors of Central Community Hall, Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2009, 7pm. Public welcome.

SINGING LESSONS
 with Julia Beattie
 Fall series starts
 Tues. Oct. 20 and
 ends Dec. 15.
 Learn one on one in
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 10 years experience.
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 Central Hall
 9am-4pm

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**ANNUAL
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 & dance**
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 Farmers' Institute
 Rainbow Road**
 Tickets now on sale at:
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 Manulife Securities
 Pemberton Holmes
 Raven Street Cafe

**Triple P
 Parenting Workshop**
 8 week workshop
 for parents with
 children 2-10
**Wednesdays 12 - 1:30
 pm**
 (bring lunch)
**October 28 to Decem-
 ber 16**

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 Sewing classes for
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 Learn to sew,
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INFORMATION

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 For more information please go to the website, phone 537-8305, or email info@saltspringislandfoundation.org
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COMING EVENTS

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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HELP WANTED

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HELP WANTED

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2-year terms, starting Jan 1, 2010. Application forms may be picked up or requested from the PARC administration office, (Mon to Fri 8:30 am to 4:30 pm). Please submit your expression of interest and relevant previous experience, **no later than October 30, 2009** to:

PARC
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WHAT'S ON PAGE B6

HELP WANTED

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-Combase survey

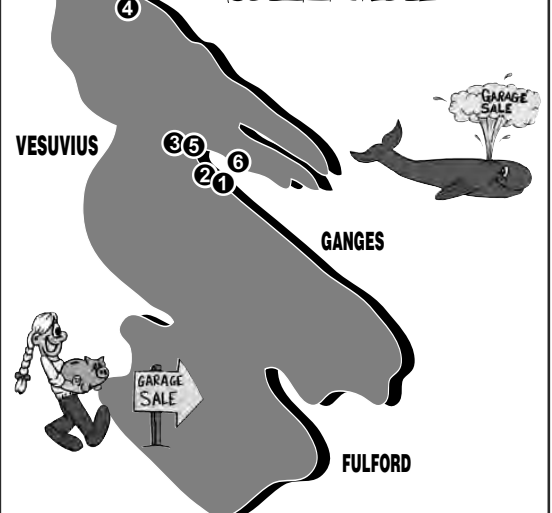
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THE GREAT GARAGE SALE MAP



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LIONS GARAGE Sale: Fridays & Saturdays only, 10am - 12pm. Many household items. Note: We now offer furniture pickups. We do not accept appliances. Drop-offs accepted only on Fri. & Sat. morning. Please no garbage!! 103 Bonnet Ave. ②

MOVING SALE: Sat. Oct 17. Chairs, odds & ends, single bed, 9 - 12 noon. #82 Brinkworthy Rd. ③

OCT 17, 9 - 5, Lots of tools. 115 Maliview Drive. ④

Sat., Oct. 17, 8 am to 1 pm, 210 Kings Lane. Sportyak, BBQ, 12' Alum. boat, gas & elect. motors, Craftsman table saw, band saw, gas & elect. mowers, ride-on mower, util. trailer, weed-wacker, baby clothes. ⑤

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Do you have something to say about a story or letter?

Comment on-line

@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Request for Tenders

Salt Spring Island Fire/Rescue is inviting quotes from persons to maintain the landscaping of the Fire Department's three Fire Halls beginning January 2010 for one year. Persons would need to provide all equipment necessary to maintain the Halls on a regular basis. Quotes must be received at Fire Hall One, 105 Lower Ganges Road by Friday, October 16, 2009 at 3:30pm.

For further information please telephone 250 537-2531.



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FALL FIXUP PAGES B1-5

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PETS

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QUIET SETTING on Salt Spring close to Ganges for your trailer/rv. Long term, avail Oct. 1. Hydro, water, septic. 250-537-7320.

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2 BEDROOM mobile home, renovated, washer/dryer, deck, backs onto private 10 acres. Avail. Nov 1. \$800/mo plus util. Call 250-537-6860.

3 BDRM, close to town. For further details call 250-537-1822. \$1500/mo + utilities.

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COTTAGES ON St. Mary Lake, fully furnished, NS, NP. Starting at \$650/mo., available Oct. 15 to Apr 1. 250-537-2585.

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SERENE, SPACIOUS, bright, beautifully furnished 1 bdrm house on enchanting Booth Canal. Avail. for 4 mo. from Nov. 26 until March 23. Suits single or couple, complete with ADSL, cable, stereo and newly reno'd kitchen. \$800/mo. + heat/elect. Non-smoking, N/P. Call. 250-537-2998.

RENTALS

HOMES FOR RENT

SUNNY, LAKEVIEW 1 bdrm self-contained garden apt. Compact, clean, and modestly charming. Must be a quiet, mature neighbour. Non-smoking, single occupancy only. No dogs. \$495/mo. + hydro, ADSL and cable avail. Nov. 1 long-term. 250-537-2294.

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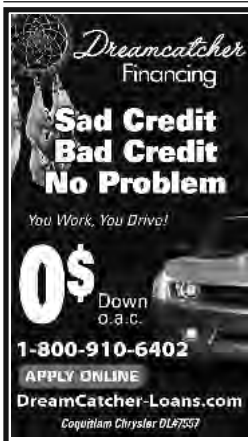
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HOMES FOR RENT

TRANSPORTATION

CARS

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OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

THREE DECADES OLD: Members of Salt Spring Karate celebrate the club's 30th anniversary with demonstrations and presentations in the middle school gym. The event took place last Saturday afternoon.



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SIMPLY SALT SPRING

RESIDENTS CARD SPECIAL
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Solar panels now heating our water at the Harbour House Hotel.

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Enjoy swimming on your own time! Private, UV filtered, salt-water pool. Open 7 days a week 6am. to 9pm. New reduced rates for 3 / 6 month or 1 year packages. Memberships also include access to our private fitness room. Or come and get energized with our \$7 Drop in Aquafit Classes every Mon/ Wed /Fri 9:30 -10:30 am. or join our low impact walking aquafit classes every Mon / Wed 10:30 - 11:30am. For more info, call Julie at: 250-537-9433.

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You want them, we have them. Show your Rod & Gun membership and receive a 10% discount. Patterson Market.

MEXICAN FOOD lessons: shopping, preparation, cooking. Also, will cater Mexican 'fiesta' private or business. Contact Jorge: jmi7@live.com

NEW TO Salt Spring? Call Welcome Wagon for a Community Visit. Gifts & greetings from local businesses. Haley 250-537-1558.

PERSNICKEY PRESENTS... the fall Dr. Bon boy's clothing sale this week only! (Oct. 14-27) Mention this ad to receive 25% off, including cords, long sleeve t's and 2 & 3 piece sets. Size 3M to 6X. #2103 Grace Pt. square. 250-931-0091.

SPANISH LESSONS and/or conversation with Mexican teacher on SSI. Contact Jorge jmi71@live.com

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Waterfront Cottage
1 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, woodstove, N/S, N/P, hydro & water incl., suits single person only, long term, avail. immed.....\$850

Bright South End Home
2 bedroom with large sunny loft, woodstove, pastoral views, raised bed gardens, large deck, N/S, N/P, long term.....\$1250

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3 Bedroom Ocean View Home,
2 ½ baths, hardwood floors, fireplace, pellet stove, fully furnished, private, N/S, N/P, includes hydro, water, high speed internet, cable TV, and local phone, available for the month of November.....\$2300

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3 bedrooms plus loft, 4 baths, indoor pool, private dock, N/S, N/P, avail. immediately.....\$2700

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This Week's
Noroscope
by Michael O'Connor
www.sunstarastronomy.com
sunstarastronomy@gmail.com
1.888.352.2936

TIP OF THE WEEK:
The Sun is in its final quarter in the seasonal sign of Libra. As it gives way to Scorpio the days will seem to grow suddenly shorter and the leaves will fall progressively quicker. Such is the nature of things at this time of year as Scorpio is all about the deepening dark and inner lairs where gems, plot and dreams grow. Until then, Mercury, Venus and the Moon this weekend hover together in the sign of the scales. Saturn is in its final degrees of Virgo and will also enter Libra on October 29th where it will remain for about the next three years. This will certainly produce noticeable changes and stir the pot in the social and economic scene. Saturn in Libra will trigger changes that may seem long overdue and which have been immanent all year, at least, and much longer to some. We will see new laws and new rules to the game. With revolution in the air, however, these will not be accepted idly by the general public. The balance of power will shift and governments will aim to flex their muscles yet may well be reminded that their role is to serve the people. The age of accountability is on the rise.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20)
Your focus upon or challenge to improve the quality of your relationships is increasing steadily now. This has to do with a changing status in your social and professional life. You may feel it is time to climb new mountains. Deepening commitments is featured. You are eager to engage more playfully. Passion and drama may also be running high. Both your sense of independence and an expanding social network require attention.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21)
Creating greater health requires that you change and even eliminate certain habits. Your commitment to doing so will increase quickly now and remain steady. This could be a good time to join the gym, or take herbs to cleanse your organs or to seek help to break negative habits etcetera. Don't wait until life's push becomes a shove. Moderation is a golden rule. Decide to create better health with a variety of initiatives all at once.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)
Visions of love and beauty are dancing in your mind. 'Sweet dreams are made of these....' Creating your dreams requires commitment and focus. Clarifying what you want and need is an important first step and ideal now. Write a list or sketch your visions or make a collage and dream vividly to activate the law of attraction. Make use of an emerging high energy cycle that begins now.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)
Home is where your heart is, especially these days. Things are shifting noticeably now possibly after months of delay. Pressure from other key players is increasing. Your courage and leadership is required. Growing ambitions and desires for fairness, equality and/or justice are strong. Playing the game exactly according to the rules is imperative. To succeed you must face your fears. Proceed with and breathe full awareness.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)
So many places to go, people to see and things to learn and seemingly so little time. Yes, life is speeding-up, or it is creation itself? Managing your time better may be necessary. Keep your correspondences clear and strong now. Commit to improving relations on all fronts. Increasing your network for business and pleasure is important. An

ambitious focus to do so will begin very soon and implies a dynamic learning curve.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)
Strengthening your overall foundation continues. Taking a more creative and imaginative approach these days is ideal. The momentum and creative passion to do so will increase this week. Getting your priorities straight and clear will feel more necessary. Don't expect and wait for anyone to do it for you. Fortunately, your confidence to take calculated risks is running high; make use of it.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)
You are in full expression mode these days. Your commitment to be more serious, focused and disciplined is growing steadily. Stepping in to a new rhythm may feel hard yet necessary. Changes close to home are part of the plot. Turn your comfort zone into an office or workout space or something that fits your experience. Big moves are a distinct possibility. Feel the power and go for a promotion!

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)
First come the idea or feeling, then the dream, then the determination, then the action and then follow through – an old recipe. Learning from others or offering instruction yourself to learn even more effectively is part of the action. Can you sell your knowledge or expertise? Perhaps you could tutor, or write a manual or design a workshop. The time has come to take command of your situation. Act on your dreams, strategically.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)
Shifting sands of friendships and social connections in general, is happening again. Returns for past efforts are coming your way. You will soon learn if you have been making wise and sincere efforts. Life makes up the rules and knows the score exactly. If you have reason and opportunity to patch-up relations on any front now is a good time to do it. Be willing to take a dynamic lead with clear communications.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)
Nurturing a new quality of balance in your life is serious business now. Gathering new tools and skills to do so as necessary is likely. Diplomatic relations is also important. Know your priorities then enquire about the same with those with whom you are in close relationship – business or personal. This way you can negotiate creatively and strike a fair deal that works for everyone. Exercise your executive powers.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)
A creative momentum is rising. You may feel as though you are poised to take flight. With fresh wings you will feel strong yet perhaps raw and somewhat vulnerable. Accept this feeling as part of the process and persevere, you will soon be soaring. Circumstances and other key players are activating your purpose. Be willing to take risks and go big wherever there is an opening. See a bigger picture with you large and vivid in it.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)
You have been in an intensive focus and the pace will continue to grow steadily. Some rather deep changes are posed to occur. Learning how you can work consciously and cooperatively with them is ideal. Clearing limiting beliefs, attitudes and behaviours patters and replacing them with new and better ones is the choice of champions. Be willing to keep up with the pace and stay the course even if it means working even harder, better yet, smarter.

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FALL FIX-UP

B inside:
A&E
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WHAT'S ON



Islanders tuned into federal home reno tax credit

Program could save you up to \$1,350

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Homeowners have only a few more months to take advantage of the federal government's home renovation tax credit (HRTC).

Under the program, property owners can claim eligible home-improvement costs ranging from at least \$1,000 up to \$10,000 on their 2009 tax returns. For projects coming in at \$10,000, the savings represents a \$1,350 tax credit.

The program is valid for all eligible expenditures on work done or goods acquired between Jan. 27, 2009 and Feb. 1, 2010.

According to the program's website, the tax credit "can be claimed for renovations and alterations of an enduring nature and that are integral to the eligible

TAX CREDIT continued on B2

PHOTO BY PETER MCCULLY

Grant Burron and Paddy Petersen of Slegg Lumber, now selling Millguard Ultra & Wood-clad Series fibreglass windows and doors. They explain that fibreglass is strong, stable and low maintenance while giving the appearance of a traditional wood profile window.

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FALL FIX-UP

Reno rebate program means hang on to receipts

TAX CREDIT

continued from B1

dwelling or the land that forms part of the eligible dwelling.”

The tax credit is not applicable for routine repairs, maintenance or cleaning, the purchase of furniture and electronics, or financing costs. Perennials and trees are eligible, however.

The federal government implemented the program as part of its 2009 budget as a way to encourage spending in the housing and construction industries.

Mark Rithaler, manager of Slegg Lumber on

Fulford-Ganges Road, said he's noticed plenty of people hanging on to invoices since the program came into effect.

“People have definitely been more attentive to their receipts,” he said.

Because applicants are required to fill out their tax-return request on their individual tax forms for 2009, Rithaler couldn't say for sure what percentage of his customers would be taking advantage of the credit.

“There's basically been a lot of interest in smaller projects,” he said.

Most people, he added, will use the tax credit to offset the cost of small- and medium-scale projects

like new decks or kitchen and bathroom renovations.

To take advantage of the tax credit, individuals must indicate their projects' total cost on the appropriate line in their next personal income tax return.

“It's seems to be a simple enough operation,” said Rithaler.

To avoid problems with your home-renovation tax credit claim, make sure to get all contracts in writing and keep all receipts.

For more information on the program, including a complete list of eligible expenses, visit www.cra-arc.gc.ca/hrtc/ or call 1-877-959-1-CRA.

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FALL FIX-UP

Salt Spring couple happy with results of 'crash course'

Living to tell the home reno tale

BY MEGHAN HOWCROFT
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

When island newcomers Lynne Johnson and Isy Cohen first saw their Woodland Drive home they fell in love with it instantly.

They knew the house, built in 1973, needed a bit of work, but after bidding farewell to rental apartments in Vancouver, they were excited to embark on the adventure of purchasing their first home. Three years and a major kitchen, bathroom and deck renovation later, they might not call themselves pros (just yet), but they've definitely taken a crash course in home renos that remarkably left them alive to tell the tale.

After moving in, the first thing Cohen wanted to get his hands on was the kitchen. Understandably so, considering the previous owners had decked it out in "harvest gold" appliances, salmon pink wallpaper and a green sink. However, tackling the outdated kitchen was put on hold after other household casualties took precedence one by one.

"Soon after we moved in, we went to open the dishwasher and the door fell right off," said Johnson in a recent interview from their home. A few weeks later, their shingled roof sprung a leak. Closer inspection revealed the roof contained no insulation and that the previous owners had been layering shingles, rather than replacing any whose time had come. So, the kitchen reno waited while the roof was raised, insulation added and new shingling put on.

Soon after, the next household calamity struck. This time it was the septic tank.

"I looked out our window one morning to see a huge sink-hole where the septic tank had been," said Cohen.

The 35-year-old tank, made of concrete and chicken-wire, had completely caved in.

"We were already on this steep learning curve [as first-time homeowners]," said Johnson, shaking her head. "And it was just one thing after another."

One day, feeling extremely frustrated with the kitchen's impractical layout, Cohen took matters into his own hands (literally).

"I had borrowed a friend's circular saw and I just went over to the counter and went



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Isy Cohen and Lynne Johnson celebrate their recently renovated home.

bzzzzzzzz!" he said with a laugh.

"It looked awful," Johnson added.

"But," said Cohen, "it was a reminder to me that said, 'I'm going to do this. There's no going back now. One way or the other, I'm doing a reno on this kitchen.'"

Finally it seemed the tide had turned on their house misfortunes and the couple was ready for the kitchen. After first dealing with a pricey architect/designer whose services they didn't retain, a contractor/carpenter who modified their original drawings but also didn't work out and a home computer design program, the couple finally had workable drawings and could concentrate on finding a good replacement contractor.

James Nicol of Nicol Construction more than fit the bill.

"Having somebody knowledgeable who can guide you is extremely important," said Johnson. "Someone to listen to your ideas and then give input."

Nicol put them in contact with Carl Borgstrom, a kitchen designer for Merit Kitchens at Moutat's, and he too became an integral part of their kitchen re-design.

"He was fantastic," said Johnson. "It really

helped to have his eye. He had so many wonderful ideas — things we hadn't thought of at all."

The couple appreciated that people gave them input without forcing their personal opinions onto them. This allowed them to get help with certain details but also to maintain control over things like keeping the thoughtful pass-through built between the kitchen and dining room.

Although they loved the granite countertops in a Vancouver Island store's kitchen display, an exorbitant quote put them instantly out of reach. But they found a stone wholesaler on the mainland with a huge array of choices.

"We even got to pick our own stones," described Cohen. "Like when you go to a restaurant and choose your own fish."

Spectrum Stone in Richmond then came to the island, templated the kitchen, fabricated the granite countertops and returned to install them, all at one-third the cost quoted them by the other store.

Attempting to be green whenever possible, the couple opted for energy-efficient stainless steel appliances from Sears, used low VOC (volatile organic compounds) paint in both the kitchen and bathroom, properly insulated the

kitchen walls and installed a UV and carbon water filtration system.

In typical Salt Spring fashion, an island woman who happened to be at the house purchasing the couple's old kitchen cabinets fortuitously ended up helping them design some of their master bathroom. The large bathroom is now exquisitely decked out in dark brown floor tiles that complement the home's original wood ceiling, elegant marble countertops, beautiful cabinetry and a glass shower that's to die for. Johnson acknowledges Roy Cronin of Gulf Island Glass for the spectacular installation of the glass, saying, "He really made the bathroom come alive."

After two months of renovating they figured they were done; however, after discovering rotten wood in their deck supports, they kept on trucking and had the deck completely rebuilt and expanded.

The gorgeous cedar deck, now perfect for entertaining, has glass sides that drastically improve the couples' interior floor-to-ceiling view.

The most frustrating part of the home reno process, according to Johnson and Cohen, was actually living through it. They were more than happy to say goodbye to the sheets of plastic separating kitchen from living room, glad to stop using their bathroom for cleaning the dishes and were ecstatic to prepare food on real counter-tops instead of on a sawhorse and boards.

Overall, the experience was a positive one, mostly due to a stellar contractor who did a fabulous job coordinating with his tradespeople and completed everything in a timely, professional and friendly manner.

"All we'd heard were horror stories about getting work done on Salt Spring," said Johnson, "but we ended up having such a positive experience."

When asked if they are content to sit back and relax in their home, the couple is thoughtful before replying.

"We definitely need to paint the house," said Cohen. "Oh — and re-do the dining room."

"And the bedroom," added Johnson.

It looks like another island couple has been bit by the home reno bug and won't be calling it quits anytime soon.

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FALL FIX-UP

Quiet place of beauty thrives at Golden Maple Farm

The story of Mike Larmour's Japanese garden

BY PAT BURKETTE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It's late September at Golden Maple Farm on Beddis Road, and I'm following Kacey Chee's directions, walking across a huge, well-mowed, straw-coloured lawn, just downhill from the farmhouse.

"Head for the wooden gate," she said. "Just push it open, go into the Japanese garden, and Mike and I will meet you there."

Mike is Chee's husband Mike Larmour, perhaps best known on the island for his 10-year stint as manager at North Salt Spring Waterworks, where he was recognized as a pioneer in limnology, or water management. But Larmour's also been interested in gardening and the natural world all his life. About 20 years ago, he began creating a Japanese garden at the 100-acre farm. I make a b-line for the gate, visible in the midst of a wall of small trees in the distance.

High above, the sky is clear and blue, with wisps of white clouds. I find myself hurrying, feeling exposed, conspicuous, out there in the open, a small speck in a wide angle rural panorama. When I reach the gate, I touch the weathered wood, lift the yellow rope latch and hurriedly push it open.

Ahhh. Instantly, I feel a lightness of being. I'm sheltered in an enclosed garden where the sum of the parts that initially catch my eye — a calm sea of white gravel, a wide beckoning path, a pond, a bridge, a stone lantern, a subtle patchwork of green, yellow, brick red and burgundy foliage, and pale, graceful tree trunks and limbs — immediately creates a whole of tranquil elegance.

When Larmour and Chee arrive to welcome me, Larmour explains that Japanese gardens are in fact supposed to offer refuge.

"For the Japanese, the garden is intended to be a refuge away from Japan's very busy workday world. It's a quiet place of beauty. I've always liked the Japanese aesthetic, and in many ways it fits into our scenery here, with the evergreens and cedars."



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Mix of evergreens, Japanese maples and other plants edge the concrete path.

Larmour's quiet place of beauty features extraordinary plantings layered around the pond and figurative sea of white-gravel, Zen-style dry landscape garden. A wide concrete pathway circles through the plantings, allowing strolling and viewing from many angles.

Larmour says Japanese gardens have evolved and changed over the years.

"There was a period when Zen gardens became more popular. Mine is properly classified as a 'stroll garden'" (or Kaiyu-shiki). "These are five-foot-wide walkways. They allow people to walk side by side. The paths curve so you can't see where you're going. That's intended so it draws you along."

As well, paths traditionally aren't completely level. Unevenness at several points prompts a viewer to look up or down at inspiring garden features, a Japanese landscape technique called "hide and reveal."

Early on, Larmour decided to use concrete for his paths.

"In Japan, they would have used stones and pavers. I had to make a decision to go to concrete, which is not totally authentic, but I don't regret it."

"He put me to work laying the forms," laughs Chee, as we begin our walk through the garden.

The couple married in 1998, and Chee, who was a Montessori teacher, eventually found herself heavily occupied with farm and garden tasks, including learning to use a ride-on mower, and raising the vegetables and fruits sold at the farmstand, when Larmour became ill in 2006.

By then, Larmour's passion for Japanese maple trees, or *Acer palmatum*, was well-entrenched in the garden.

"I wanted to specialize in Japanese maples," says Larmour. "Aesthetically, you

don't want a lot of leaf shapes and colours in a Japanese garden. A European garden has a multiplicity of colours, like the English cottage garden which has masses of colours and shapes. A Japanese garden is very subdued, and as to colour, is predominantly green for most of the year. Pines and maples are key, with a few other evergreen shrubs. They're intended to be year-round gardens, so they use evergreens and boxwood as well."

When Larmour decided to concentrate on maples, he wanted to find the best trees he could.

He wrote to J.D. Vertrees, an authority on Japanese maples who wrote the classic volume on the subject — "Japanese Maples" — and referred Larmour to a Washington state nursery owned by a university professor named Howard Hughes. Larmour bought 20 maples and most are still in his garden.

Larmour built an outstanding collection of the maples, as well as unusual trees like a dove tree, snowbell tree and dwarf cedar of Lebanon, and low-growing rhododendrons. Pines are well-represented by a waist high, multi-branched pine tree called Birds Nest Spruce. It's like a large green interwoven mound any flying creature would like to call home.

"Raindrops on the branches are like little diamonds in the sun," says Chee.

As we continue along the path, the beauty of Larmour's maples is overwhelming. There are maples with leaves in all shades of the colour red, from peach to brick red to burgundy, their seed pods in blood red and crimson, all glowing like fires in the garden. But there are unusual and fascinating Japanese maples with green and yellow leaves too.

So we see Butterfly, with variegated blue-green, pinkish cream-edged leaves that turn magenta in fall. There's a burgundy Dissectum, aka Red Dragon, but further along, there's also a green Dissectum, aka Green Dragon — both umbrellas of feathery leaves. There's Kotohime, with a trunk that's almost cacti-like, and strange clustered whorls of green leaves, near a large gate built out of concrete blocks, with a tile roof, which

GARDEN continued on B5

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FALL FIX-UP



Kacey Chee and Mike Larmour relax in the Japanese garden on their property at Golden Maple Farm.

PHOTO BY PAT BURKETTE

Beautiful refuge

GARDEN

continued from B4

marks the outer edge of the Japanese garden, and is also a visible gateway into the farm's vegetable gardens, fruit trees, greenhouse and, of course, a row of Japanese maples blazing fiery red in the sunshine. The gate embraces the technique of shakkei or "borrowed scenery" — incorporating distant landscapes into the garden.

"I deliberately set the opening to one side," said Larmour. "In western culture, we like things symmetrical, the Japanese perhaps don't."

Our path leads us on past the gate, and circling back toward the garden's entry and the white gravel sea. But before we cross the earthen and stone bridge, we stand beneath the Golden Full Moon maple (*Acer shirasawanum* "Aureum") with clusters of wide, deeply incised, star-shaped char-treuse/yellow leaves.

"We named our farm after this tree," explains Larmour. "The Japanese grew it near their temples."

The Golden Full Moon maple symbolizes harmony, and while I'm reflecting on a moon maple with starry leaves and a pine with diamonds, Larmour points to the white gravel.

"Look at the shadows," he says, as the late afternoon sun creates beautiful patterns of light and dark on the pebbled expanse.

No matter whether you call his garden artless art, beautiful refuge or a place where the human heart can be uplifted by nature, you have to say of Larmour: "Kare wa subarashii niwashi desu" — He is a wonderful skillful gardener.

Rebate incentive helps islanders save money as well as water

'Low flow' in high demand

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

There isn't much time left to sit around and ponder an opportunity like this.

Less than a month after it was implemented by the Salt Spring Water Council, the island's low-flush toilet rebate program has proven an incredible success.

"I feel like people on Salt Spring are really environmentally conscious," said Kieran O'Brien, coordinator of the program for City Green Solutions in Victoria.

"You get a sense that people have their heads and their hearts invested in doing the right thing."

O'Brien has received a steady flow of applications since the \$100 rebate program was first publicized in late September. As of last week, O'Brien had 50 applications piled on her desk.

That's not too shabby considering the program's organizers had projected to award 100 of the rebates over a 12-month period.

"Even though we're halfway through [the total number of available grants], we still want to encourage everyone to send us their

applications and receipts," she said.

The program is administered by staff at City Green Solutions, a Victoria-based non-profit organization mandated to provide tools, resources, solutions, services and inspiration to improve the energy efficiency of homes and buildings.

Applicants can apply for their refund after purchasing an eligible low-flush toilet. A list of qualifying models and application forms are available from local retailers, the Capital Regional District Building Inspection office in Ganges and the City Green Solutions website.

Only toilets purchased and installed after the start of this program are eligible for rebates.

Members of the Salt Spring Water Council initiated the \$12,000 initiative to encourage water conservation in island homes. Replacing a traditional toilet with a newer low-flush model can reduce toilet-related water consumption by as much as 75 per cent.

More information on the program is available by calling O'Brien at 1-866-381-9995, ext. 103, checking online at www.citygreen.ca, or dropping by your local building supply retailer.

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Wed. Oct. 14

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Alan Moberg. Performs at Music & Munch at All Saints. 12:10 p.m. Followed by optional lunch for \$5.50.

ACTIVITIES
Salt Spring Historical Society. "Hawaiians Remembered" presented by Wendy Maurer. Central Hall. 2 p.m.
How Does Salt Spring Work? With speaker Kees Ruurs of PARC. A by-donation Community Ed presentation at Lions Hall. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Queen Margaret's School. Open House at the Harbour House. 4-6 p.m.
Channel Ridge Homeowners. Annual meeting. Community Gospel Chapel. 7 p.m.
Body Ball. Low-impact aerobics class using exercise balls on Wednesdays at All Saints. 9-10:15 a.m.
Taoist Tai Chi. Beginner class at All Saints. 7-8 p.m.
Keith's Tango Practica. Wednesdays at the Core Inn, 3rd floor. 8-10 p.m.

Thurs. Oct. 15

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Thursday Night Blues. Paul Bram is the special guest with Dave Roland & Friends at Moby's. 8-11 p.m.
Open Mic. Hosted by Stephanie Rhodes at The Local. 8 p.m.
Fulford Open Mike Night. With Dale & Dave at the Fulford Inn on Thursdays.

ACTIVITIES
Children & Youth Peace Assembly. Annual festival of children's voices, songs and art. SS Centre School. 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Thinking Like an Island. Presentation by renowned speaker and Salt Spring farm operator Michael Ableman. ArtSpring. 6:30 p.m. Fundraiser for the SSI Conservancy's Stewards-in-Training program.
Strength Training Class. Beaver Point Hall. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Info: 250-653-4656; trisha@synergyfit.ca
Salty Wheels Square Dance Club. Visitors and spectators welcome every Thursday at Central Hall. 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Salt Spring Badminton Club. For ages 12 and up on Thursdays at GISS. 8-10 p.m.

Thurs. Oct. 15

ACTIVITIES
EDGU. Evolutionary spinal maintenance practice runs Thursdays at the Gatehouse, 5-6 p.m. Info: Wendy, 250-653-4286 (winnie@saltspring.com).
Painting Classes - Watercolour & Acrylics Thursdays through Dec. 10 with Val Konig. Info: 250-537-4660.

Fri. Oct. 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Balkan Babes. Award-winning a cappella women's vocal ensemble singing music from Eastern Europe. SS United Church. 7:30 p.m.
Billie Woods. Live at the Harbour House Hotel. 7:30-10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Library StoryTime. Daring Adventures: Join Kaz for stories, rhymes and fun. For children in early grades and preschoolers. 1 p.m. at the library.
Rugg Huggers. Baby & Parent Drop-in at Family Place. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Includes light lunch). Info: 250-537-9176; familyplace@ssics.ca

Sat. Oct. 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Battle of the Bands. Swing Shift and Georgia Strait from the Comox Valley play at Fulford Hall. 8 p.m.
Dino & Mike. The Local. 8:30 p.m.
El Bande Grande Dance. AKA Glenn's birthday bash. At Beaver Point Hall. 8 p.m. Tix \$15 at the door.
Paul Mowbray. Live at the Harbour House Hotel. 7:30-10 p.m.m.
Phil & Kim. Live music at Raven Street Market Cafe. 1:30 to 3 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
All Souls Rising Celebration. Film screening of On This Rock; panel discussion on race & culture. ArtSpring. 2 p.m.
Mental Health Discussion - Trauma. Education awareness for the general public. Guest speakers Cheryl Bell-Gadsby and Judith Boel. Community Gospel. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Writing & Publishing Children's Books. Lions Hall. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info: 250-537-2440.
Lantern Making Workshop. SS United church basement. 1-4 p.m. Register at 250-538-8075.
Leather Mask Decorating Workshop. For ages 9 & up. 3-6 p.m. Info: Andrea, 250-537-5834.

Sun. Oct. 18

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
The Barley Brothers. Fulford Inn. 6:30 p.m.
Quint Essentials. Jazz & swing at Moby's. 7-10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Lantern Making Workshop. In preparation for Beyond the Veil lantern procession on Oct. 31. SS United church basement. 1-4 p.m. Register at 250-538-8075.

Mon. Oct. 19

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Galileo's Daughters. New York early music ensemble performs, along with high-def, large-screen film of images from space and nature. ArtSpring. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Floor Hockey Mondays at Fulford Hall. 7 p.m. \$5. Info: Peter McFarlane - 250-653-9997.
Homeopathy Walk-in Clinic. Arbutus Therapy Centre. 9 a.m. to noon. Info: 250-537-4728.

Tues. Oct. 20

ACTIVITIES
Prostate Cancer Support Group. Regular meeting at the Farmers Institute. 1:30 p.m.
Central Community Hall. Board of directors meeting at the hall. 7 p.m.
Trisha's Total Body Toning. North End Fitness. 1-2 p.m. Info: 250-653-4656; trisha@synergyfit.ca
Stay & Play. Parent-child drop-in at new Family Place location, 120 Park Drive. Mondays, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Taoist Tai Chi. New beginner class at The Gate House. 9 to 10:30 a.m. Info: 250-653-2311.
Strength Training Class. Beaver Point Hall 8:30 to 9:30 am. Info: 250-653-4656; trisha@synergyfit.ca
Contemporary Dance. Cats Pajamas Studio & Antler Ridge Studio. 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Info: Anna Haltrecht, 250-537-5681.

Wed. Oct. 21

ACTIVITIES
2009 Island Youth Film Festival. Student-made movies shown at The Fritz Theatre. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Drawing the Figure. SSI Painters Guild workshop with Deirdre Tessman., ArtSpring. 9 a.m. to noon. www.sspaintersguild.com.
Michael Crummey Book Launch of Galore. At the Galiano Inn on Galiano Island. 7 p.m.
Body Ball. Low-impact aerobics class using exercise balls on Wednesdays at All Saints. 9-10:15 a.m.
Taoist Tai Chi. Beginner class at All Saints. 7-8 p.m.
Keith's Tango Practica. Wednesdays at the Core Inn, 3rd floor. 8-10 p.m.

THE FRITZ MOVIE THEATRE
 at Central Hall Fri. Oct. 16-20 please check www.thefritz.ca or call 250-537-4656 for this week's movie listings details will also be in this week's Weekender!
 Either Tim Burton's latest film 9 or Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs or both!!!

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CINEMA
 At press time The Fritz wasn't sure what the movie would be this week. Call the theatre at 250-537-4656 and see the Driftwood's Friday Weekender for details when they're finalized.

EXHIBITIONS

- **All Souls Rising Art Exhibit** celebrating 150 years of black settlement on Salt Spring opens at **ArtSpring** on Friday, Oct. 16 with a reception from 5-7 p.m. Catered by **Chef Kelly**, music by **Sweetwater & Co.** Show runs daily to Thursday, Oct. 22.
- **J Mitchell Gallery's Fall Exhibition 2009** includes new work by **Gerda Lattey, Karen Reiss** and from the estate of **LeRoy Jensen**. Open daily in **Grace Point Square**.
- **Salt Spring Artists' Gallery of Fine Art** is now open at 135 McPhillips Avenue.
- The October show at **Salt Spring Coffee Company** cafe is **Charles Breth: Drawings**.
- **Salt Spring Painters Guild** members have portraits hanging in the open space at **ArtSpring**.
- **Louis Renaud** shows photographs at **Island Savings Credit Union**.
- **Paintings** by **Andrew Gibbs** are hanging at **Cafe Talia**.
- **Photos** by **Shari Macdonald** grace the walls at **Jana's Bake Shop**.

"Battle of the Bands"
 Swing Shift Big Band hosts the Georgia Strait Big Band
 Saturday, October 17th
 Fulford Hall, 8pm
 Tickets: \$16 (adults), \$10 (students)
 at ArtSpring and Acoustic Planet.

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Our Calendar - on your smartphone

On your smartphone, go to getscanlife.com and download the free software. Use the scanlife software to take photos or scan the barcode. Information in the barcode will direct your mobile browser to the on-line version of the Driftwood's What's On Calendar.

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ART BEAT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

A Salt Spring Coffee Co cafe patron sits beneath a series of Charles Breth drawings.

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WEEKEND MUSIC

Thursday, October 15, 8-11pm
 Blues: Dave Roland & friends
Sunday, October 18, 7-10pm
 Jazz/Swing: Quint Essentials

HEAD OF GANGES HARBOUR 250-537-5559

Sculptural drawings invoke mystery at SS Coffee exhibit

Beauty meets the ominous in Charles Breth drawings



Elizabeth Nolan

ARTBEAT ON THE ROCK

A rare exhibition of drawings by Charles Breth make the Salt Spring Coffee cafe worth looking into, even if liquid stimulants aren't your thing.

Up for the month of October, the drawings are a result of some exercises Breth practised to improve his skills with a pencil.

The outcome has gone beyond the initial goal to create accomplished drawings that are what the artist calls "by degree surreal, mysterious, monumental [and] ominous."

Using a 2B pencil on paper, Breth began by drawing the many folds and shadows caused by draping a bed sheet.

When that got boring, he explains in his statement, he took to draping the sheet over his sculptures.

While many of Breth's sculptures I've seen are ceramic models of nude boys and men, this series appears to be of African goddess figures, full of breast and ripe with fertility, although not exactly welcoming. In various degrees of drapery, the sheet becomes the vehicle for revealing an otherworld, silent but full of portent.

With the underlying figure adding form delineated by the sheet's heavy fabric, Breth has created ample opportunities to put his pencil to work describ-

ing light and shadow, curves and folds.

The figures stand in bold relief against the plain white background, with dark outlines sharply sketched around the overall shape.

In a couple of cases, Breth has left the sculptures fully covered, with just a hint of the form suggesting a human shape beneath.

One is especially abstract, tapering in at the leg area and widening again for a pedestal-like base.

Another allows the figure's planes to suggest more fully that which lies beneath, with facial bones, breast and hips subtly obtruding.

The ominous comes out in one drawing where the sheet is raised slightly to reveal a pile of skulls at the woman's feet.

In this case she is turned in profile, her arm raised behind her back, suggesting that a huge chop of a blade is about to take place.

Also slightly ominous and the most surreal of the bunch is one that reveals the figure's form from a frontal view. This sculpture appears to have a big preg-

nant belly, her breast pushed up and out by the swell.

The belly itself is pictured as another head, whose expression is stern and unwelcoming.

Many in the series focus on the sexual aspect of the goddess. If the sheet is arranged to reveal just a part of her body, it is most often her face and breasts, and also at times the pubis.

For sake of variety, at least, one might wish that Breth had thought at times to reveal just a single elbow or a knee cap — which would also increase the sense of mystery and power emanating from the figure, rather than constant exposure.


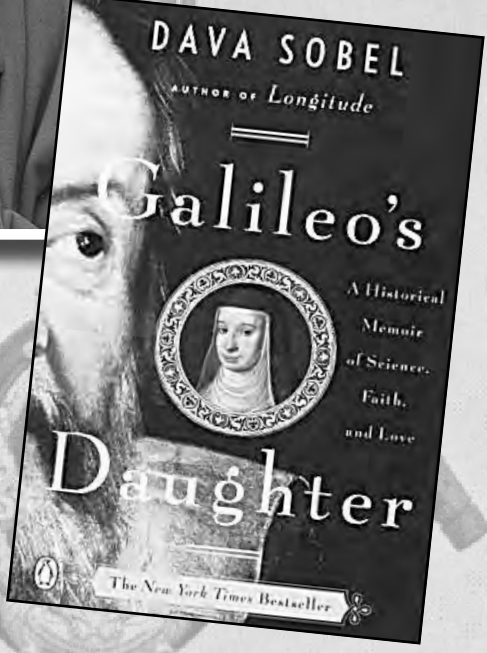
"... by degree surreal, mysterious, monumental [and] ominous."

Some of the most evocative drawings in the series group sculpture and sheet with a thicket of branches, which adds both texture and another mystical component.

Emerging from behind the upright sticks, the woman speaks of an ancient spirituality and ties to the earth.



In all versions, the real beauty of the draped sheet and its contents is that the viewer is left to interpret the meaning within the folds and shadows.

DAVA SOBEL
author of
Galileo's Daughter
presents a live, multi-media show about the life of Galileo and the music of his time.

Accompanied by
 Sarah Pillow, soprano
 Mary Anne Ballard, viola da gamba
 Ronn McFarlane, lute

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19 – 8:00 PM

 **Artspring Ticket Centre** 250-537-2102 

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONCERTS

Leon Bibb and Lisa Maxx reunite for island concert



Lisa Maxx and Leon Bibb — set for an island-based reunion.

PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Soulful musicians share magic of collaboration

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Four years ago, a lucky meeting between two musicians at a local workshop resulted in a lasting friendship and meaningful collaboration.

Salt Spring audiences will have the chance to witness the magic in person when Leon Bibb and Lisa Maxx return to the scene with a concert at ArtSpring on Thursday, Oct. 22.

Bibb and Maxx first met when Salt Spring's Tuned Air choir was given the rare opportunity to work with Bibb at a workshop and to later perform alongside him in concert. A folk artist and master of the stage, Bibb was classically trained as a baritone and considered Paul Robeson a mentor. Although he's lived in Vancouver since 1971 (where he's been credited with introducing musical theatre as an art form), Bibb was born in Kentucky and trained in New York. His work contains the traditions of his people, those who lost their families and culture in Africa after being enslaved.

Maxx, well known locally as a folk and blues singer, was a participant in the Tuned Air workshop. She recalls growing up on the West Coast during the '60s, where she was raised on "freedom songs." In the Art of the Spiritual, Maxx learned from Bibb how music and dance were sometimes the only forms of communication shared by enslaved people, who came from many different regions and language groups. Bibb also spoke about the then recent devastation wreaked on New Orleans' poor black residents by Hurricane Katrina.

Soon after the workshop, Maxx found that a song about Hurricane Katrina, phrased in the traditional call and answer form, was playing fully formed in her head. She decided to record the song and send it to Bibb. Not knowing if he'd even received it, Maxx was amazed on the night of the concert when Bibb invited her to sing her song on stage with him.

"Ever since that performance, I sing that song," Bibb said during a recent Driftwood interview. "Things like the tragedy that represents Katrina, we don't remember — we're all a little negligent in pressing this thing.

The song Way Down in Louisiana is a way of reminding myself and the audience that there are things we can do."

The song has also become the basis for a strong friendship and continuing musical relationship between the two artists. In the past four years they have appeared together whenever given the opportunity, at house concerts in Vancouver and folk festivals across Alberta. Bibb's voice and his stamina make it difficult to believe he's 87 years old, but his dignity hints at the wealth of experience and understanding that continues to engage with the issues of the day.

"The song Way Down in Louisiana is a way of reminding myself and the audience that there are things we can do."

LEON BIBB
Musician

The upcoming ArtSpring concert happily coincides with All Souls Rising, the celebration of 150 years of black settlement on Salt Spring that begins this weekend. The program includes both traditional spirituals and Maxx's original folk compositions.

While on Salt Spring, Bibb and Maxx will also be bringing a special educational event that Bibb developed in Vancouver in 1992 to the middle school. Created by a mandate of the former provincial government and supported by Heritage Canada, A Step Ahead is a program where musicians work to combat racism, bullying and wider violence by directly involving the student body in interactive theatre and discussion. A Step Ahead is now a full-time foundation and Bibb has been made a member of the Order of British Columbia for this work. These sessions are open only to the student participants to ensure their open and safe participation.

Tickets to the concert are \$22 for adults and \$18 for youth and students, available at ArtSpring. Show time on Oct. 22 is at 8 p.m.

ISLAND STAR VIDEO presents...

Flick Pick



Oh that guy — we've seen it before in Year One

Yet another case of wasted potential, Year One is a painfully unfunny comedy that feels as if every single scene was made up on the fly.

It's a long time ago — who knows exactly when, because the movie sure doesn't. We start off following a couple of nitwit hunter-gatherer types named Zed (Jack Black) and Oh (Michael Cera). When Zed eats from the Forbidden Tree of Knowledge he's banished from the village and somehow manages to get Oh to come along.

The two of them wander off past "the edge of the world", encountering all manner of famous Biblical types (Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Abraham and Isaac) before arriving at the city of Sodom. There our dumbass heroes attempt to rescue two girls from the city's evil King, and somehow end up becoming part of a rebellion.

Year One looks pretty good on paper. You've got a couple of fairly big, funny guys in Black and Cera, a typically (for these days) huge cast of "oh, that guy's" in minor roles, and a writer/director in Harold Ramis that was responsible for some pretty great movies in his past.

However, it's almost as if they assembled all the pieces, attached them to a moderately

interesting concept, and then let the movie make itself. The script is absolutely atrocious, meandering its way from supposedly comic set-piece to set-piece, and almost every single one of those set-pieces is uninspired to the point of, well, hilarity.

You can see the actors trying to make it actually funny. Black does his usual schtick, mugging the camera for every dime its got, and as much as I like him he's not in top form. Cera also does his usual thing, the meek and downplayed commentary that you're not even sure you heard properly, and it's at least occasionally worth a chuckle.

Everyone else in Year One, however, is completely wasted and/or just plain annoying. In particular, I wanted to reach into the screen and slap David Cross, whose Cain is a one-note joke that keeps playing over and over again with the insistency of an obnoxious cellular ringtone.

Maybe this column is starting to sound like a severely scratched record, but I'm growing increasingly tired of Hollywood's tendency to grab a bunch of famous names and throw them at a lousy script. It's not working folks. Figure it out and get back to me when you've got something worth watching.

KNITTING

Knitters stitch ties with less fortunate

Salty Yarners to offer beginner classes

A Salt Spring Island knitting group is proud to be a part of a tradition that's lasted for nearly 150 years.

Beginning this fall, island knitters will get a chance to participate in the Dorcas knitting project, an initiative that sends hand-made quilts and knitted clothing to needy children in the province's north.

The Dorcas project was started in the 1860s by the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia. Since

its inception, the effort has supplied thousands of sweaters, scarves, toques, mitts, slippers, afghans, quilts and infant items to children in needy communities.

Last year alone, the project distributed more than 3,000 handmade items to communities stretching from the Queen Charlotte Islands to the B.C.-Alberta border.

Dorcas provides yarn, patterns and instructions to all participants.

For those who've yet to get the knack for knitting, the Salty Yarners knitting club's new monthly beginner courses offer the

chance to create something nice for a child in need or a loved one just in time for the holidays.

On Oct. 19, aspiring knitters can learn the ins and outs of how to make a scarf using a simple lace stitch. On Nov. 16, students will make a scarf or other item using a modular knitting technique.

Classes start at 2:30 p.m and are held at Stitches on the third Monday of each month. Registration is free if students purchase their yarn at Stitches.

More information about classes and the Dorcas project is available from Alice Trueman at 250-538-0211.

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Big Band

Salt Spring Island
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FROM FARM *to* FEAST

A Delicious Collaboration...from Island Growers to Local Restaurants



Talking with Richard and Shinobu Verhagen of Raven Street Market Cafe

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO START GROWING YOUR OWN FOOD FOR YOURSELVES AND THE RESTAURANT?

Last year we had the opportunity to purchase adjacent land to the cafe which, lucky for us, already had an existing greenhouse, fruit trees, and raised beds in the backyard. We have always tried to use local greens before, but now we can provide much of our own herbs and vegetables, such as garlic, onions, carrots, potatoes, and tomatoes. We would have done this years ago if we could have.

DO YOU USE OTHER LOCALLY PRODUCED GOODS ON TOP OF WHAT YOU GROW?

More and more we are producing for ourselves, but we do get salmon from the Ropy Fishing Company, Salt Spring mussels, and produce from North End Farms. In terms of lowering our carbon footprint, we have been able to reduce the number of weekly truck shipments from five to two.

HOW DO YOU CREATE YOUR MENU? DO YOU START WITH THE IDEA AND FIND THE INGREDIENTS OR THE OTHER WAY AROUND?

It used to be that I would build the menu first and then find the products. Now what I can find closer to home informs the menu. I've found I have a lot more latitude when I can create from the ingredients I have. I am encouraged to be more creative and adventurous with produce I don't normally use. A good example is squash - I never ordered squash as part of my deliveries. Now that I have an abundance of squash from my garden, I'm inspired to create new recipes - right now I'm experimenting with some Indonesian and Moroccan style dishes.

DO YOU THINK COST IS A DETRIMENT IN BUYING LOCAL?

Not for us because of our garden. I don't know if it would be prohibitive for other restaurants not growing their own food. I do know that when visitors come to the restaurant, one of the first questions they ask is "what's local?" I'm amazed at the diversity of produce and meat available here. One thing that hampers the use of local goods by commercial businesses is government regulations. For safety reasons, we can't use uninspected meat, milk, eggs, etc. so for Salt Spring to be self-sustainable we'd have to have an abattoir here. And certainly the cost of meat would be lower if growers didn't have to send their animals off island.

HOW FAR WILL YOUR GARDEN TAKE YOU THIS YEAR? WILL YOU ATTEMPT WINTER GARDENING?

We still have enough carrots, herbs, and greens to last for awhile. We're moving everything from outside to inside. Also, we'll be drying and freezing some things.

HOW DO YOU FIND THE TIME?

Well, with the B&B, the restaurant, the coffee shop, and farming we are finding it challenging to keep up. This is partly why we have put the cafe up for sale. We're hoping the new owners will help us to make the Fernwood area more "village -esque." Actually, I (Richard) don't know what I would do if anyone made an offer...I love this place.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS?

We take pride in being able to offer food made from fresh ingredients. Not everything on the menu is local, but we're increasingly trying to incorporate and build from the local bounty. Having our own garden is an investment of time, but in turn, it makes us more invested in the food we prepare for our customers.

SALT SPRING FARM-FRESH SUPPLIERS:

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Shinobu Verhagen gathering cucumbers from her garden

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

STUDENT ART: Flo Schreiner, left, stands with her art teacher, Bev Lillyman, in front of one of her paintings. The ArtSpring exhibit featured the artwork of several of Lillyman's students.

CONCERTS

Once-in-a-lifetime music, science combo shines at ArtSpring

Galileo's Daughters not to be missed on Oct. 19

Salt Springer Rob James is over the moon about the Galileo's Daughters concert coming up at ArtSpring on Monday, Oct. 19.

"Very few people in this world (and disturbingly few women) have had asteroids named after them," says James. "Dava Sobel is one."

Sobel is also the renowned American author of such best-selling books of popular science as *Longitude* and *Galileo's Daughter*. She teams up with three fine New York musicians to present an unusual evening

combining music from the early Baroque played on period instruments with Sobel's narration about Galileo's revolutionary scientific discoveries, all accompanied by projected multi-media images of the heavens and the natural world.

The musicians, soprano Sarah Pillow, Mary Anne Ballard on viola da gamba, and Ronn McFarlane on lute and theoboro (bass lute), present a selection of music from both famous composers of the period — Purcell, Frescobaldi, Claudio Monteverdi — as well as obscure ones.

Among the obscure ones is Galileo's father Vincenzo, a well-known lute maker, mathematician and experimenter in the physical

bases of harmony. The reviewer of a recent performance in Wisconsin suggests that: "The piece by Vincenzo Galilei suggests that his gifts may have been in theory rather than composition."

However, he goes on to say that: "The musicians were outstanding. Although she spoke of her background in modern styles like jazz and blues, Sarah Pillow's clear soprano perfectly captured the bell-like tones and unearthly tremolos and trills of Renaissance style. Ronn McFarlane impressed with his agility and sensitivity on the lute, and Mary Anne Ballard drew singing beauty and poignant inflection from the viola da gamba."

"This will be one of ArtSpring's more unusual and exciting presentations this year," said executive director George Sipsos.

"It will not only broaden our musical experience but serve as a great way to acknowledge 2009 as the International Year of Astronomy. Science and art should not be two solitudes. This journey back to a time when they were closely connected will not only instruct but entertain and inspire as well."

Tickets for the 8 p.m. performance on Oct. 19 are available from the ArtSpring ticket centre at 250-537-2102. In addition to single ticket prices of \$27 for adults, admission at \$5 is available for all youth under 18.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ART EXHIBIT

Spinners and weavers knock socks off

Artistry and technical proficiency unite

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Some people might find Thanksgiving is a bit early for Christmas shopping, but last weekend's show and sale by the Spinners and Weavers guild would have made it difficult to keep wallets in pockets.

With gorgeous colours, artistic flair and excellent execution, the fibre products made an impressive argument for buying locally. Considering the real cost of materials and time, the pieces on display were a true bargain for those seeking unique and locally crafted items, although by quality alone they could have been produced at any textile centre in the world. Creations ranged from cotton dish cloths at \$5 each to couture jackets at \$455, with everything else in between.

One of the great things about having the show double as a sale was the uniform tags attached to each piece. With the type of article and its creator named on the front, the back of the tag contained material information and care instructions. Therefore a handy checklist let the browser see at a glance, for example, that a scarf was made from 100 per cent local wool.

Providing an interactive show, the guild members delivered a continuous series of



Sherry Preston tries on a hat at the Salt Spring Spinners and Weavers Guild show and sale at ArtSpring.

PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

demonstrations and were forthcoming with information about their craft.

Early afternoon on Saturday, Ingrid Boesel sat mid-project at a loom, and happily discussed methods used by the Coptics and Egyptians, as well as the Greek myth of Penelope. She also demonstrated the Japanese art of kimihimo, a form of braiding she uses to create necklaces.

Many treasures were available at the show, with simple pleasures meeting luxurious splendour. Gillian Mouat's three-packs of tiny sheep dolls were too cute, as were her Santa head decorations with flowing grey beards.

Ida Marie Threadkell created decorative

pieces using silk fusion, including vases and evening bags.

Humble cotton dish towels were made things of beauty in Rosemary Wallbank's hands, combining blue, green and white stripes with subtle yellow piping.

Scarves were a timely and attractive accessory that came in a variety of shapes and weaves. Victoria Olchowecki had a turquoise and blue pattern in softest rayon chenille, while Tanis showed some that were wider and lighter, in rippling jewel tones.

Bev Lillyman created a silk and wool fusion scarf that resembled a butterfly's wings in its large, rounded ends and cut-out patterning. The fuchsia/rose base supported swirls of sky blue,

leaf green and orange.

For the fashion world, Lorrie Irwin provided fingerless gloves with the slightly stiff texture of crocheted lace, although ultimately soft feeling. The taupe-coloured silk and wool blend featured lambswool from Ewetopia Farm.

Another couture-type item was a full length sweater coat in soft alpaca by Donna Vanderwekken.

In stripes of both rich and soft shades of brown, the sweater's unique design was one-shouldered, tying at the shoulderless side just above the hip. Also unique and completely gorgeous were Ilse Leader's creations, especially a jacket in jade green velvet. Fuzzy, hand-dyed mohair lined

the cuffs and covered the vest area, while the inside was lined with silk.

People who love fibre arts but want to create their own projects were also kept happy with skeins of hand-spun and hand-dyed wool provided by Pat Daniel, Cheryl Wiebe and Solange. These came in various wonderful colours and textures, from fine gauge to loose strands as thick as two fingers. Bolos of woven cloth were also available — one example was a vibrant wool in a raspberry/orange blend, while another was a cotton/linen in soft oatmeal.

As I heard one visitor remark, the group really should have the event (not instead, but again) close to Christmas.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



LEGEND REVIVED: Long-time islanders will remember El Bande Grande and can see them again on Saturday night at Beaver Point Hall, 8 p.m. From left are Jane and Kathy Stack, Andy Hickman, Greg Pauker and the two Doug Rhodes. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

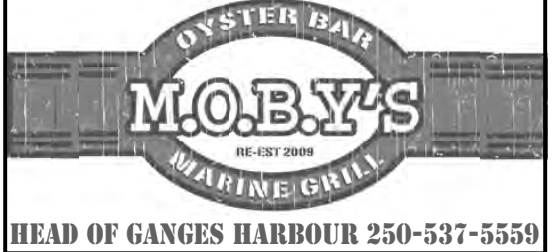
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JAZZ

Evans project: Part II

Oct. 25 concert a "back-by-demand" happening

BY NORRIS CLEMENT
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Bill Evans was, arguably, the most important jazz pianist of the 20th century.

Born in 1930, he died in 1980, but in those 50 years he produced a distinctive and prolific body of original compositions and recorded performances and changed the way pianists approach their instrument and their craft.

For Canadian audiences, it is sometimes helpful to mention him in connection with Glenn Gould. Gould was born two years after Evans and died two years after him.

Both loved music and excelled at playing it, had a long history of physical and mental problems, and reportedly admired each other's work. Gould referred to Evans on one occasion as "the Scriabin of Jazz" — and Evans actually used Gould's beloved Steinway for recording the famous album *Conversations with Myself*.

Many classical music fans find Evans' recorded performances quite acceptable, even exciting.

His fluid technique, his perfect touch producing the famous "crystal clear" pianistic tone, his use of lush harmonies reminiscent of composers of the Romantic and Impressionistic periods, and his beautiful, melodic improvisations all contribute to the overall assessment that he was truly a great musician.

Last year my colleagues (Laurent Boucher, Diane Bessell and Ian Van Wyck) and I presented a concert featuring Evans' compositions exclusively. The concert was aptly named the "Bill Evans Project" as it reflected my own study of Bill's work that really began in February 1960 when, quite by accident, I first heard Bill Evans play with his trio at the Jazz Work-

shop in San Francisco. His inimitable sound immediately became embedded in my head (and heart). But it wasn't until 2007 when I was recovering from a back operation that I finally took the time to study his life, his compositions and his vast discography, and seriously begin to incorporate my findings into my own playing.

Our 2008 Salt Spring concert, sponsored by the Salt Spring Jazz & Blues Society, actually had two parts: first, performances of 14 of his most interesting compositions, and second, a narrative on his life and his contribution to the use of the piano in jazz music.

Thankfully, the concert was well attended and enthusiastically received — so much so that the Jazz & Blues Society asked us to do another.

This year in Part II we will play a few of his compositions, but the focus will be on "the songs Bill played," including jazz standards, like Herbie Hancock's *Dolphin Dance* and Jimmy Rowles' hauntingly beautiful *Peacocks* and selections from the *American Songbook* like Cole Porter's *All of You* and Jerome Kern's *Up With the Lark*. We will also perform a few "tribute songs" written after Bill's death, such as my own composition, *Waltz for Bill*.

People sometimes ask why I have devoted so much time to studying Bill Evans and his work and my response usually is "because his compositions and his playing were so beautiful and because there is so much to learn from him."

These concerts are a way of sharing this beauty with our friends.

The *Bill Evans Project: Part II: The Songs He Played* is set for Sunday, Oct. 25, 3 to 5 p.m. at All Saints By-the-Sea.

Tickets are available from the ArtSpring ticket centre at 250-537-2102. Adults cost \$20 and students are \$5.

WORKSHOPS

Weekend workshops throw some light on lantern making

Gearing up for Beyond the Veil procession

For those not wanting to join the Halloween lantern procession without some help to light the way, two weekends of workshops are being offered.

Wendi Gilson, who is organizing the Beyond

the Veil event, will host lantern-making workshops in the Salt Spring United Church basement on Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 17-18, from 1 to 4 p.m., and then at a Saturday market tent on Oct. 24.

The workshops are free, although donations will be gratefully accepted.

For the workshop at the United Church,

people should call Gilson at 250-538-8075 to register, while the one at the market will be on a drop-in basis.

Do-it-yourself instructions are available from the Driftwood front counter, or from Gilson.

The lantern procession runs from Barb's Buns at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31.



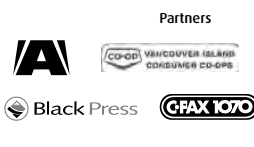
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

NEW BOOKS

Downtown Eastside book gets Galiano launch

Next Sunday afternoon at the South Galiano Hall

A book launch at Galiano Island's South Hall next weekend puts the focus on a topic that's often in the news, dissected by three people who have seen it on the ground.

A Thousand Dreams, Vancouver's Downtown Eastside and the Fight for its Future, is a mix of history, journalism, political analysis and first-person accounts.

Written by former chief coroner and Vancouver mayor Larry Campbell, renowned criminologist Neil Boyd and investigative journalist Lori Culbert, it offers a portrait of one of North America's poorest, most drug-challenged neighbourhoods.

The Galiano event is on Sunday, Oct.

25 at 3 p.m. Author Campbell will be in attendance.

According to a press release, "A Thousand Dreams raises provocative questions about the challenges confronting not only Vancouver's Downtown Eastside but also all of North America's major cities and offers concrete, urgently needed solutions, including:

- Continued support for Insite, the safe injection site
- Decriminalization of prostitution and drugs
- The transfer of addiction services to the health ministry, allowing detox into the medical system
- More government-funded SROs and more affordable social housing."

Campbell was mayor of Vancouver from 2002 to 2005 and oversaw the establishment of North America's first legal injection site.

His career as chief coroner for B.C.

inspired the Gemini Award-winning TV series Da Vinci's Inquest.

He was appointed a Canadian senator in 2005 and now has a home on Galiano Island.

Boyd is a professor and associate director of the School of Criminology at Simon Fraser University.

He is a frequent media commentator on drug law, drug policy, and criminal violence, and has completed community impact studies on Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

Culbert is an award-winning journalist with the Vancouver Sun.

She has spent years writing about the Downtown Eastside, including the trial of accused serial killer Robert Pickton.

Galiano Island Books is hosting the event at the hall.

A Thousand Dreams is published by D&M Publishers Inc.

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An example that illustrates the question: A 35 year old mom breaks her leg skiing. While in a full cast, help is needed to bathe her, take her to the bathroom, drive the kids to school, prepare family meals, do the laundry, etc., etc. Having extra cash to pay for help for a few months allows the whole family to cope, and mom to recover.

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Remember the Living Strong Gym is also open 24 hours to allow access to working out at your convenience. Drop in, sign up today, or book personal training sessions to get your started on your winter exercise program.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONCERTS

Music and environment connect

Oona McOuat and band perform Oct. 24

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

In her three years on Salt Spring, Oona McOuat has perhaps become best known for her work with children, particularly her popular Faerie Camp.

In other places, however, she's been a war correspondent, a wild dolphin swimmer, an organic farmhand and a clown. McOuat has also developed a following for her original Celtic harp and piano compositions that blend world harmonies with an entirely adult consciousness of the world around her.

On Saturday, Oct. 24, McOuat will perform with her band Dream Deep at Fulford Hall for the Salt Spring stop on an islands tour promoting her first full-length CD, Honey and Holy Water. Timed to coincide with world-wide and local actions around climate change on that day, the concert is Salt Spring's opportunity to participate in establishing a new global consciousness.

McOuat describes the music on the new CD as having a trans-global aspect while being locally anchored. The recording was done exactly one year ago in the Burgoyne Valley in studio with Daryl Chonka. Living around the other side of Mount Maxwell from the studio, McOuat said one of the best parts of the process occurred with last winter's deep snows, when neither she nor Chonka could drive.

"Daryl and I would walk and meet halfway up the trail to Mount Maxwell. He would give me the latest mix and I would give him my notes . . . It was beautiful."

The natural world was an inspiring force behind Honey and Holy Water, whose title



Oona McOuat and Corbin Keep.

refers to disappearing honey bees and the deteriorating health of the world's oceans. McOuat has a markedly holistic perspective to her work.

"The idea is that I want to have a meaningful platform for my music — it's wonderful to open up hearts and have people feel good, but it's also good to have some meaningful ramifications as to our global situation," McOuat said.

Global elements come into play with some of the musicians who participated in the recording, including James Mujuru, who shares time between Salt Spring and his native Zimbabwe.

Mujuru's father was responsible for introducing the thumb piano to the western world, and McOuat said the younger musician is also working to keep traditions alive. He contributed Zimbabwean stories, songs and chants into some of the songs.

Recordings added from Brazil and Hawaii contribute to the global feeling. Performers include cellists Corbin Keep and Jami Sieber, Hawaiian woodwinds master Richard Lee, homegrown percussionist Chris Bertin, fiddlers Zav Rokeby-Thomas and Michael Fox, and singing by Desmond Sutherland. Chonka added bass, gui-

tar, piano, didgeridoo and beats to the multilayered sound, and the final mix was mastered at Randy Bachman's The Barn.

McOuat and Dream Deep have performed around the world at arts centres, festivals and concert halls. She has shared the stage with artists such as Bruce Cockburn, Jann Arden, The Rankins, Jami Sieber, Toni Childs and Ferron. For her first full concert on Salt Spring, McOuat is hoping that islanders will come out to support a message that was in many ways shaped by the local community.

"I was touring in New York and D.C. this summer and realizing how fortunate it is here, with our understanding of the natural world and also the importance of community. I do feel that this message is going to go out into the world and make a difference.

"With the CD release tour I'm linking it with grassroots groups and environmental groups in different communities with the idea that music can be an inspiring and joyful way of building mindful community."

McOuat's autumn Back to the Garden tour refers to the only cover song on the album, Joni Mitchell's Woodstock song. And the Salt Spring release will intentionally coincide with Wake Up or Warm Up events happening at GISS and around the world on Oct. 24.

Tickets for the concert are \$12 advance, \$15 at the door and available at Salt Spring Books. Kids 12 and under are free.

Call 250-653-2088 for more information. To get a taste of McOuat's music, visit <http://www.myspace.com/oonamc-ouat>.

Proceeds from the events will go to the Gulf Islands Centre for Ecological Learning and Green School projects.

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FESTIVALS

All Souls Rising calls islanders to celebrate years of black heritage

Events begin this weekend at ArtSpring

To celebrate 150 years since the first black settlement on Salt Spring, the entire community is invited to special events set for the coming week at ArtSpring.

Funded by the federal government's Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage Program and the Capital Regional District, All Souls Rising festivities begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 16 with a catered opening reception for a week-long black culture-related art exhibit.

Then on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., there will be a documentary film about the history of blacks in B.C., a moderated panel discussion on race and identity on Salt Spring, a special tribute ceremony and a demonstration and instruction of The Electric Slide, for those who've hankered to learn the popular line dance.

The celebration will end in grand style with a Thursday, Oct. 22 concert featuring famed singer Leon Bibb with Salt Spring favourite Lisa Maxx and the Bill Sample Trio.

All events are free with the exception of the Oct. 22 concert. (See separate story in this issue of the Driftwood.)

The event is organized by the Multicultural Alliance For Blacks on Salt Spring Island.

See Friday's Weekender edition for a cover story on All Souls Rising.

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HOSE HELP: Salt Spring firefighter Mark Wyatt gives William Vane-Hunt a taste of battling fires at an open house held Saturday at the Ganges fire hall.



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FUNDRAISERS

Tree Frog Daycare amasses auction items for fun event

Lions Hall doors open on Saturday, Oct. 24

An annual daycare fundraiser sets up shop again next weekend with a pond full of wonderful items already donated for the cause.

The fifth annual Tree Frog Daycare Annual Goods and Services Auction Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24 at Lions Hall.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. to allow everyone to browse and bid on silent auction items while enjoying music by Tree Frog's own Dara Clayden.

Light snacks, beer and wine will also be available for purchase.

The live auction is set to begin at 8 p.m. with Dave Phillips as the auctioneer.

This year's auction donations come from Tree Frog parents, staff and board members, along with numerous local businesses and community members.

So far donations range from auto work, books, jewellery and green fees for golf, to a variety of lessons — guitar, golf and wood-working — restaurant gift certificates, art and much, much more.

"We are thrilled to include art-work from Steffich Fine Art and Robert Bateman," states a press release. "Both are now five-time contributors to our auctions."

The Bateman print is enti-

tled Among the Leaves - Cottontail.

Donation lists will be posted around Salt Spring Island for anyone interested in finding out more about what will be up for auction.

"This is certain to be a fun evening and all proceeds will go directly to Tree Frog. Thanks to all the generous businesses and individuals who have contributed to our auction, we are able to put together an event we are not only excited about but proud to be hosting."

For more details or to make a donation, contact Lisa Bleskie at treefrogdaycare@shaw.ca or call the daycare at 250-653-4998. Tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

Bridge club computes its way into 21st century

Bidding boxes and computerized scoring debut

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Well, there was a change in the weather (not much, though!), and a change in the sea (a bit chilly for swimming now), and from now on (says the bridge club) there'll be a change in me.

As the old song begins, "They say don't change the old for the new; but I've found out that this will never do . . ." so the Gulf Islands Duplicate Bridge Club has taken that advice and entered

BRIDGETRICKS

the 21st century (a bit late) by going not only to bidding boxes but computerized scoring as well. This means less noise and unwanted eavesdropping during the games (when all the boxes arrive) and accurate results available with less stress for the members who faithfully did the calculations, as well as e-mailed results for players requesting them and maybe prompt printouts (when the computer program is fully explored).

Meanwhile, on Sept. 28 there were five and a half

tables initiating the computer, thanks to Sandy Thompson's know-how and the presence of a machine at Salt Spring Seniors. First place went to Zelly Taylor and Ian Thomas, with Flo and George Laundry coming second. Third were Prem Margolese and Jeff Bell, and coming fourth were Irene Hawksworth with Jill Evans.

There were seven full tables on Oct. 5, welcoming several new players from various places and resulting in a Mitchell movement. First North-South with a huge score were Prem Margolese and Jeff Bell, closely followed by George Laun-

dry and Paul Retallack. Also with very high scores were the third place winners, Zelly Taylor partnered by Sandy Thompson. East-West players saw a tie for first place between the partnership of Boodie Arnott and Ruth Hopping and that of Gisela Welsh and Blanche Poborsa. Second place went to Charles Kahn and Judy Norget.

These games start promptly at 7 p.m. (we wish) on Monday evenings at the Seniors' Services Society. For more information, please call George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or e-mail pas-torale@shaw.ca.

PEOPLE & COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

NEW DIGS: Members of the local Jehovah's Witness community enjoy an open house Saturday at their newly renovated kingdom hall on Fulford-Ganges Road. Some 500 people contributed to the project.

PIONEERS

The last of the famous "Seven D's" passes on

Denise Crofton spent entire life on Salt Spring

BY JIM MORRIS
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Denise Francis Crofton was a true Salt Spring Island pioneer and passed away peacefully in the Lady Minto Hospital on Oct. 4.

She was 96 years of age and had lived on Salt Spring her entire life. In fact, Denise died on property that was once part of the Crofton farm and hotel.

Born May 28, 1913 Denise was the daughter of Alfred (Fred) and Nona Crofton. Fred Crofton and his brother Ernest moved to Salt Spring Island from Ireland as young men in 1896.

Fred bought property at the head of Ganges Harbour and later married Nona Wilson, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Edward Wilson. Rev. Wilson was one of the first Anglican ministers on Salt Spring and helped build St. Mary's church at Fulford Harbour. Nona Crofton, while her husband was fighting overseas in WWI, started a boarding house that later became Harbour House Hotel (named after Fred's family home in Kingstown, Ireland) to help support their growing family.

Denise was the fifth oldest child. She and her six brothers and sisters, all born in the family home, were known as the "Seven D's" — Dermott, Desmond, Diana, Doreen, Denise, Donovan (Pat) and Dulcie. Denise and her siblings worked at helping manage and operate the Harbour House Hotel. Denise supervised the hotel staff, helped to cook, organized events and enjoyed entertaining guests.

Harbour House Hotel became a true resort where families came every year to enjoy the unique family-run atmosphere, delicious meals cooked by Billy Eng, tennis courts, salt-water swimming pool and the Crofton's "Irish" hospitality. Denise made some lifelong friends at the hotel, including Theo Knight from Vancouver, who spent much of her childhood with the Crofton family. Denise lived at Harbour House Hotel until the business was sold in 1964.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Denise Crofton is seen with her nephew Jim Morris in the extended care unit of Lady Minto Hospital. Crofton died on Oct. 4.

Denise was an avid hockey fan and loved her Saturday night hockey games as she knew all the teams and players and did not like to be disturbed while watching the games.

She owned a lot adjacent to the hotel and later moved into a house on the property that was fondly called Denhome.

Denise, like her brothers and sisters, loved sports. She enjoyed tennis, swimming and was an ardent golfer and won a number of trophies at the Salt Spring Island Golf Club. Denise was an avid hockey fan and loved her Saturday night hockey games as she knew all the teams and players and did not like to be disturbed while watching the games.

Denise enjoyed bridge and cribbage and loved flowers. She

had a real green thumb that was reflected in her colourful and showy summer flower containers. Denise also enjoyed travelling and visited Ireland, England, California and Hawaii. However, her true love was Salt Spring Island and her family and home were her most important priorities.

Denise was the last of her generation in the Crofton/Wilson dynasty to live on Salt Spring Island. She lived a remarkable life staying on the island she loved and on her family property that overlooked her beloved Ganges Harbour.

Although Denise never married, she was most certainly loved and admired by her many nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and friends. She will be greatly missed as a truly unique Salt Spring Island pioneer. Special thanks to the Extended Care staff of Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital, Dr. Ron Reznick and her personal care giver of many years, Jill Hickford.

A memorial funeral service to celebrate Denise Crofton's life was held at St. Mark's Anglican Church on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

Donations to Lady Minto Hospital Foundation or charity of one's choice are appreciated.

The writer is Denise Crofton's nephew.

To our friends on Salt Spring!
"Thanks for stopping by."
- Geoff



Geoff Hopps
Owner

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- * **Food Bank:** Open Tuesday, 11am - 4pm
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- * **Recycle Depot:** Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 250-537-1200.
- * **Seniors Wellness Programs:** Call Sharon Glover at 250-537-4607.
- * **Emergency Mental Health Services:** Available 4 pm to midnight at Lady Minto Hospital. Call 250-538-4840
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PEOPLE & COMMUNITY

PALLIATIVE CARE

Hospice aims to strengthen services

New board of directors gets down to work

No one should die alone, and no one should grieve alone, except by choice. This is a core value of the Salt Spring Hospice — formally known as the Bessie Dane Foundation and Hospice Society.

The not-for-profit, volunteer organization continues a long history of serving Salt Spring residents, but with a new board of directors and a new plan for strengthening existing services.

The society provides palliative care knowledge and emotional support at no charge to individuals recently diagnosed with a life-threatening illness, people with a chronic or terminal illness, families, friends and other caregivers, and to the recently bereaved.

Services include vigils, one-on-one support sessions, and grief recovery. "Care for the Caregiver" is one of the new programs being launched in 2009.

Hospice has been a registered society for 20 years, but the group has been operating since 1984 when it was formed in memory of Bessie Dane, a retired nurse who offered compassionate care to the dying.

The board of directors includes



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

New hospice board, from left, is Gayle Parkinson, Lee McColl, Barb Aust, Rev. Barry Cooke, Linda Kavelin-Popov, Diana Hayes and Alan Coombes. Missing is Kathy Williams.

chairperson Linda Kavelin-Popov, vice chair Barb Aust, secretary Diana Hayes, treasurer Barry Cooke, Alan Coombes, Lee McColl and Kathy Williams.

Pat Desbottes, a long-time board chair and president of the society, continues on the board as a mentor in this time of transition. Kathleen Horsdal has been the long-standing key organizer "in the field," providing support

and training to many individuals and families over the last two decades. Her dedication has provided Hospice with many trained volunteers who are quietly supportive in the community.

Hospice plans to hire an administrative assistant to streamline the operation and help with fundraising. The board is dedicated to continuing and enhancing Hospice services on the island.

you asked?

a new Q&A column and blog coming soon to your Driftwood newspaper

watch for details

Salt Spring

FOCUS ON SENIORS

Seasonal flu shots target seniors

The Vancouver Island Health Authority began scheduling flu shot clinics at Health Units and other locations across the region beginning Tuesday, Oct. 13 to provide publicly-funded seasonal influenza vaccine to people aged 65 years and older, and individuals who reside in long-term care facilities.

"Seniors are at lower risk of contracting the pandemic H1N1 flu virus, but are still the highest risk group for complications from seasonal influenza," said VIHA chief medical health officer Dr. Richard Stanwick.

"Historically, this group has accounted for about half the immunizations provided by our public health staff, and our aim this year is to complete this initial phase of immunization clinics within four weeks."

Once the H1N1 flu vaccine arrives in mid-November (or possibly earlier), anyone who needs and wants to get it will be able to receive a dose of the vaccine before Christmas.

Following delivery of the H1N1 vaccine, the seasonal influenza vaccine will be available for anyone who did not receive it in the fall and for whom it

is recommended.

To find out about when and where you can get a seasonal flu vaccine, and for the latest information on H1N1, visit the VIHA web site at: www.viha.ca/flu. To find the clinic nearest you, simply visit the flu locator at www.immunizebc.ca.

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PEOPLE & COMMUNITY



Above, Doc Paynter with his almost complete glider at his King Road property in September 2008. Below, the glider in flight last weekend near Hope, in the hands of pilot Shawn Braiden.

ISLAND ADVENTURERS

Doc Paynter's dream flies

Glider makes inaugural flight in Fraser Valley

BY SUSAN PAYNTER
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

They say it takes a village to raise a child, but the story in this case is that it took two villages: Hope, a village at the east end of the Fraser Valley, and Salt Spring Island, to raise an airplane.

Doc Paynter of Salt Spring bought the plans for a Fauvel AV 361 glider in 1966 and started on a project that would span 43 years.

He moved to Hope in 1969 to teach industrial education because of the airport and the glider club, and it was there that he started to glue together the ribs for the wing.

During the next several years many things interfered: he built a sailboat and three houses, raised two kids, moved a couple of times and continued to live a full life, but the glider project never died.

After retiring and moving to Salt Spring Island in 1995 he began in earnest to complete his dream of finishing the glider. The project was monumental. He had to smuggle the glue from the USA when Canada took it off the market. He used a return trip from Mexico in a van to bring home sheets of very thin plywood that would have cost huge dollars had they been sent from San Diego.

He found several craftsmen on Salt Spring who could help manufacture the parts, the fittings and help make everything work smoothly. There were people who could use a welder or metal lathe, had expertise in radio installation, knew about fiberglass and special paint. Some helped work out the physics of weight, balance and centre of gravity. The project grew and grew as he quietly and methodically worked on each aspect. He had the inspector come, redid things that weren't correct, bought special fabric that had to be fitted, glued and heated until it shrunk into shape.

Many times the project seemed to be never-ending, but finally last summer the plane had its final inspection and was moved out of the garage. Then its registration number was painted on, but still the tweaking went on.

He upgraded his gliding licence and began the slow process of trying to get it finally in the air. Wires had to be tightened, parts adjusted and read-



justed, a trailer had to be built and the list seemed never ending.

Finally, after 43 years in the making, he connected with a young pilot named Shawn Braiden, (son of islanders Ross and Tracey Braiden), talked to several friends who lent their time, energy and support, and transported the small one-seater glider with a 42-foot wing span weighing only 330 pounds up to the Hope airport.

Here the summer of 2009 dragged on with more tweaking, fiddling and frustration until finally on the Oct. 3-4 weekend he connected it to a car and Shawn gave the glider its first test flight. All the club members looked on and hoped for the best. Then after a few test runs it was connected to the tow plane and pulled up to 4,000 feet. Shawn spent one and a half hours flying around the mountains near Hope, spinning, dipping, diving, using the thermals and basically having the time of his life.

Doc was quivering with excitement. There were just a few friends on the ground watching, but many of those who have been interested and involved for the past 43 years would have loved to see this little plane fly. They were not there, but Doc would like to thank all those people who were part of this process and helped him on his journey — those from Hope and those from Salt Spring Island.

Maybe next spring when the flying season starts again the two villages that helped get this plane in the air will see him fly.

A taste of the tropics

Coconut flan

The tropical flavour and creamy texture make this flan absolutely irresistible.

- 1 c. sugar
- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese salt
- 1 14-oz. can coconut milk
- 1 14-oz. can Eagle brand sweet condensed milk
- 6 eggs, lightly beaten

Place sugar in heavy pot and drizzle with 1/3 c. water. Place on medium heat, swirling til

dissolved. When a clear syrup forms, cover and cook 2 more minutes. Uncover, swirl syrup til colour turns to amber.

Pour into 9" cake pan. Combine softened cream cheese and salt til smooth. Stir in both milks; beat in eggs and pour into cake pan.

Place in a water bath and bake at 325 degrees for 1 hr. til set in the middle.

Cool, then chill at least 4 hrs. To serve, place flan in a dish of hot water for a few minutes, run



Linda Koroscil

LET'S EAT

a knife around outside edge and invert onto a serving plate. The caramel will run down the sides to create a beautiful presentation.

This flan is really good served with fresh strawberries or raspberries.

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WALLY the WALRUS Unofficial spokesperson for the Salt Spring Island Public Library

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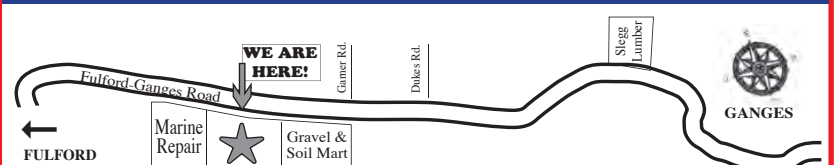
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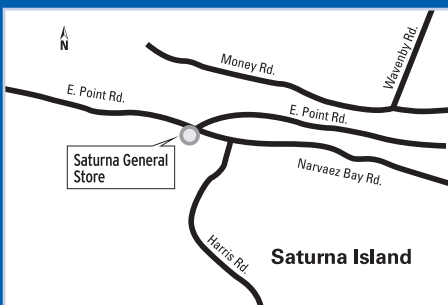


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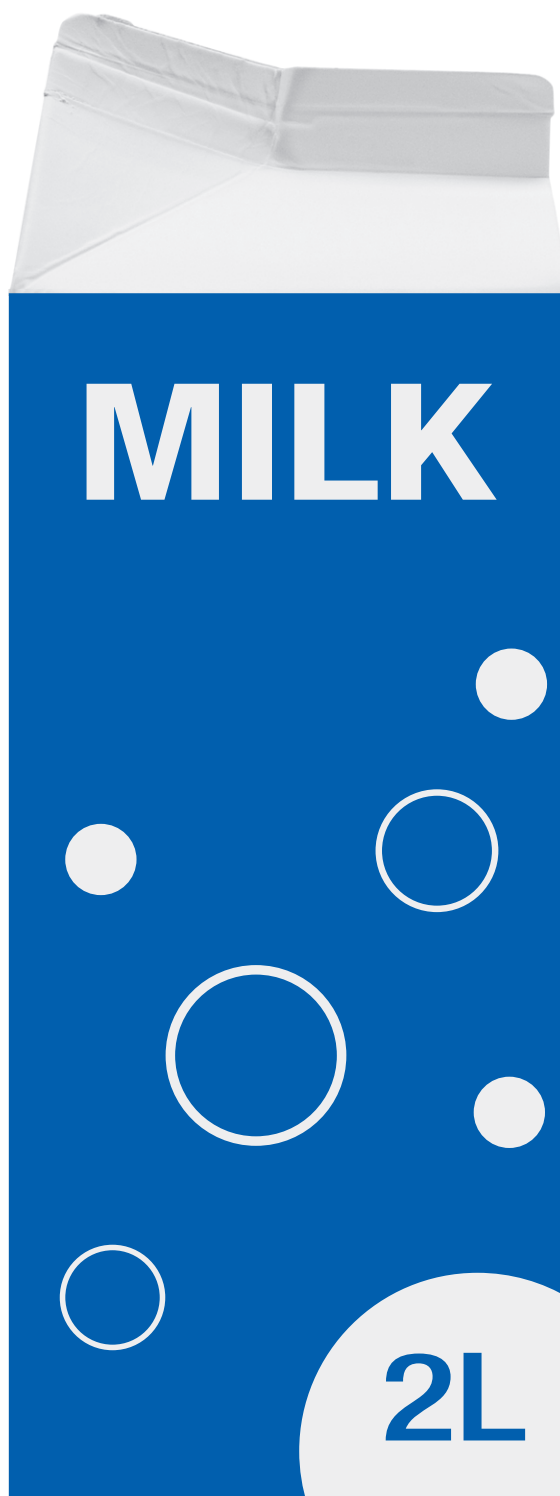
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