



## It's a wrap

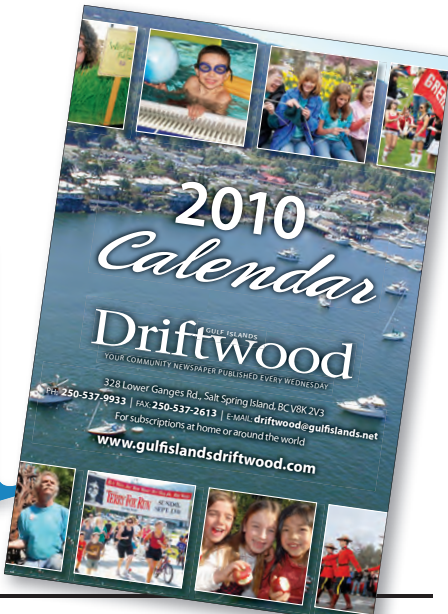
2009 in review. **PAGES 17-20**

## First birth celebrations

Island moms join forces. **PAGE 15**

## 2010 Calendar

INSIDE



# GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, December 30, 2009 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 49TH YEAR — ISSUE 52 **\$1.25** (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**EYE ON THE CAMERA:** Sheep on Salt Spring appear to all turn and look at the cameraman, creating a pastoral, wintery scene.

### MISSING PERSON

# Happy ending to potentially tragic search case

SAR member spies missing man on way to search meeting

Salt Spring RCMP and Search and Rescue personnel responded quickly to a report of a missing person on Monday morning, but the search was over almost before it began.

According to SAR search manager Chuck Hamilton,

RCMP asked for assistance at 6:57 a.m. and the 88-year-old man was found at 7:40 a.m.

A SAR member was en route from his home to the SAR hall to prepare for the search when he saw a man matching the missing person's description in the Country Grocer parking lot.

He pulled into the lot and confirmed the man's identity.

Hamilton said the man had last been seen by his wife

when they retired to bed the previous evening.

Hamilton said the individual was in "grand shape," although confused, when located by the SAR volunteer.

"He was probably within a kilometre [of his home], but he had been travelling during the night."

RCMP said Tuesday they still don't know how much time the man spent outside.

Both SAR and RCMP personnel expressed relief that the man was found unharmed.

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	TIME	HEIGHT m	HEIGHT ft		TIME	HEIGHT m	HEIGHT ft		
DEC	30	05:48	3.5	11.5	03	07:57	3.7	12.1	
	WE	09:28	3.2	10.5	SU	13:30	2.6	8.5	
		13:20	3.4	11.2		17:24	3.0	9.8	
31	TH	06:22	3.6	11.8	04	00:38	0.5	1.6	
		10:27	3.2	10.5	MO	08:27	3.7	12.1	
		14:16	3.4	11.2		14:35	2.3	7.5	
JAN	01	22:26	-0.1	-0.3		18:41	2.7	8.9	
		FR	06:54	3.6	11.8	05	01:20	0.9	3.0
			11:24	3.1	10.2	TU	08:57	3.7	12.1
02	SA	15:16	3.4	11.2		15:38	1.9	6.2	
		23:11	-0.0	0.0		20:19	2.4	7.9	
		07:26	3.7	12.1					
		12:25	2.9	9.5					
		16:17	3.2	10.5					
		23:55	0.1	0.3					

# NEWSBEAT

## BUSINESS CONFLICTS

# Richmond: Coffee Co. roasting not welcome

Industrial complex neighbour makes health-impact claims

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

After dealing with a rejected rezoning application from the Islands Trust, the Salt Spring Coffee Company is now facing opposition from a neighbour to its Richmond roasting operation.

Darryl Segal, president of a company called International Cosmetics, said some of his employees have threatened to resign because they feel ill while at work and that heart palpitations suffered by his father have become worse due to roasting activities.

Segal's company, which manufactures a natural hair-growth product, and SSCC are next-door neighbours in an industrial complex on Horseshoe Way in south Richmond, with only a wall separating the two operations.

"We have endured much 'pain and suffering' these last 11 months, more than you can ever imagine, since [Salt Spring Coffee] started to roast coffee," said Segal in a letter to the lawyer of the unit owner renting space to the coffee company, which Segal provided to the Driftwood.

He said that on the days that coffee is roasted, his staff experience irritation of the eyes, skin and respiratory tract, and also feel lightheaded, nausea and heart palpitations.

"When Salt Spring Coffee do no roasting,

my staff feel none of these symptoms."

Segal said the company has violated the strata council bylaws by not obtaining written approval from the council before making alterations to its rented unit's exterior, and by engaging in activities that "are likely to produce unacceptable levels of noise, fumes, dust or fluids."

Segal criticizes the fact that SSCC only applied for a permit from Metro Vancouver to operate a thermal oxidizer in November, several months after it began roasting coffee there. However, permits are only required if a complaint is received.

WorkSafe BC has also determined that the exhaust stack height must be increased from five to 10 or 15 feet, but Segal said the strata council has not provided the written approval needed to create the hole required.

Coffee company president Mickey McLeod said Tuesday that due to oversights the company may have not done some things it should have when it began roasting earlier this year, but the exhaust stack approval is the last thing required.

He takes issue with Segal's attempts to stop SSCC from roasting coffee and the health-related complaints he has made.

McLeod said the company has been allowed to continue its activities at the site — which it has rented as a distribution depot for the past three years — because it is complying with various WorkSafe BC, Metro Vancouver and Richmond council requirements, he said.

"We've had good communication with

everyone with what we're doing and we're moving forward accordingly."

SSCC said a WorkSafe BC representative even installed a device that measured air quality for two days while the roaster was in operation.

"We were well, well below WorkSafe BC's minimum standards — with a guy standing beside the roaster for two whole days," said McLeod.

"All the accusations [Segal] is making are totally inaccurate and wrong," he added.

McLeod said the company now mostly roasts on evenings and weekends to avoid any conflict for Segal's employees. He notes the Richmond site produces only one tenth of the coffee the Salt Spring plant handles. Another coffee roasting company also operates in the area, he said.

SSCC's Richmond operation is a temporary one, he stressed, as the company continues to seek a permanent location with a significant "green" facility like the one it had envisioned for Salt Spring.

"We have to live with who we are and what we do every day, and I'm totally fine with that."

But Segal is not happy with whatever attempts McLeod has made to appease him so far, and recently made his story public when working with regulatory agencies did not result in a shutdown of the operation.

Segal said he is "100 per cent committed to make sure we are not right next door to a coffee roasting plant."

## ROAD SAFETY

# New cellphone rules ring in new year for drivers

Use of hand-held mobile devices now banned

BY TOM FLETCHER  
BLACK PRESS

Police will issue warnings rather than \$167 tickets for the month of January as B.C. drivers get used to new restrictions on mobile phones and music players.

New Motor Vehicle Act regulations in effect on Jan. 1 prohibit dialing, texting and

talking on a hand-held mobile phone while driving.

Experienced B.C. drivers may talk on a hands-free phone, and use one-touch functions such as answering a call or dialing a programmed number.

New drivers and new technologies get special attention.

Drivers in the graduated licensing system are banned from using any electronic device while driving, including hands-free.

Drivers attempting to text or email while driving are sub-

ject to three penalty points in addition to a fine of \$167.

The proliferation of smart phones, music players and mobile devices such as GPS has added distraction along with convenience, and an informal survey shows the extent of the problem.

Vancouver Police monitored a single downtown intersection during a recent morning commute, and counted 116 drivers texting or talking on a hand-held device in only 30 minutes.

Public Safety Minister Kash

Heed says a public awareness campaign will begin this month, including highway signs at border crossings and airports.

The new regulations also clarify the use of walkie-talkie-style phones used by delivery drivers, which must be within easy reach of the driver's seat or fixed to the driver's body and not held in the hand. Video screens in the driver's view can only display pictures or information that assists the driver to operate safely.

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# Newsbeat

## Heads up!

**Polar Bear Swim:**  
Friday, JANUARY 1  
Vesuvius Beach, 11 a.m.

### INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS

# Salt Spring's soccer goodwill spans the globe

Beautiful game shares some beautiful spirit with Lesotho donations

BY SEAN MCINTYRE

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Christmas spirit hasn't been lost on members of the Salt Spring Island Soccer Association, who've spent the past several months preparing a special gift for soccer players in the small African nation of Lesotho.

After years of using funds from the annual May long weekend soccer tournament to help young island soccer players or improve playing surfaces, organizers have connected with a former Salt Spring Old Boys player to make a huge difference a little further afield.

For more than a decade, Gary McNutt has been working to improve the lives of children impacted by HIV and AIDS while building a prosperous village economy so that education, respect and pride can flourish.

McNutt spends about half the year in the village of Phelisanong, Lesotho, a place where the merits of community-to-community aid can be seen first-hand.

The group's social, economic, health and cultural programs have inspired hundreds of villagers along with thousands of others who live nearby.

Improvements have been so great that earlier this year, McNutt and other project volunteers began devoting more of their efforts to the village's soccer programs.

The result offers community members of all ages a much-needed diversion from the hardships of daily life.

"Sports weren't really a priority, but as things became more organized, we started to look at where sport fits in," McNutt said.

It turns out that sport has united the community, instilled confidence, reduced stress and inspired leadership.

As in so many other places around the world, children and young adults have a deep-rooted love for the game. With the 2010 World Cup coming up in neighbouring South Africa, the Phelisanong community's passion is greater than ever.

According to McNutt, townsfolk take every opportunity to play, regardless of the conditions. Players often hit the field until the ball is reduced to nothing more than a deflated clump of frayed plastic fibres.

Even after considerable efforts to create a decent playing surface over the past year, each end of the new field remains separated by several metres of elevation.

Given the residents' passion for the game, you can imagine McNutt's surprise when he and the Salt Spring Soccer Association's Fraser Hope found out what local players and teams offered last week.

What began as a simple idea has transformed into an



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Fraser Hope, left, of the Salt Spring Soccer Association, and Joel Shaver from Sports Traders on Salt Spring show off some jerseys bound for Lesotho.

effort to ship off more than 300 jerseys and 100 soccer balls.

"This really helps create a level playing field," McNutt said. "They've got the skills and the dedication to stick with this."

The bulk of the loot is made up of vintage Salt Spring Island soccer jerseys, but thanks to a generous donation from the Challenge Cup's organizing committee, there's plenty of new Salt Spring United gear to go around.

A contingent of Salt Springers will visit Lesotho as part of a World Cup tour in June and July, but it isn't likely they'll be

able to fit all the goods in their luggage.

"Our next challenge here is to find a way to get it all there," said Hope. "This is where the wider Salt Spring community may be able to assist."

McNutt and Hope extended a huge thanks to Sports Traders' Joel Shaver, the Salt Spring Soccer Association and members of all Salt Spring Island men's and women's soccer teams for their support.

Suggestions and offers to help transport the gear to Lesotho can be made by emailing McNutt at [g\\_mcnutt@yahoo.com](mailto:g_mcnutt@yahoo.com).

## News briefs

### Gabriola emergency in finals

Gabriola Island's health care facility project has made it to the semi-finalist round in the Aviva Community Fund competition.

From more than 2,000 ideas submitted to receive funding from across Canada, the Gabriola Health Care Society's bid for funds to help create an emergency treatment room made it to the top-25 list of most

popular entries based on internet voting.

Residents in all of the Gulf Islands were asked to support the Gabriola project by voting for it online.

Finalists move on to the last phase of the competition, where the merits of each proposal are evaluated by judges.

A total of \$500,000 is available for allocation in Canada. The Gabriola emergency health centre was one of only two B.C. finalists.

Winners will be announced on Jan. 25.

Aviva Canada Inc., an insurance company, says it offered the competition for funds to create and support positive change in communities.

### RCMP get call holiday

Salt Spring RCMP members received a welcome Christmas present last week.

No calls for service were received during four consecutive shifts on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, which local detachment

staff suspect is an unprecedented lull.

### Absolute Water Treatment owner earns top marks

Hard work by Mindy Michener of Absolute Water Treatment Ltd. on Salt Spring Island resulted in an extremely high mark on her certified water technician exam.

"She is among the select few water treatment professionals in the country to have attained the [CWT] designation in Canada and among the elite to have scored so well," said Kevin Wong, executive director of the Canadian Water Quality Association, which is based in Toronto.

Michener achieved a 94 per cent score on the comprehensive CWQA exam.

The industry served by the CWQA and its members encompass water quality improvement for homes, businesses, industry and

institutions, explains a press release. Association membership provides a powerful voluntary credential for professionals working specifically in the industry.

The CWT designation is for individuals involved in sales, installation, and/or manufacturing of water treatment products, or who manage a water treatment business. It covers the broad topics of water treatment basics, problem water applications, water treatment technologies and water chemistry.



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~Kerry



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# NEWSBEAT

## WEATHER PHENOMENON

# Ocean ice confounds kayakers on Dec. 25

Excessive freshwater runoff believed to be a factor

Christmas Day kayakers had their work cut out for them as they paddled through a thin layer of surface ice that formed on portions of Booth Bay and throughout Stuart Channel.

With an average temperature of 0.2 degrees Celsius on Dec. 25, according to GISS weather station data, local kayakers wondered how ice could form on salt water at temperatures close to zero, since salt water has a lower freezing point than fresh water and can drop several degrees below zero before it freezes.

When Ray Martin reported his ice sighting with several photos to the Driftwood, he said he faced a landscape of surface ice that stretched well into the waters between Vesuvius and Crofton.

The Collombin family also sent in photos of kayaking through the ice off Vesuvius on Christmas Day, and travelers on the Howe Sound Queen reported seeing ice on the surface of the calm sea in spots across the whole channel.

Martin, a Sunset Drive resident, also noted the air outside his home had been "absolutely still" overnight.

"Nothing was moving," he said.



PHOTO BY RAY MARTIN

Ray Martin's kayak paddle battles with ice in the ocean near Vesuvius on Dec. 25.

David Denning, a marine biologist who kayaked in Booth Bay with his sons on Christmas Day, theorizes that freshwater runoff from a high level of December precipitation entering Booth Bay via Booth Inlet is what allowed ice to form there.

Fresh water has a lower density than

salt water and thus floats on top when it reaches the ocean.

"You get a lot of fresh water backing up in the estuaries that can freeze there and get pulled out when the tide goes out," he said.

"In the winter you could almost drink it; it's not very salty inside the canal."

## 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)	(G)	(F)	(A)
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Lv. Portlock Park	Ar. Vesuvius	Lv. Vesuvius	Lv. Portlock Park	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges
M-F 6:30	6:37	6:45	6:57	7:03	7:10
8:30	8:37	8:45	8:57	9:03	9:10
12:10	12:17	12:25	12:40	12:46	12:53
3:30	3:37	3:45	3:57	4:03	4:10
4:30	4:37	4:45	4:57	5:03	5:10
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
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)	(L)	(A)
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Ar./Lv. Long Harbour	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges
M-F 1:15	1:25	1:35
SAT 1:50	2:00	2:10
M-S 3:00	3:10	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.

## SPECIES AT RISK

# Basking logs give island turtles a chance

Program for western painted turtle set to expand in 2010

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It may not seem like much on the surface, but a program to install basking logs in a number of island lakes is just the thing that may allow Salt Spring's western painted turtles to hang on and survive.

Earlier in 2009, biologists set up two strategically placed logs in

Stowel Lake to give turtles the perfect perch from which to bask in the sun and regulate their internal temperature.

Thermoregulation, as it's called, is essential to the western painted turtle's survival as it allows the animals to garner enough energy to reproduce, gather food and perform all the other things turtles need to do to prosper in Salt Spring's lakes.

The western painted turtle can grow up to 25 centimetres (10 inches) in length. Hatchling turtles can be as small

as a loonie.

According to the Salt Spring Island Conservancy's website, the turtles' underbelly is often a bright reddish-orange colour with a distinctive black branching blotch on the belly. The carapace, or upper shell, is usually black, olive or brownish in colour. The head and limbs of the turtles are generally blackish-olive in colour with yellow line markings.

As biologists began studying turtle populations on the island, they discovered a distinct lack of basking logs in the animals' traditional habitat.

According to conservancy executive director Linda Gilkeson, lakefronts contain logs and vegetation buffers that are crucial to the survival of so many species, including the turtles.

Unfortunately, she added, people tend

to clear vegetation as lakeside properties are developed, decimating local turtle populations as a result.

Conservancy members got the opportunity to slow that trend by floating two cedar logs in a quiet corner of Stowel Lake thanks to the help and cooperation of a lakefront landowner.

Logs up to five metres long and at least 25 centimetres in diameter are anchored to the lake bottom to provide a consistent place for turtles to hang out.

The Stowel Lake project's success has inspired similar initiatives in other island lakes where western painted turtles can be found.

Thanks to a letter of support from the provincial government and funding from the federal government, the conservancy has set about its search for

landowners with properties along Cushman and St. Mary lakes.

Biologist Laura Matthias has been running the western painted turtle project for the conservancy. She said it's equally important to protect nesting sites and encourage people to avoid disturbing the turtles.

The initiative is part of the Salt Spring Island Conservancy's Species at Risk program.

She said the turtle's main threats to survival on the island are invasive species such as discarded pet turtles, road traffic, loss of nesting sites, and loss of wetland habitat and basking sites.

To find out how you can help save Salt Spring western painted turtles, contact the Salt Spring Conservancy at 250-538-0318 or online by visiting [www.saltspringconservancy.ca](http://www.saltspringconservancy.ca).

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# NEWSBEAT

## PAST ISLANDERS IN THE NEWS

# Former local principal battles amyloidosis

Bruce Stewart in hospital in Vancouver preparing for heart transplant

*Bruce Stewart was principal of Mayne Island School from 1990 to 1995 and Fernwood Elementary School on Salt Spring from 1995 to 2000 before moving to Kelowna where he was principal at three different schools. As of Saturday, Dec. 26, Stewart had finished his last chemo session of a current round at Vancouver General Hospital. Chemotherapy is needed to kill amyloids infecting his body and preventing him from undergoing a heart transplant operation. The following story was published in the Peace Arch News last month and provided to the Driftwood.*

**BY HANNAH SUTHERLAND**  
PEACE ARCH NEWS

Within weeks of being transferred to St. Paul's Hospital for heart complications in July, Bruce Stewart experienced multiple cardiac arrests.

After the second one, doctors told his wife to call family. They didn't think he would survive.

Daughter Shannon — due to be married the following month — was just one of his loved ones to drive through the night from her home in Kelowna to be with him. Brother Robert, a pastor, came in from Delta.

At the hospital that morning, Shannon asked her uncle what the chances were that her wedding could be rescheduled to the next day.

Born on the Peninsula 52 years ago, Bruce attended White Rock Elementary and White Rock Junior Secondary, while playing in local minor football, soccer, lacrosse and baseball.

His mother, Chris, wrote for the White Rock Sun, while his father, Ray, taught at Surrey high schools, including Semiahmoo.

Just before Bruce was to enter Semiahmoo Senior for Grade 11, his family moved to Alberta. His parents rented out their house near Rotary Park, before retiring back to it 15 years later.

While Bruce never returned to call White Rock home — he is now an elementary school principal in Kelowna — he still has friends here.

"My father died about a year and half ago, and since that time I've had this yearning to reconnect with White Rock," he said.

Bruce tracked down a few of his old friends. They have been able to follow his fight



Former Salt Spring Islander Bruce Stewart.

against amyloidosis — a rare blood disorder — through an online journal, which his wife updates regularly. Liz has been doing so since her husband was admitted to St. Paul's last summer for his condition, discovered after Bruce experienced shortness of breath throughout the previous spring.

Doctors treated him for pneumonia, and didn't take X-rays seriously that showed he had an oversized heart.

While waiting to see various heart specialists, a frustrated Bruce went to the Kelowna emergency department, experiencing exhaustion and leg swelling.

"The heart doctor who was on duty really set me on the course of discovery," he said.

With doctors unable to conclude whether Bruce had amyloidosis, he was airlifted to St. Paul's. There, a biopsy showed his heart contained amyloids, proteins that congregate on an organ and attack it. In Bruce's case, amyloids were building muscle and tissue on his heart, making the organ's walls thicker and less able to do their job.

Doctors told him he had several days to weeks to live.

"For a person who has never been sick in his life, it was a bit of a shock."

Within an hour of Shannon approaching her uncle, the basics were planned. The hospital chapel was secured; bridesmaids purchased matching tops to wear with their blue jeans.

As Shannon's wedding dress was still in Kelowna being altered, she went to a store near the hospital and bought a white summer dress.

Bruce — who had hoped to wheelchair Shannon down the aisle — had stabilized by the morning of the wedding, when he approached his nurse.

"She allowed me to walk without assistance, and I said to her, 'Look, I think I can walk down that aisle,' and she said, 'I think you can, too,'" he recalled.

As he arrived at the front of the chapel where his brother was waiting to preside, he realized

everyone in the bridal party was wearing hospital gowns.

"As I got up to the front with her, and I finally clued in with what they were up to, they all dropped their hospital gowns," he said. "It made it fun."

With a nurse escort and doctors standing by — as well as 50 family members and close friends looking on — Bruce gave his daughter away on July 14.

"It was just a miracle."

Now outliving doctors' earlier expectations, Bruce is staying in a suite across the street from St. Paul's with Liz. He is reminded of that special day every time he enters the hospital, where posters telling the story of Shannon's last-minute-wedding hang on the walls. Beside a summary of events is a picture of the bride, giving a kiss to the man who walked her down the aisle.

Bruce needs a heart. However, he cannot have a heart transplant while his body is infected with amyloids.

To kill them off, he has been receiving chemotherapy throughout the fall, and continues to usually twice a week.

"Until (doctors) get the count to almost zero, they won't consider me

a candidate for a heart transplant. They're very hopeful I'm going to be there."

Over recent months, his amyloid count has dropped almost exactly 75 per cent.

"It sure gives me hope."

But the progress hasn't come without struggles — Bruce has had six near-death experiences since being diagnosed.

"If I was supposed to be gone, I would've been gone before now."

As a temporary fix, an electronic heart-assist device has been inserted into his chest, and a pump is doing most of the work for his heart.

In addition to chemotherapy and blood tests, he receives physiotherapy to help regain the body muscle he has lost over months in hospital.

"If I'm not strong and able to endure another surgery, I'm questionable about whether or not I can take that heart transplant," he said.

"As far as the future goes, right now, we're waiting for the amyloid count to continue to drop. If it drops, we're officially on the transplant list. When a heart becomes available for me, they'll do the transplant quickly."

For now, doctors are

gathering stem cells from Bruce's blood, so — after the heart transplant and one more heavy dose of chemotherapy — they can perform a bone-marrow transplant, replacing infected cells with fresh ones.

"We're not finished yet," Bruce said of the process.

"The encouraging thing to me is heart transplants seemed so science fiction when I was a kid; but now, with the skills they have and the knowledge they have, it's almost routine."

What doctors don't have, however, are enough organs.

Bruce encourages potential donors to register with BC Transplant ([www.transplant.bc.ca](http://www.transplant.bc.ca)), as there are many patients who have been waiting more than a year for a heart.

"There are people who actually die before the right heart comes along," he said. "I think most people just don't think about it, but it's not uncommon for two or three lives to be saved from one donor. It's such a simple solution."

Bruce said the service he and his family has received at St. Paul's has been outstanding. In addition to providing medical care, staff opened the doors of the hospital's chapel for Shannon's wedding, arranged for a large room off the cafeteria to be used for a reception and even made boutonnières for Bruce and Liz.

"Everything that needed to be at a wedding was there. It was just a complete package," he said, noting that not everyone would share his opinion.

"Martha Stewart, she wouldn't approve — too simple." Updates on Bruce are available at [www.caringbridge.org/visit/brucestewart](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/brucestewart).

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Regular Deadlines will apply for the Driftwood of Wednesday January 6th.

Please note the Driftwood Office will be closed: Friday January 1st.

The Driftwood Weekender will not be published: Friday, January 1st

# Driftwood

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GOLD - Photo Essay, Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island / GOLD - Special Publication, AQUA - Gulf Islands Living  
 GOLD - Feature Photo Award, under 25,000, Derrick Lundy / GOLD - Ad Design Award, Under 25,000, "Pegasus Gallery"  
 GOLD - Ad Design Award, Under 25,000, Collaborative "Cardinos" / SILVER - Best All-Round Newspaper, Category C  
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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

## Hands-free driving

One thing that distinguishes Gulf Islands residents from their city counterparts is the lack of reliance on mobile communications devices.

In many areas, less-than-solid reception makes cell-phone communication either unreliable or frustrating, so we're less likely to pull out the cell when it really isn't necessary.

But even if most islanders' ears and thumbs aren't in constant contact with their hand-held phones as they talk or text, many people have become accustomed to holding a phone in one hand and a steering wheel in another.

Changes to the province's Motor Vehicle Act will result in a ban on that activity beginning Friday, Jan. 1.

Devices that facilitate hands-free communication when it is safe to proceed and with use of a single button are still allowed, people can talk on their phones

or email if they are stopped at the side of a road, and a 911 call can always be made on a cellphone.

The use of two-way radios for commercial or industrial vehicles will also be permitted.

But there are no exceptions for new drivers in the graduated licensing program, who may be the most addicted to cell use.

THE ISSUE:

New cellphone ban

WE SAY:

Time to get used to change

The provincial government explains:

"A recently released report entitled Teens and Distracted Driving by Washington D.C.-based Pew Research found that of those teens 16 to 17 years of age who own a cell phone or text regularly, more than half have talked on a cellphone while driving, and one in three has texted while driving."

Talking on hand-held cellphones while driving has already been banned in Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec.

The provincial government states that independent research and studies have shown cellphone use while driving is the number-one cause of distracted driving. An average of 117 people die in B.C. each year and some 1,400 are treated at hospitals "because someone was not paying attention behind the wheel," states a Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General news release about the impending changes to the Motor Vehicle Act.

Local police are familiarizing themselves with the specifics of the legislation, and the province has established a one-month grace period before \$167 fines are levied for violating the law, but there's no time like the present to get used to the hands-free driving experience.



## Stories for a new year

BY JAN SLAKOV

Pete Seeger tells a story about how he learned "the most important lesson I guess I ever got in my life." Its themes of truth and love are crucially important for us now, as we face what could be a very difficult future.

When he was five, Pete's father asked him to go to the store to buy something that cost a nickel. But in the store a neighbour boy suggested they use the extra nickel to buy candy and then cover the deed with a lie. Pete describes how "when I got back I said, 'It cost 10¢.' My father got down on his knees and held both my hands. He said, 'Peter, you know it didn't cost 10¢. Don't you know you never have to lie to us? We love you.'"

Is this lesson about the links between honesty and love something we can use to transform our world?

Transformation is certainly needed. A fair and binding climate treaty would give us a good chance of reducing the carbon level in our atmosphere to the safe level of 350 ppm.

We are headed towards 770 ppm as things stand now. But we must not give up!

We must confront the lies that prop up an old world view, one that values increasing economic growth and "winning" above almost anything else.

One example: The Conservative Party of Canada has used public funds to distribute flyers accusing the Liberal Party of being soft on anti-Semitism and terrorism. These flyers misrepresent the facts; indeed Conservative strategist Tom Flanagan openly states that "Canadians seem to be willing to tolerate attacks that are based on half-truths or things taken out of context or misstatements, partial misstatements, distortions."

Will we prove Flanagan wrong?

Minister of Immigration Jason Kenney recently defended a government decision to cut funding to Kairos, falsely accusing the group of having taken a leadership role in a campaign to sanction Israel for its human-rights abuses. Kairos has been doing great work, not just on the climate issue but also to help victims of vio-

lence around the world. This work must not be sacrificed to partisan politics! Learn more at [www.kairosCanada.org](http://www.kairosCanada.org).

Helen Forsey, daughter of the late Senator and constitutional expert Eugene Forsey, was shocked by a Christmas card she received from her MP, Scott Reid. In an open letter to Reid, she wrote:

"Not only was your message offensive, it contained two flagrant falsehoods [ . . . ] First, you referred to "the Liberal / BQ / NDP coalition," slipping the Bloc Québécois into the designation even though the Bloc was not part of the coalition. Secondly, you said that the coalition had "nearly overturned the results of the then-recent election," when in fact most Canadians had voted against the Conservatives in that election and elected a majority of opposition MPs.

Reflecting on Pete Seeger's story, we see that the strength to face and tell the truth is rooted in love. Even as we express our dismay when we are lied to, can we still reach out with love and respect to those with whom we disagree? I think we must, if we are to keep the hope of transformation alive.

So, another story, which I recount third hand, with thanks to Elizabeth May and Maude Barlow.

It concerns Dump Site 41, a garbage dump proposal that threatened the exceptionally clean Alliston aquifer north of Toronto.

A major turning point in the struggle to stop the dump occurred at a municipal vote, when an official who had supported the dump all along stood up and explained that he was changing his position. He described how he had intended to vote against the moratorium, but in his office was a "stop dump site 41" sign with a note attached on top, from his grandchildren.

He said he had always seen his role as that of trying to attract more development to the area, but now he saw he had a new job description: that of protecting what has not yet been destroyed, for future generations.

The writer has been active in the peace, human rights and environmental movements for most of her life.

### VIEWPOINT

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Is increased airport security necessary?

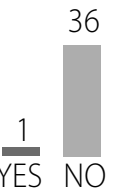
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Monday at midnight or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Were you surprised by the outcome in Copenhagen?



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# IslandVoices

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**

**"We have to live with who we are and what we do every day, and I'm totally fine with that."**

MICKEY MCLEOD, SS COFFEE CO PRESIDENT

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked: What's your 2010 New Year's resolution?**



**LINDA KIMBLE**

*I've set a goal to run my business more efficiently so I don't have to do as much work, and to get in shape.*



**LIZ FENNEL**

*I'm in Grade 11 so my New Year's resolution is to get all my work done and score a few goals for the soccer team.*



**JASON STEELE**

*Quitting smoking, or at least cutting back.*



**BRENDA FEUERSTEIN**

*I don't do New Year's resolutions. I look at every day and every moment.*



**MATT STEFFICH**

*Not to make a New Year's resolution. That's one that always works and never disappoints.*

## 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](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) under the Opinion tab.**

### Renew centre lines

I can understand why many Salt Springers are concerned about the fading centre lines on our roads ("Fading road lines drive concerns," Dec. 22 Driftwood).

Without them they are probably having difficulty in keeping their vehicles in the middle of the road so that they can avoid the broken shoulders.

There has been a suggestion that snowplowing has worn out the lines and if that is the case it only left the highways department 10 or 11 months in this past year to renew them.

I notice that on many of our dangerous corners the centre lines are worn out

completely. Could this possibly be due to drivers crossing over those lines as they take the corners much too fast, or could it be the snowplow's fault again? Maybe we won't have very much snow this winter so that the highways department can find the time to renew that guiding centre line and keep Salt Spring drivers where they seem to want to be.

**G. ENGLISH,**  
SALT SPRING

### Climate change

When a retired chemist (Don Humphrys) and a geneticist past the best-before date (me) start debating the causes of climate change, it is time to turn the page.

You might, in fact, turn

to the UN — [www.un.org](http://www.un.org) — where the top climatologists have produced a series of reports on recent climate change and its causes. They did not mention continental drift as a factor in recent climatic changes, though doubtless it was a factor in the distant past.

**JOHN HEDDLE,**  
SALT SPRING

### Centre of the universe

When my family and I first came here about 10 years ago, we noticed the occasional bumper sticker proclaiming "Salt Spring Island . . . Centre of the Universe."

Newbies that we were, we looked on this with some amusement, delighted that we had come to live in a

community with a puckish sense of humour. We've since realized that, at least within local politics, there are many who behave as though we really are the centre of the universe.

An article in last week's Driftwood served to demonstrate this quite vividly. The article, on Page 3, described recent action by the Islands Trust in response to the Nov. 18 grounding of a freighter on Conconi Reef. Having acknowledged that, as a land-use planning body, the Trust has no jurisdiction in the matter, they nonetheless voted to direct staff "to prepare a report on the subject of how the Trust can handle the tanker issue more effectively." What?

I can appreciate that each and every one of the trust-

ees might want to get on the phone with the appropriate agencies and demand to know what is being done to protect the shipping lanes. I can appreciate that each of the trustees might urge their respective constituents to contact Gordon Campbell, Stephen Harper or the Wizard of Oz, if that would do any good, insisting on a timely response. But a decision to direct staff to research something that is admittedly outside the Trust's authority demonstrates a lack of regard for the taxpayer, a lack of respect for other agencies (whose job it is to be familiar with and able to address the issues), and no sense of proportion as to the Trust's role in the scheme of things.

It is particularly ironic that, at the same meeting, the

trustees were clamouring for additional staff (to the tune of \$75,000 in salary and benefits) because they are unable to function adequately with the current staffing level. Might staffing be adequate if trustees limited activity to the Trust's actual mandate without attempting to encroach on areas outside their authority? Might this help explain why the Trust's budget has ballooned by roughly 50 per cent (from \$4.3 million to more than \$6.4 million) since 2005-2006?

It would be irresponsible of me to operate my business or household budget in this manner. Why is it permissible for the Trust?

**JULIA LUCICH,**  
NORTH END ROAD

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

## Columnist offers spiritual stock-taking at end of '09

'Tis the season. At Country Grocer, the line-up at the postal outlet has been longer than the Express line on 10% Tuesday. Last week's Saturday Christmas market was like the Saturday market of old, where you actually ran into old friends, and nary a tourist insight. 'Tis the season.

Without getting all maudlin, it's time for my annual spiritual stock taking, for recognition and reconciliation, to mend fences, to redress hurt feelings and bruised egos. What better way than to abuse my small bi-monthly spot in this newspaper? Without further fanfare . . .

To Mickey and Ross McLeod of Salt Spring Coffee Company, who hung in there for two years courting the Islands Trust for approval to forge ahead on the world's first LEED-certified coffee roasting facility. After spending more than \$150,000 on studies and reports in a vain attempt to allay the fears of neighbours, to convince the unconvinced, their application for rezoning was denied. Optimists to the end, they have decided to set their jaws and grind it out here on Camelot. To the coffee co. went the Chamber of Commerce Green Business of the Year award and my undying admiration.

To Jerry Parks and Bonny O'Connor, shareholders of Salt Spring Marina and Moby's pub, who hung in there through a multi-year bureaucratic hazing to emerge with an approval to increase their dock space by 20 per cent. Even more astonishing, they managed to win the endorsements of the rabid environmentalists. I can only hope that Rick Barbieri (of the doomed Ganges Marina expansion) was taking notes.

To Elly McKeague, who continues to defy

the clock, who despite hip replacements, gave a little scare to arguably the best female tennis player in Victoria at a recent Cedar Hill tennis tournament. Think how well she could do if she could practice all year round in, say, an indoor tennis facility here on Salt Spring Island. (Say, that's not a bad idea — someone should look into that!)

An avid cyclist, relentless with a tennis racquet, and a natural born basketball hoopster, Elly has my vote for Salt Spring's Athlete of the Year. It's really annoying when someone is that gifted and a genuinely nice human being to boot.

To Dr. Ron Reznick, who, despite intense pressures and an insanely overpopulated patient list, continues to greet yours truly with a big goofy smile and makes me feel like I'm his only patient. And to all of the other doctors on this island, who all have back-breaking patient loads, who have endured the trials and tribulations of Lady Minto Hospital, with its still-dead-on-arrival operating room, you are made of stronger stuff than I. And to Drs. Hansie de Kock and Talita Strumpfper, who chose their children's education over the pastoral Salt Spring life. They, like many other concerned parents, could not abide the four-day school week. They have taken up residence in Victoria and we on Camelot are the worse for it.

To Richard and Rose Murakami, whose family forfeited everything during WWII, who gradually built up a minor Salt Spring empire, who were largely responsible for creation of the low-income housing project beside



**Peter Vincent**

### HEAD TO HEAD

their garage on Rainbow Road, who continue to chicken-wire together the island's beater cars for all those who can't afford macaroni let alone a new gas pump, who were the inspiration for the beautiful Heiwa Garden in Peace Park across from ArtSpring, thank you. And on behalf of the vast majority of Salt Springers, I would like to apologize for the guys with the clipboards going after you for the dead cars in your backyard. The guys with the clipboards are quick to pronounce "Rules are rules and must be obeyed." I think you and your family have heard that pronouncement quite enough for one lifetime.

To the St. Mary Lake water people, whose aerators have proven to be excellent tanning rafts and a perfect venue for summertime BBQs. And to the Salt Spring Water Council, whose kind offer of a \$100 rebate on my new low-flush toilet will put a small (an oh-so-small) dent in my obscenely high summer water bill that I continue to chip away at. Lesson learned. Next summer, I will treat my tap water like Perrier.

To John Quesnel of Salt Spring Metal Recycling, who continues to try to eke out a living on a harsh piece of scrub land beneath B.C. Hydro's giant electricity towers. This, despite bending over backwards to appease the neighbours, who insist the operation disturbs their quiet enjoyment. This, despite Mr. Quesnel erecting giant fences and paving over the scrub land to keep the dust down. This, despite the Chamber of Commerce awarding John's enterprise the "Small Busi-

ness of the Year" award. This, despite the Islands Trust having no part of it and issuing a "cease and desist" order. Rules are rules. John continues to soldier on.

To George Ehring and Christine Torggrimson, our two island trustees. Their vision of Salt Spring Island is ultimately the same as the Murakamis, the same as the Quesnels, the Reznicks and, indeed, this author. Harmony. Our vision is the same. Our road to get there may be different, but the dream of a harmonious little island Camelot is a commonality we all share. My hat's off to George and Christine. Anyone who would put in those hours and endure the slings and arrows of countless special interest delegations for a lousy thousand bucks a month is made of better metal than I.

To the Copper Kettle and to the Community Services food bank, who stave off the pangs of Depression-style hunger for between 100 and 200 souls a week.

To Stanley Shapiro and the members of the library board for their relentless and ultimately successful pursuit of a new library to be constructed downtown.

To Garth Hendren and his Sisyphusian task of convincing the provincial government to conduct an incorporation study.

There are many more islanders that deserve busses or beatings, but a transatlantic flight awaits. For all those who take the time to read my screeds, whether you gently place the section on the table or toss it against the wall with great force, I thank you for reading, and wish all of you health, wealth and happiness in the new year.

[republicofsaltspring@mac.com](mailto:republicofsaltspring@mac.com)

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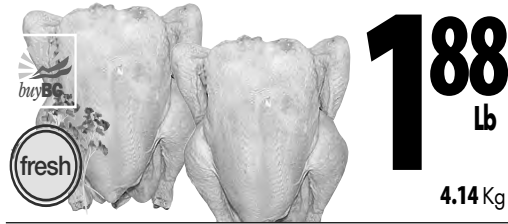
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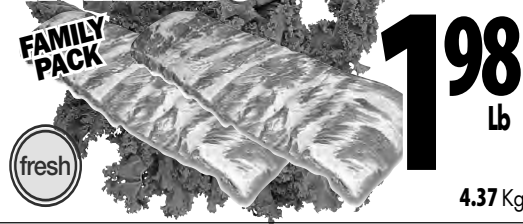
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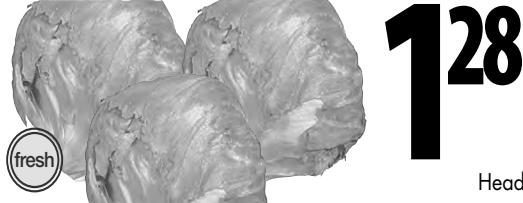
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## OPINION

# RANTS and Roses

Special red roses to Ken and Sherrill Adthead, Liam and Andrew Sinclair, plus a merry band of elves, for doing such a great job with Santa's Breakfast at Fulford Hall. It is great to see that tradition continue. Santa was also very special. The kids had a great time.

A dozen Christmas-coloured roses to Bill and Edward for hosting another fab party at their wonderful house. It was a great way to make the holiday season brighter. Thanks! DCR

A huge bunch of Christmas roses to all the wonderful volunteers who make the Thursday seniors lunch possible. I wish you all a very happy Christmas. Joan Dennis

To the gentleman who found my purse in the Thrifty's parking lot, thank you very very much. I appreciate your efforts in returning my purse. Deidre

A bouquet of shining silver stars and white roses to the five angels from the North Pole who appeared at my door Wednesday, Dec. 23. Beautiful smiles and hugs. I hadn't words then, nor still. Only tears of joy. You will always live in my heart. Frances

An electrifying bouquet of roses to the BC Hydro crew who so promptly restored our power after the transformer blew on Monday night, Dec. 21. Thanks for the great service! Kathy Kendall

Baskets full of dramatic red roses to all of the generous people in our community who contributed to Stagecoach Theatre School's Christmas

raffle. Thank you to all of the donors, thank you to Thrifty's for the resplendent wrapping of the baskets. Thank you to all of the board members and teachers who played a part. Thank you to the parents and Stagecoach kids who sold the tickets. Thank you to our fearless administrator and director, and thank you to all of the folks who bought the raffle tickets. You are all winners for supporting Stagecoach's excellent programs.

Please give a truckload of roses to everyone on Salt Spring Island for making Salt Spring what it is . . . the best place to live, better than anywhere! It is not only the most beautiful land, but the people make this the most welcoming community anyone could ever imagine. And yes, Jackson, Santa Claus is real! He lives in the hearts of every man, woman and child on Salt Spring Island. A special wheelbarrow full of roses to Wade and Ian for the wood to keep us warm, Caroline and staff at Service BC, Country Grocer and every staff member and every child at Fulford Elementary, especially Ardice and Gretchen. Thank you for making Jackson feel part of your community and thank you for caring. Jaime and Jackson

What a fun time we had at the Dec. 21 community concert at ArtSpring. A big thank-you bunch of roses to all who took part. Scrooge had the spirit too — he was giving money away! A good time was had by all. It was free too. J. Dennis

Dear Tootie. Thank you for your kindness at the parking lot! From A

### MORE LETTERS

continued from A7

## Wilson family thanks

Our family has lived on Salt Spring Island for over four generations and there is a reason why. We live in an amazing community and could not have overcome the last eight weeks without your love and support.

Sincere thanks to Auntie Diana, Cheryl, Blaine and Cyrus, the Salt Spring Island Lions, Gord Speed Construction, Salt Spring Island Fire Department, Fernwood Elementary School, Cameron Bright and all his fans and the businesses who contributed to the fundraiser, all the people that helped with the signing with Cameron, and to family and friends who sent food, donations, gifts, cards, letters of support, the great help with the outpouring of love we have received from everyone. Thank you so much! Jasmin is now home and doing well. She is going to physiotherapy and getting stronger every day. Jaz will not be in school for a while. She is a remarkable little girl.

Thank you again. If we have forgotten anyone we are sorry. It has been so overwhelming. We wish everyone a safe and happy holidays.  
**JASMIN, LIZ & ROB WILSON,**  
SALT SPRING

## Imagine life on dial-up

The following letter was sent to Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Gary Lunn and copied to the Driftwood for publication.

You run a very busy office. Imagine running your office using dial-up Internet access.

Here are the details for you to contemplate. Pretend this example is really happening in a third-world world developing country, but then realize it is within 45 kilometres of the government buildings in Victoria. A good percentage of Salt Spring Island and other Gulf Islands have

only dial up Internet access.

- Imagine:
  - having no phone when you are connected to your Internet server. We tend to access after 9:30 p.m. to avoid having no phone.
  - being ecstatic at getting connected at 56 K/sec, which is the maximum speed available (in theory) from your provider.
  - often being only able to connect at 33 K/sec, and so you keep trying until you finally get signed on at 56 K/sec.
  - only getting email downloaded about 2 K/sec, and having that figure drop to 0 K/sec often, despite the fact that you are signed on at 56K/sec.
  - getting emails downloaded 50 times slower than high speed.
  - taking 30 minutes to get a larger 6-Meg file downloaded. Few people on high speed even worry about how large the files are that they send out.
  - being cut off from your service provider at any time because your service provider "is not responding." It then takes another 20 minutes for your service provider to allow you to get back on to your email account.
  - the phone company blaming the service provider for bad email connections and the service provider blaming the phone company.
  - not being able to access many of the larger websites.
  - not being able to access any video or audio sources.
  - having to carry your computer into the service provider's office (15 kilometres away) in order to get software updates.
  - the latest insult: Buying a brand new Mac computer and there is not even a location for a phone jack on it. MacIntosh knows that everyone in North America is on high speed. Right.
- It seems that small business is the backbone of the B.C. economy. Therefore, I would imagine that the government would want to encourage everyone in B.C. to have high speed access to the Internet.  
**HARRY BURTON,**  
HEIDI PLACE

OPINION

# The realtor's duties to a client

BY TOM NAVRATIL

For most of us, buying or selling our home is probably the most important financial transaction we will make in our lives. It should be a rewarding and pleasant experience.

It is therefore important to take a moment and consider the kind of relationship or representation we might be entering into with our realtor.

A realtor (also called a "licensee") is licensed under a brokerage and works within a legal relationship called "agency."

The agency relationship exists between you (the principal) and your brokerage represented by the licensee with whom you work.

The essence of the agency relationship is that the licensee has the authority to represent you in dealings with others.

The basic agency relationship is when one licensee from one brokerage represents the seller and another licensee from a different brokerage represents the buyer. If the same licensee (or even different licensees from the same brokerage) represents both the seller and the buyer in the same transaction, "dual limited agency" occurs — more about that later.

The type of agency relationship (i.e. who represents who) in a transaction should always

## PROPERTY LINES

be clearly understood by all parties well before an offer is written, but it is nonetheless disclosed within the offer.

Regardless of the type of representation, or absence thereof, licensees are obligated to deal with all parties fairly and in good faith. However, in an agency relationship the licensee's duties go much further.

He or she is legally and ethically obligated to protect and promote your interests as he/she would his/her own. Specifically, your licensee has the following fiduciary duties to you, the client: (1) undivided loyalty — protecting your negotiating position at all times, (2) full disclosure of all known facts which may affect or influence your decisions, (3) obligation to obey your instructions, provided they are lawful, (4) obligation to keep your confidences, (5) to exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence in performing all assigned duties and (6) to account for all money and property placed in a brokerage's hands while acting on your behalf.

Dual limited agency. As mentioned already, if a licensee represents both the seller and the buyer in the same transaction (or different licensees but from

the same brokerage), a dual limited agency occurs. Since in this case the licensee (and the brokerage) promises duty of confidentiality, loyalty and full disclosure to both parties all at the same time, it is necessary to limit these duties so as not to disadvantage the position of either party.

The licensee must deal with the buyer and the seller impartially.

He/she still has a duty of disclosure to both the buyer and the seller but with some essential exceptions, such as, for instance, the licensee must not disclose if the buyer is willing to pay a price or agree to terms other than those contained in the offer, or if the seller is willing to accept a price or terms other than those contained in the listing or a counter-offer.

All parties must consent to dual limited agency in writing on a separate form. Even though there are some advocates that point out that dual agency in itself presents a conflict of interest, in practice it seems to work well so long as a specific conflict of interest does not arise. It is the responsibility and duty of the licensee to detect any such conflict and

act to rectify it immediately.

There are other variances to the agency relationship such as an exclusive buyer's agency (a growing trend in some jurisdictions) when the realtor works exclusively with buyers and the buyer may pay the "buyer's portion" of the realtor's commission.

There could be no agency representation in a transaction; an example would be a for-sale-by-owner property where the owner is willing to cooperate with realtors but chooses to remain unrepresented.

The real estate industry in Canada (and in B.C. in particular) is one of the most regulated and consumer-protection oriented in North America, and continued licensing in B.C. is conditional upon periodically attending a number of required courses of mandatory education.

You should expect competent, uncompromising service from your licensee, knowing that he/she is bound by a strict code of ethics and the law to be loyal, honest, skilled and diligent in representing your interests.

*Property Lines* column contributor Tom Navratil is a Royal LePage Salt Spring realtor, saltspringhomes@gmail.com.

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## Healthy children

Regarding the letters debate stemming from my "Let children be children" letter of Dec. 9, to clarify: I didn't say "don't read to your children."

Incidentally, neither did Rudolf Steiner, the founder of Waldorf Education.

What he did say (and I experience as truth) is that up until the seventh year the physical body of the human being is still forming, and if the energy needed for this formation is redirected to the thinking, in other words used to prematurely awaken reading or other intellectual skills, it is unhealthy for the body's formation.

I'm glad my letter has stimulated a dialogue on this subject. Currently in North America we have seen a steady decline in literacy levels and an increase in children with ADD, ADHD, ODD and other learning challenges.

It is my experience (I'm speaking as a layperson here — my specialty is the early years) that when I meet children with these diagnoses their behaviour is often like a healthy young child's — we expect more of the older child, of course. Could it be that they didn't get enough healthy movement, both free movement and opportunities to imitate others (free play, circle games, etc.) when they were younger?

How much time did they spend in car seats, watching television, movies and computers (all things that limit movement)? When they were in groups away from home — school, daycare, preschool — were they seen as good, did they experience themselves as good? Were they drugged to control impulses?

We live in a literacy-focussed society. Children want to please adults, and if we, as well-meaning adults, give disproportionate positive reinforcement to learning to read, children will strive to get that attention from us (i.e. play with letters, ask for books, etc.).

If, however, the child has a good feeling about playing while the adult(s) work nearby, or helping in the kitchen, etc., the children will live more deeply into these types of activities, which I believe are healthy for the young child.

Incidentally, Heidi, you're right. A young child will typically learn a new language faster than an adult. They typically learn through immersion, not through reading. This exemplifies what I'm suggesting: young children learn differently than we do and that difference should be recognized, honoured and nurtured.

At a time when our provincial government is implementing a full-day kindergarten program, this is a critical conversation to be having. I would ask these questions (among others): What does a full day look like for four- and five-year-olds? What is the benefit for the child? What is the benefit for the government? Parents? What, to the best of our knowledge, will the outcome be?

For a broader perspective, read educators Josef Chilton Pearce and David Elkind and brain researcher Dr. Jane Healey.

**KIM HUNTER,**  
HEAD STREET

Read it off-island on-line. [gulflandsaqua.com](http://gulflandsaqua.com)

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SUNDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 20	MONDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 21	TUESDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 22	WEDNESDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 23	THURSDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 24	FRIDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 25	SATURDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 26
SUNDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 27	MONDAY <i>Closed</i> Dec. 28	TUESDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 29	WEDNESDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 30	THURSDAY <i>Open</i> Dec. 31	FRIDAY <i>Closed</i> Jan. 1	SATURDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 2
SUNDAY <i>Closed</i> Jan. 3	MONDAY <i>Closed</i> Jan. 4	TUESDAY <i>Open</i> Jan. 5	<i>Back to Regular Hours</i> Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 5 pm			

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# Arts & Entertainment

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY  
**SHOPPING FUN:** Former children's entertainer Raffi sings songs and plays the guitar at Windflower Moon last Wednesday night, as Ganges stores stayed open late and offered some "shopping extras."

*The Fulford Inn*

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**ON STAGE**

## Salt Spring hosts invitational high school improv tourney

Tickets will be in demand for Jan. 8 event

For the second consecutive year, Gulf Islands Secondary School's 2nd Story Theatre will host as many as seven regional improv teams in a friendly, improvised evening of amazing entertainment.

Set for Friday, Jan. 8, at 7 p.m., the evening at the ArtSpring theatre will feature students from Vic High, Esquimalt, Ladysmith, GISS, GISS jr., and SIMS improv teams as they prepare for the

South Vancouver Island regional tournaments of the Canadian Improv Games.

"The teams have been rehearsing their improv skills in the laboratories and studios of their respective schools and it's time they start performing more live shows," said GISS coach Jason Donaldson.

"The Canadian Improv Games' oath stresses having a good time and learning from each other and that's only a portion of what this show offers. We're excited to bring more high-calibre improv performances to our enthusiastic island audience."

The GISS Improv team includes Lulu Fulford, Prairie Moat, Sean Cunningham, Jesse Grindler, Avery Hunter and Kyle Anderson. The evening will include GISS Improv alumni as referees, including Alex Corley and Dejan Loyola.

A portion of the evening's revenue will go towards sending the Vancouver Island regional champions to the national tournament in Ottawa.

Tickets are \$10 and available at the ArtSpring box office (250-537-2102). People should get their tickets early as improv shows are popular.

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**NEW YEAR'S EVE**

## Valdy hosts Newfie NY at the Legion

2010 comes "early"

The notion of a Newfie New Year's Eve conjures up all kinds of images — a codfish dinner and jugs of Newfoundland "screch," for example — but for the Dec. 31 celebration at Salt Spring's Legion, it's a lot more simple than that.

According to musician Valdy,

who will host the event from 5 to 8 p.m. this Thursday night, it's a matter of tuning into Newfoundland time and celebrating the switch from 2009 to 2010 at 7:30 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.

It's the perfect thing for people who don't want to stay up until midnight to blast the noisemakers, cheer or raise a toast.

"It's a goodwill thing by the

Legion," said Valdy, noting it was part of the organization's role as a social club for the island.

The famous Legion kitchen will be in operation for the event and the bar will maintain its usual hours (for those who do want to stay up later).

There's no charge for Legion members, who can bring up to four guests with them.

# Have we got YOUR number in the Lions Club SSI Directory?

To add your new listing ... or

To change your current listing

in the next Salt Spring Island Directory, complete a "Change of Information Card" located in the last page of the current phone book. Drop off boxes are located at the Bank of Montreal, Credit Union or outside the office door at the Lions Hall at 103 Bonnet Ave. Alternatively, you can send us an email with information change to [lionsdirectory@telus.net](mailto:lionsdirectory@telus.net). We do not get automatic changes from Telus or Shaw. Deadline for changes or advertising is February 12, 2009.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**CAROLLING:** Members of the United Church Choir entertained late night shoppers in Ganges with a selection of Christmas music last Wednesday evening.

**ON STAGE**

## Lane 31 storms Moby's stage Sat. night

Island band plays pub

Salt Spring's homegrown alternative country band Lane 31 is set to shake up the new year with a musical bash at Moby's Pub this Saturday night.

Riding the wave of its recently-released CD "Rough Tracks Vo. 1," the band is planning a high-energy performance at the Ganges pub, beginning at 8 p.m. Jan. 2. Cover charge is \$5 at the door or \$15 with a CD purchase.

Named for the direct-to-Salt Spring lane at the Swartz Bay ferry terminal, the band consists of an eclectic group of island men, headed up by singer/songwriter David Hallam.

Hallam, who writes most of Lane 31's songs, says he's been singing in front of audiences since he was three years old, and his "mother stuck [him] up on stage to sing Jesus Loves Me at his family's Baptist church in South Porcupine, Ontario."

Hallam spent his youth singing in gospel groups and then took up the blues while attending university in New Brunswick. After a career in graphic design and marketing in the UK, he returned to music full-time in the late 1980s. Now a filmmaker, Hallam moved to Salt Spring in 2004.

Brian Nash, who sings, plays guitar and

writes some songs for Lane 31, is a filmmaker on Salt Spring as well. (He and fellow band members Dale Bishop and Peter McFarlane also work at GIFTS.)

Nash started playing the piano and guitar at age eight, shortly after buying his first Beatles album. After a 20-year hiatus from playing music, he rediscovered a passion for rhythm guitar. Then, after "hearing David Hallam holler out a Dylan tune on acoustic guitar," and at the urging of the late Blair Rosser, Nash formed what is now Lane 31.

Also a long-time member of the band, McFarlane plays the bass and has studied with the "prestigious Salt Spring master Big Bob (Delion)." A sculptor and mixed-media artist, he says his musical influences include "Adam Ant and scotch."

Bishop plays guitar and mandolin with Lane 31. He says the Beatles' debut on the Ed Sullivan Show in 1964 "changed my life as it did for so many others [and] I was set on a path to follow my passion of music."

After growing up in Trail and Castlegar, Bishop moved to Vancouver in the late 1980s, where he "played everything from punk rock, blues, bossa nova, folk, rock, reggae and jazz rock. He now lives on Salt Spring.

Rounding out Lane 31 is drummer Bruce

Cameron, who lives and works as a pollster and research analyst in Calgary, but has several Salt Spring connections and travels here often.

Cameron has been drumming from an early age in a wide range of settings and formats, from snare drums for a naval band and a pipe band, to lead drummer for a brass band and eventually a jazz quartet in Calgary. Most recently he has been drumming and singing with Swamp Donkey, an alt country rock band.

Since coming together in 2006, Lane 31 members have spent the majority of their time together jamming, creating music and playing once or twice a week in Nash's living room.

Although Lane 31 has settled on describing its genre as alt country, members sometimes have a hard time defining the music — especially considering the diverse influences of each player.

Some of the songs are upbeat and hard-hitting, with rock-rhythms, while others are slower and dreamier. Hallam refers to some of his music as "back porch spirituals" and others as honkey tonk.

But no matter what the definition used to describe the music, the band promises a lively sound and lots of fun at Moby's this Saturday night.

**DANCE**

## Dance classes set

Hip hop, jazz, adult ballet and more

Following a successful first term, the Salt Spring Arts Academy is set to offer new classes for dancers of all ages beginning in January.

Fresh from studying dance in Montreal is Naomi Jason, who will be offering adult ballet classes on Tuesdays, along with preschool and kindergarten creative dance and an adults-only contemporary dance session on Thursdays. Adam Vickers, who has had a successful first term teaching hip hop to kids and teens, will be offering explorations in jazz to teens, and jazz and hip hop to adults. Explorations in dance for teens with Anna Haltrecht on Thursdays has some room to accommodate new students who want a good workout and various dance experiences in an intensive 3.5-hour class.

For more information, check out the academy's website at [www.saltspringartsacademy.ca](http://www.saltspringartsacademy.ca) or call 250-537-4294.

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- \* **The Wall:** Indoor Rock Climbing Gym, open Thurs. & Sun. 6:30-9:30 pm. Information: [ahasenfratz@gmail.com](mailto:ahasenfratz@gmail.com) or 250-537-8970
- \* **Recycle Depot:** Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 250-537-1200.
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**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**CLOSED JAN. 1**  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
Thursday, Dec. 31  
Fancy Dress Party with Son de Cuba. Call for tickets & details.

**Saturday, Jan. 2, 8-11pm**  
Lane 31

**Sunday, Jan. 3, 7-10pm**  
Jazz/Folk: Darryl Alsbrook

**Monday, Jan. 4**  
French Food Theme Specials

**Wednesday:**  
**Pint Club**  
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**Mon.-Sat.**  
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**Sun. 11 am - 4 pm**

**Starts Jan. 2, 2010**

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# What's On This Week

www.gulfislandstourism.com/calendar.htm



**What's On - the go!**  
Scan this barcode with your smartphone to download, instructions below.

**Wed.**  
Dec. 30

**ACTIVITIES**  
No activities scheduled at this time.

**Wed.**  
Jan. 6

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Stitch Dimension Quilt Guild.**  
First Wednesday of each month at SS Baptist Church (around the back). Show & tell & demonstration of techniques. 7 p.m. Info: Patti at pbquilts@telus.net.  
**Swing Dance Class.**  
Six-Wednesday session begins tonight at Mahon Hall. 7-9 p.m. Info: Morley, mgallery@telus.net or 250-537-4898.

**Thurs.**  
Dec. 31

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**New Year's Eve Bash.**  
Renegade Movement, Pulselab, Mindil Beach Markets and more at Mahon Hall. 10 p.m.  
**New Year's Eve Party.**  
Fancy dress party with Son de Cuba at Moby's Pub. Call for tickets & details. (250-537-5559.)  
**Newfie New Year's.**  
At the Legion. Starring Valdy from 5 to 8 p.m. (Ball drops at 7:30 p.m.)  
**New Year's with Dale and Dave & Friends.**  
Featuring cover tunes at the Fulford Inn.

**ACTIVITIES**  
**SSI Monetary Foundation.**  
AGM at 2201-115 Fulford Ganges Rd. 10 a.m.  
**Salt Spring Badminton Club.**  
GISS gym. 7-9 p.m. (Note the earlier-than-usual Thursday time for this night only.) All ages welcome. Bring your own racquet and non-marking gym shoes. \$3 drop-in. Info: Gail Temmel, 250-653-4613.

**Fri.**  
Jan. 1

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Polar Bear Swim.**  
At Vesuvius Beach. 11 a.m.  
**Rollerblading.**  
Fridays at Fulford Hall. 7:30 to 9 p.m.

**Sat.**  
Jan. 2

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**Lane 31.**  
Alternative-country/rock band performs at Moby's Pub. 8 to 11 p.m.  
**Daryl Chonka.**  
Live music at Tree House Cafe. 5-8 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Neighbourhood Night at the Raven.**  
Every Saturday at Raven Street Cafe from 8 to 11 p.m.

**Sun.**  
Jan. 3

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**Darryl Alsbrook.**  
Live folk/jazz at Moby's. 7 to 10 p.m.  
**The Barley Brothers.**  
Still alive and un-plugged. Every Sunday at the Fulford Inn. 6:30 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Salt Spring Badminton Club.**  
GISS gym. 7-9 p.m. Info: Gail Temmel, 250-653-4613.  
**Christmas Tree Chipping.**  
Country Grocer. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proceeds to the SS Food Bank.

**Mon.**  
Jan. 4

**ACTIVITIES**  
No activities scheduled at this time.

**Tues.**  
Jan. 5

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Sustainable Masculinity.**  
Ten-Tuesday course exploring what it means to be a man, facilitated by Robert Birch, begins tonight. Info: 250-653-0036 or farmboys@saltspring.com.  
**SS Singers Registration.**  
And first spring program rehearsal. SS Baptist Church. 6-6:45 p.m. is rehearsal, followed by rehearsal at 7 and refreshments at 8:15 p.m.



**THE FRITZ MOVIE THEATRE**  
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**EXHIBITIONS**

- **ArtSpring Lobby Show** for your holiday enjoyment is work by **Nixie Gerbitz, Suzanne Prendergast, Margaret Threlfall** and **Beth Threlfall**. Runs to Jan. 2.
- **Salt Spring Artists' Gallery** presents **The Big Small Show** at **135 McPhillips Ave.** through December.
- **Starfish Gallery & Studio** is Salt Spring's newest fine art gallery, open at **1108 Grace Point Square**. Fine art photography plus new etchings from **Anais La Rue**.
- **Roderick Shoolbraid's Nature 2008-09** is the December exhibit at the **Salt Spring Coffee Company Cafe** in Ganges.
- **Mikaela Heydemann** shows her artwork at **Barb's Bakery & Bistro** through December.
- **Lisa Lipsett** is exhibiting her work at Island Savings Credit Union.
- **Shari Macdonald** shows new photos at **Jana's Bake Shop**.

**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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**OUR FAMILY  
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# HOLIDAY HOURS

**December 31 - 8 am to 6 pm**

**OPEN NEW YEAR'S DAY**

**January 1st 2010**

**10 am to 6 pm**

## CHRISTMAS TREE CHIPPING

**Saturday, January 3 • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm • Country Grocer Parking Lot  
Minimum \$4 Donation with Proceeds to SSI Food Bank**

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## Kettle Chips



**3/400**  
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## What's for Dinner?

### PESTO CHICKEN CIABATTA

Short cutsz to cooking for one or two © 2009 with Sarah Lynn  
**CIABATTA:** (pronounced in English chuh-BAH-tah), is an Italian white bread made with wheat flour and yeast. The loaf is somewhat elongated, broad and flattish. Ciabatta means 'slipper' in Italian. It is not clear where in Italy this kind of bread was first produced, and at least one type of ciabatta can be found in nearly every region of Italy. It is made from very wet dough, often requiring machine-kneading, and a sourdough starter.



### Shopping list:

- 2 Chicken Breasts - Cooked Boneless Skinless
- Mayonnaise
- Basil Pesto
- Loaf Ciabatta Bread
- Mozzarella Cheese
- Tomato
- Spinach
- Pepper

Preheat oven on broil. Thinly slice **2 cooked boneless, skinless chicken breasts** and set aside. In a small bowl mix **¼ cup mayonnaise** with **2 tablespoons basil pesto** and set aside. Cut **½ loaf ciabatta bread** lengthwise and spread pesto mayo mixture onto both sides of the split ciabatta loaf. Layer one side of the loaf with **4 mozzarella cheese slices** and **1 sliced tomato**. Layer second side with **1 cup spinach**, sliced chicken, and season with **cracked black pepper**. Broil open faced on a cookie sheet in the oven for 5 minutes. Remove from oven, place two sides together, and cut loaf in half. Serve hot.

Come and try this wonderful dish at  
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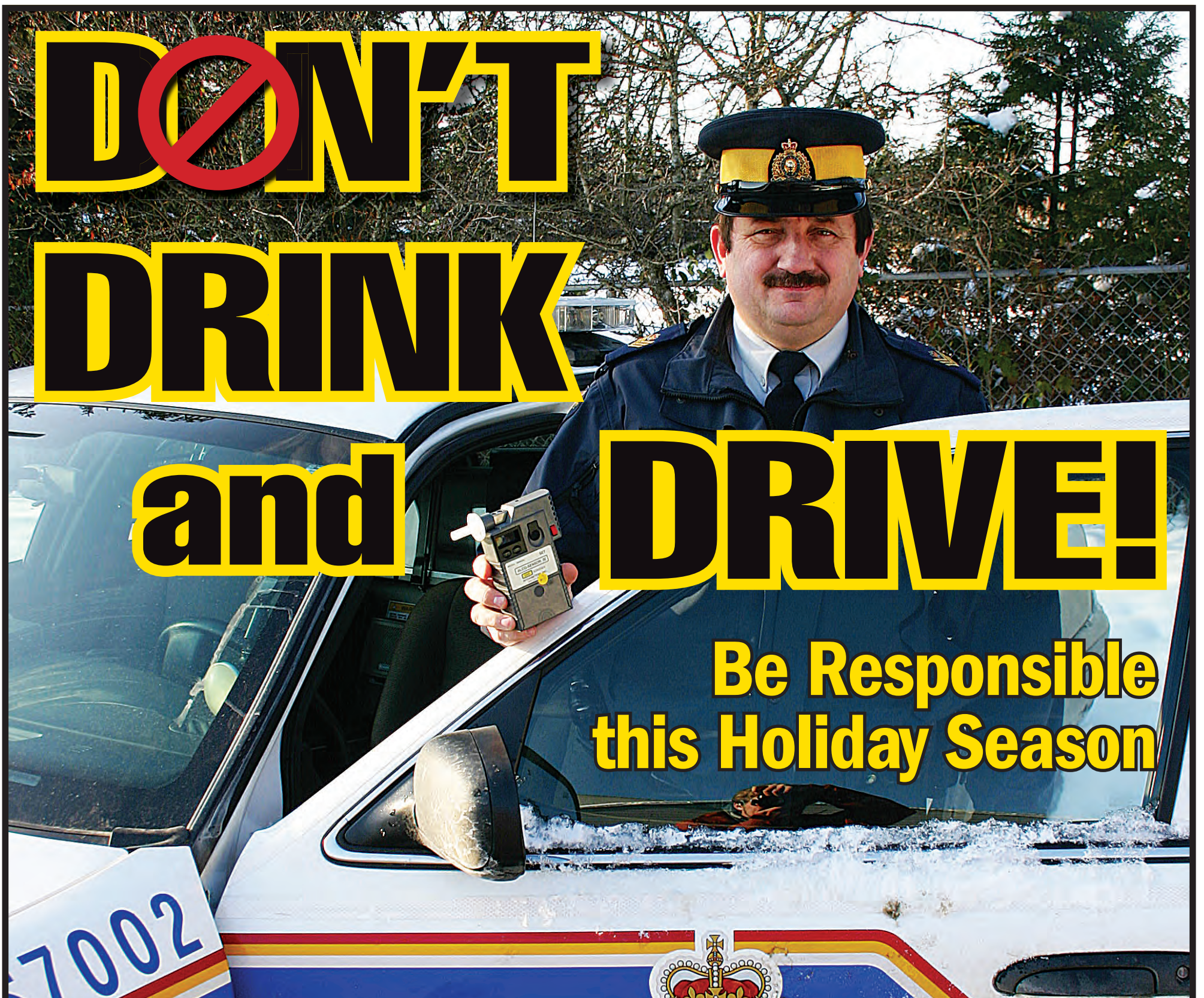
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*Think before you drink.*  
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# People & Community

Do you have something to say about a story or letter? Comment on-line @ [gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

**FAMILIES**

## Work-at-home moms unite with gifts for first home birth

Family of first 2009 Salt Spring-born baby ensures all NY babies heralded in future

BY ELSIE BROWN  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Aaliyah, my daughter, was the first baby born on Salt Spring Island in 2009. She wasn't the first born to a Salt Spring family (born on Vancouver Island), and she wasn't the first born in Lady Minto Hospital, she was born at home.

This meant she wouldn't receive any gifts for being the first baby born of the year, or the recognition that the gifts represent.

I didn't really need any more flannel blankets, knitted hats or booties because Aaliyah's older sister, Freja, had a pile of those still folded neatly in my bedroom closet. Friends and family seemed more disappointed than I was. Emails and phone calls came frequently. I already knew what they were going to say: "That doesn't seem fair. Yours was the first baby. Why is there no mention of Aaliyah in the media? You should have gotten some sort of prize."

It seemed that the only factor against Aaliyah getting a prize was that she was born at home rather than in the hospital either on or off the island.

This is when the idea was hatched and I promised myself this wouldn't happen again. I wanted to see the first baby of 2010 born at home on Salt Spring Island receive gifts and news attention.

At first I thought that I would provide the donations from my own handmade natural products from my home business called Baby Oopies.

A donation basket may include cotton play food such as a crochet corn cob, mushroom or pear, as well as cloth diapers made from organic bamboo and cotton, bamboo velour blankets, knitted merino hats, booties and tiny sweaters.

My natural products fit in perfectly with the first baby of the year born on Salt Spring in 2010 in a natural home birth. I soon realized gaining the support of others would benefit my cause and I was going to look for donations from those local big businesses that donate to the other "first baby" grand prize.

As I thought about it, I decided it was more appropriate to join forces with my fellow work-at-home-moms (WAHMs) instead. Being able to work from home and encourage others to support both WAHMs and home births brings me closer to my goal of creating a healthier planet through the practices of natural living and natural parenting.

Being a WAHM means I can spend more time with my children, which I believe to be a



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

The author, Elsie Brown, with her children, three-year-old Freja and 11-month-old Aaliyah.

vital part in shaping them into well-rounded individuals. The particular type of business I started allows me to indulge in my favourite hobbies, include my children in my work and give others the opportunity to have

Robin is the owner of R Little Babe and she puts together gift boxes using high-quality products that are stylish and comfortable.

Boxes may include adorable leather shoes in a wide variety of styles and colours, organic cotton hats and onesies with biodegradable, non-toxic, plant-based designs, or chenille blankets with matching bibs and burpies.

Kate Hosie also gave birth earlier this year, in the glow of a summer sunrise, listening to the rooster welcoming the new day. She is a Discovery Toys Educational Consultant.

Discovery Toys encourages parents to teach and inspire their children to learn through play. She will be donating the book *Baby Bear's Bedtime*, where you help your child discover different sensations with textures and interactive flaps, paired with Snappy Ducks that snap together to develop the child's upper strength, hand-eye coordination, motor dexterity, patterning and counting.

This is an exciting project for us. Having WAHMs supporting home birth is a logical combination. It brings families closer together to build a more wholesome future.

*Editor's note: To clarify: the first baby born anywhere on Salt Spring — at home or at Lady Minto Hospital — or at an off-island hospital to a resident Salt Spring family receives the "first baby" designation and the items generously offered by sponsoring businesses. When determining Salt Spring's "first baby of the year" became less straightforward with fewer births at Lady Minto Hospital, and also more "fruitful" with the awarding of several gifts or gift certificates from local businesses, the Driftwood decided to not exclude babies of families who had to go off island for their birth.*

**"Having WAHMs supporting home births is a logical combination."**  
ELSIE BROWN  
Salt Spring mother

unique and natural products when raising a young family.

When I buy things for my family, especially for my children, I like to know where the items are coming from.

Buying from a local WAHM means a higher-quality product because she most likely uses the products on her own children. In addition to getting unique, quality products, I'd be supporting a WAHM — giving her the same opportunity to stay with her children and build a better future.

The WAHMs I've chosen to be a part of my quest are Zoe Dubien, Kate Hosie and Robin Little. Zoe Dubien had a quiet home birth earlier this year, filled with love, growth and bonding.

It was such a special experience for her family; words cannot describe it. She is the creator of Owl and Dot Dot, a brand-new home business where she hand-makes stylish eco-friendly hats made with up-cycled materials, in sizes newborn to adult. Up-cycling is the process of converting waste materials or useless products into new materials or products of equal or better quality.

Robin Little is a busy mother of three. Though she has never experienced a home birth, she is in full support of the practice.



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**The Winners**

Here are the winners for the Driftwood's **Holiday Gift Guide**

Thanks for shopping local!

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Jacqueline Schubert

**Winners \$100, Salt Spring Currency**

Valdemar Horsdal	Judy Simpson
Mark Brodrick	Melissa Sibbald
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Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup> - Closed  
Saturday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> - Regular Hours

Specials in Effect from  
**Wednesday, December 30<sup>th</sup> to**  
**Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009, 6pm**

## PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

### COURSE OFFERING

# Sustainable men of '10

Masculinity course kicks off the new year

BY AMY GEDDES  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When his Grade 11 class was studying Romeo and Juliet, Robert Birch put up his hand and asked, "What does it mean to be a man?"

The class laughed.

"I remember the teacher looking at me as if to say, 'When you figure it out give me a call.' Instead he shrugged (albeit compassionately) and moved on," Birch recalls, adding he's "still on the quest for an answer."

With each passing decade Birch, a social justice educator with an MA in theatre and educational psychology, believes it is becoming vitally important to simply ask the question of what it means to be a man. His 10-week Sustainable Masculinity course beginning in January aims to do just that — explore the pressures of what it means to be a man in today's culture.

"Whatever brings men together," he says, "whether it is over beer, politics or meeting on the playground watching the kids, men rarely take time or make time to figure out what is important to us as men."

Birch explains that defining a man by the roles he plays — father, partner or income earner — can stifle his heart, his values and even his sex life.

"When unfulfilled dreams are left by the roadside we lose our curiosity for life," he says.

In his over 20 years' experience working with men and male youth on issues of social justice, Birch has often seen men close off their hearts in order to protect themselves.

"Without quality attention from other men in their lives, some men, filled with bottled-up rage, explode and cause more suffering. Some just shut up and shut down. Others still, men who perceive themselves to be the 'good guy,' can over-compensate as people pleasers and not learn to give to themselves enough."

Birch cites research that has shown men die earlier than necessary because of negative socially constructed stereotypes, a common example being when a man refuses to see a doctor because asking for help is seen as a weakness.

With no large-scale male equivalent to the feminism movements that have characterized the last century, men today suffer.

"Boys and men are hiding behind their computer screens," he says. "The porn industry is much larger than even the pharmaceutical industry. Many



PHOTO BY AMY GEDDES

Robert Birch with a photo of several generations of men in his partner's family.

males are depressed, putting on weight, feeling directionless."

Birch hopes to bring the small group of 10-16 men who commit to the course the role relief and stress relief men in today's gender-hyped society often need. Other potential benefits include improving overall self-confidence, developing a stronger and potentially ongoing support system among island men, practising more effective communication skills and building emotional intelligence.

The safe, non-judgemental, small group setting is a core aspect of the course. Birch says in his own research he has learned that when men support one another the results can be life changing.

"By having each other's backs, we become more productive in our goals and fulfilled in our relationships. Men learn to trust and rely on each other more."

The biggest risk is to show up, he says. He explains that participants can expect more than just a discussion circle; it is a set of 10 weekly topics designed to help men "step more passionately into the adventure of their own lives."

In addition to story swapping, talking circles and one-on-one conversations, activities will include experiential trust building, body-centred learning, small group activities, outdoor activities and games. Birch also sees the course as a community conversation/research project that he hopes will spur dialogue around the topic of sustainable masculinity and further elaborate on the question he first asked as a youth, "What does it mean to be a man?"

Call 250-653-0036 or email farm-boys@saltspring.com for more information. The course runs for 10 Tuesday evenings from Jan. 5 to March 9.

The cost is between \$230-325 sliding scale (some scholarship funds are available).

## straight into spring!

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## YEAR IN REVIEW

# Coffee Co., hospital surgery and float house in the news

## 2009: IT'S A WRAP

### January

- The Court of Appeal in British Columbia sided with the Islands Trust in calling for the removal of the infamous "floating structure" moored at Ganges Marina. The issue had been before the courts since 2006.

- After several years of climbing property values, an estimated 94 per cent of B.C. property owners — including those in the Gulf Islands — would see identical or lower values from 2008 on assessment notices. The change was made by the provincial government in response to a worldwide economic slowdown.

- A Salt Spring Coffee Company application to rezone land at 1501 Fulford-Ganges Road was far from a "done deal," according to Islands Trustees George Ehring and Christine Torgimson, who used their first public meeting of 2009 to say they wanted more input on the issue.

- About 40 people attended the first public ad hoc Save Our Surgery Committee meeting, which passed a motion giving the group permission to act on the public's behalf in future communications with the Vancouver Island Health Authority.

- Salt Spring's new Capital Regional District director Garth Hendren announced plans to curtail funding for the island's Water Council — an act that drew the ire of council members, who said the cuts would significantly hinder "valuable initiatives" currently underway. Hendren later reinstated partial funding to the amount of \$3,000 per year.

### February

- Emergency crews recovered the body of 51-year-old Peter Wiegand on the shoreline of Walker's Hook after an extensive search of the man's Fort Street-area neighbourhood. Police said there was no evidence that a criminal investigation would be required. Later it was revealed that RCMP may have waited too long to call in search and rescue crews. The man's family had reported him missing Sunday afternoon, but the search did not start until Monday morning and his body was not recovered until Monday afternoon.

- The Islands Trust gave first reading to a rezoning application which was part of a proposal to expand Salt Spring Marina. The Trust also gave first reading to a Land Bank Society rezoning application that would ultimately see new affordable housing units at 584 Rainbow Road.

- The ongoing operation of Tree Frog Daycare was threatened by a nation-wide shortage of qualified childcare workers. Without additional staffing, the daycare would be unable to fill its 16 spots, taking only eight instead. The daycare did not have enough funding to operate without a full contingent of children.

### March

- Members of the union representing paramedics on Salt Spring and in the rest of B.C. voted 96 per cent in favour of strike action should the government fail to meet their demands by the end of March. Among the paramedics' concerns was a wage freeze set five years earlier.

- An audit of VIHA communications, which deals with Salt Spring and the other



PHOTOS BY DERRICK LUNDY

Above, firefighters battle an early April blaze that destroyed the ambulance station on Kings Lane. Below, Johnson's Shell Service tow-truck operators complete the task of removing a Corvette from St. Mary Lake during a bizarre incident in June.



southern Gulf Islands, described the health authority's public relations department as "bureaucratic, aloof, removed and Victoria-centric."

- Salt Spring RCMP officers, past and present, and their family and friends joined together to celebrate the force's traditions at the island's inaugural ball held at Fulford Hall.

- The Islands Trust approved a .96 per cent Trust-wide property tax increase for 2009-10, a figure much smaller than the

4.5 per cent increase forecast in late 2008. The decision reflected concern across the islands over the long-term impacts of a worldwide economic slowdown.

- Salt Spring's former CRD director Gary Holman was selected from a group of four nominees to become the NDP candidate for Saanich-Gulf Islands in the next provincial election.

- The teenager charged with the murder of Salt Spring Island model Diana O'Brien in Shanghai was sentenced to death. The

court ruling gave Chen Jun, 18, a two-year reprieve before the death sentence occurs, meaning the sentence could be commuted to life imprisonment for good behaviour.

- Local RCMP charged a 29-year-old Salt Spring man with attempted murder after he was alleged to have slashed the throat of a 43-year-old man, who was visiting his Bullock Creek home. Police said the attack occurred following an argument between the two men.

### April

- Salt Spring's Rita Dods launched a campaign to change the signage in a section of North End Road near St. Mark's Anglican Church that is notorious for crashes. She collected 185 signatures in less than 24 hours. The campaign was successful, with more warning signs installed.

- A dramatic fire destroyed Salt Spring's ambulance station on Kings Lane. The blaze likely broke out near the carport at about 8:30 p.m. and quickly spread to the two-storey home's attic. By midnight, sections of the building's roof had collapsed. Fire investigators later ruled out foul play.

- Voters elected Grant Eckberg, Richard Hannah and Bruce Patterson to sit on the board of the Salt Spring Fire Protection District.

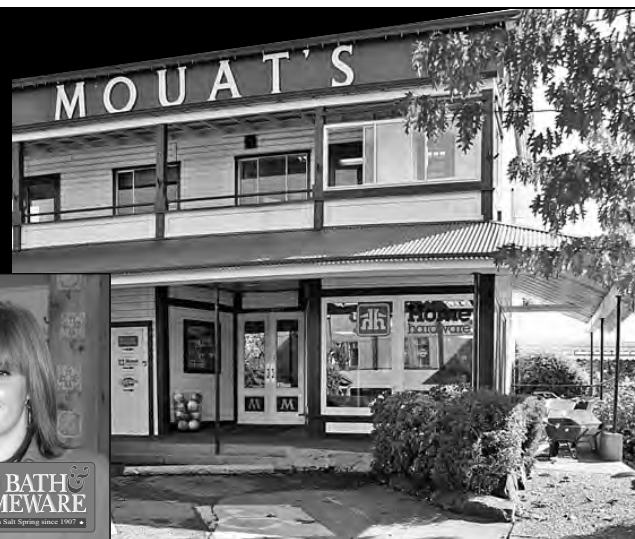
- Firefighters spent more than six hours attending a house fire on Epron Road that caused severe damage to an historic wooden home. The fire broke out on the outside of the roof just before 10 p.m. The family living in the house became aware of the fire when one person heard noises and noticed

**REVIEW** continued on 18

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## YEAR IN REVIEW



PHOTOS BY DERRICK LUNDY

Above, Micah Booy and Morgan Fry give a thumbs up and thumbs down review of The World — a luxury cruise ship that moored for two days off of Salt Spring. At right, the infamous float camp from Ganges Marina is finally removed from the harbour.



## Coell gets voter nod; Skeena refit blasted

## REVIEW

continued from 17

sparks outside the house. No injuries were sustained.

- Pender Islander Mike Fisker died when two 20-foot power boats travelling next to one another collided near Thieves Bay. The collision occurred when Fisker drove his boat into the path of the other vessel while trying to avoid a log.

## May

- The ArtSpring stage was the scene of some real-life political drama as provincial election candidates from the Saanich North and the Islands riding appeared in Salt Spring's only all-candidates forum. Candidates included: Gary Holman, of the NDP, incumbent Murray Coell, Liberal, and Tom Bradford of the Green party.

- Turnout among voters in the Saanich North and the Islands riding ranked the second highest of the province's 85 ridings during four days of advance polls. Some 15.3 per cent of eligible voters participated in advance polls, placing second to the Boundary-Similkameen district, which had 15.39 per cent turnout.

- Coell won his fourth consecutive term as MLA for the Saanich North

## 2009: IT'S A WRAP

and the Islands riding in the provincial election, capturing 45.23 per cent of voter support. He was later named B.C.'s labour minister.

- With the Skeena Queen in for refit and replaced by the smaller Bowen Queen, plus a huge influx of travellers for the annual Challenge Cup men's soccer tournament, chaos reigned at the Fulford and Swartz Bay ferry terminals. Due to huge overloads and long line-ups, BC Ferries ended up putting the Saturday schedule — which included one extra sailing — in effect every day of the week except Sunday until the Skeena Queen returned to the route.

- A 19-year-old male was charged with dangerous operation of a vehicle causing bodily harm after hitting a high school student who was crossing Fulford-Ganges Road after disembarking from a school bus. The 17-year-old girl was crossing the road in front of the bus in full view of oncoming traffic when she was struck by a vehicle coming from the opposite direction. The girl sustained several broken bones and a concussion but was expected to make a full recovery.

REVIEW continued on 19

## Potters, Trust, choir and service clubs celebrate anniversaries

## 2009: MILESTONES PASSAGES

- Salt Spring's **public bus system** celebrated its one-year anniversary, noting that its use was double what the local transportation commission had anticipated. The island's two 24-passenger buses served 50,000 riders in the first year.

- Salt Springer Paul Marcano was among 750,000 people who gathered in Washington, D.C. to witness the United States embark on a new political era with the **inauguration of the country's first black president** — Barack Obama.

- A renovation at Country Grocer's Salt Spring location resulted in the **temporary closure of Fields**, a popular low-price shopping outlet. Fields staff was told by the landlord that new space would be found for the store by early 2010.

- BC Ferries announced that **paper commuter tickets** would be phased out and replaced by the Experience Card, which had been launched a year earlier and proven successful. Islanders who had prepaid tickets could transfer the value onto the card up until April 1, 2010.

- **Salt Spring Singers** choir celebrated 35 years since its inception, making it one of Salt Spring's longest-running arts organizations.

- Three vacancies on the **North Salt Spring Waterworks District** were filled by acclamation. The board members were Marshall Heinekey, Jeff Thompson and Mike Woolley.

- Salt Spring's **pottery craft guild** celebrated 40 years with a gala reception at Mahon Hall.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Keegan Pearson and Rhys Hardy set out to circumnavigate Salt Spring on a handmade raft.

- The **Islands Trust** marked 35 years of existence with cake and presentations on Salt Spring in June, and a special dinner and live auction fundraiser for the Islands Trust Fund at GISS in December.

- Island residents marked the **Rainbow Road Pool's** inaugural year by welcoming plans to install an ultraviolet (UV) filtration system in the facility by the end of the summer.

- Allan and Dolly Whorley celebrated their **69th wedding anniversary**. They were married May 23, 1940.

- Owners of Ganges Marina removed the controversial **float camp structure** from their Ganges Harbour property,

bringing an end to more than three years of community drama and legal wrangling with the Islands Trust.

- Salt Spring **kayaker Jack Rosen** completed a once-in-a-lifetime, "epic journey," paddling 2,200 kilometres from Ganges to Alaska.

- Salt Spring fire chief **Dave Enfield** retired at the end of July after 40 years in the fire-fighting business — with 10 of those spent on the island. **Tom Bremner** was hired as Salt Spring's new fire chief, taking over the position in August.

- As of July 22, Thrifty Foods discontinued use of **plastic bags** in all of its grocery stores.

- Salt Spring's 14 youth soccer teams and six adult teams amalgamated under the banner of **Salt Spring United**.

- A new **fitness playground and strength course** was installed by Salt Spring's Rotary Club at the Rainbow Road Pool site.

- **Keegan Pearson and Rhys Hardy** recreated a 1970s voyage around Salt Spring by circumnavigating the island on a hand-built raft. They completed the voyage in seven days.

- Fifty years of community action by the **Salt Spring Island Lions Club** was marked by the installation of a new playground at Portlock Park. Other than the purchase of the park itself in 1974, the project was likely the largest the club had undertaken on the island.

- Salt Spring's first radio station — **CFSI 107.9** — came on the air live with The Geezers on Sept. 11.

- Salt Spring's chapter of the **IODE service club** celebrated 95 years of activity on the island.

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**SALTSPRING**

## YEAR IN REVIEW

## Emergency crews busy

## REVIEW

continued from 18

## June

• Salt Spring Capital Regional District director Garth Hendren was set to investigate a plan that could eventually see the amalgamation of the island's myriad distinct water districts into an single entity.

• A tow-truck driver pulled an unusual catch from St. Mary Lake after emergency crews responded to reports of a man driving his luxury sports car into the lake. Witness Mark Toole said he noticed an individual preparing to drive a shiny red convertible Corvette into the lake just after 7 a.m. The car floated for a few minutes and then sank out of sight. The driver exited the car, swam to a nearby paddle boat and made it part-way across the bay before being stopped by emergency crews.

• Fire crews from Salt Spring and the Coastal Fire Centre worked over the weekend to contain and control a seven-hectare (17-acre) wildfire sparked on the west side of Mount Maxwell.

• The body of Salt Spring's Robin Bemi, 37, was pulled from Captain's Passage shortly after a local fisherman spotted the 38-foot gill-netter Harvest

REVIEW continued on 20



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Salt Spring bus driver Ineke de Jong and tow-truck driver Drew Clarke stand next to a smashed SUV and watch as one of the island's transit buses is loaded for removal from the scene of an accident.

## School sports teams, musicians and athletes shine

## 2009: IN THE LIMELIGHT

• Thirteen-year-old Salt Spring Island Middle School student **Lilith Bentley** sampled whacky jobs — such as alligator wrangling and NASCAR racing — as a contestant of a YTV reality series called In the Real World set to air at the beginning of February.

• GISS boys basketball player **Chris Howe** was presented with the Nairn Howe Outstanding Player Award. The honour was especially poignant because the award was established in the memory of Howe's mother, the late Nairn Howe, and was represented by his father Bob. (Monique Comeau won the award for the girls' side.) Later in the year, Howe made the provincial volleyball team for his age group and played at nationals, where B.C. took fourth place.

• Salt Spring's **U18 silver soccer team** was hailed as the "pride of the island" after hammering Gordon Head's U18 gold team 4-0 to become the Lower Vancouver Island representative for B-Cup play — an honour usually reserved for gold teams. A win against Campbell River's U18 gold team would have springboarded the squad, coached by Rob Holmes and Cal Steele, into the provincial B-Cup. However, the girls lost 8-1 to a sleek CR team a few weeks later.

• Salt Spring Island Middle School's **Tsunami boys basketball team** challenged the best in B.C. at the provincial basketball championships in Pitt Meadows. The Grade 8 squad, coached by Jude Shugar, held its own in most of the matches and described the competition as a great learning experience.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Rylan Gajek won numerous musical honours in 2009.

• Fifteen-year-old **Sierra Lundy** was named to the B.C. provincial soccer team for the second consecutive year. Her four-month stint with the team included a trip to nationals in Quebec, where the B.C. team missed silver by one goal and took bronze behind Ontario and Quebec.

• Salt Spring's **U15 boys team** coached by Patrick Mussell beat Gorge United 4-1 to take the 2009 district cup title.

• Salt Spring dragon boat paddler **Lynda Brown** took the podium twice

with her Victoria-based Island Breaststrokers team at the Breast Cancer Survivor Challenge Dragon Boat Race in Miami, Florida. The team brought home titles for the 2,000-metre mixed event and 500-metre breast cancer survivors race.

• GISS student **Hal Cook** was the first-ever Salt Spring high school rower to qualify for the national rowing championships, after placing third in the Men's Junior A Lightweight division at a Shawnigan Lake regatta. Cook ultimately rowed to a personal best time and a 20-place finish at the national event.

• GISS **Scorpions senior girls soccer** players were pumped up about their chances as they advanced to the provincial championships in Campbell River.

• Salt Spring residents picked up three Islands Trust stewardship awards. Winners were high school student **Kelsey Mech**, the late **Jacqueline Booth** and the Salt Spring Conservancy's **Stewards-in-Training** program.

• Grade 10 GISS student **Rylan Gajek** won the Don Chrysler Concerto Competition against five university student finalists, earning the right to be guest soloist with the Sooke Philharmonic Orchestra. As well, one of his compositions was selected to premiere during upcoming fashion week in Queensland, Australia.

• Fifteen-year-old **Grace Morgan** took second in the 200-metre event and fourth in the 100-m event at the B.C. high school provincial track championships. She later won B.C. track and field provincial golds in the same two events and was

named as an alternate to the provincial team, which competed at nationals in Quebec.

• Salt Spring "Rabbit Lady" **Brenda Plaxton** was named BC SPCA Volunteer of the Year, after dedicating the last nine years to volunteering at the SPCA and caring for rabbits for the past 20 years.

• Trumpet player **Emma Rowlandson-O'Hara** earned first place in the Intermediate Brass category of the provincial-level Performing Arts competition. She also won a \$3,000 scholarship from the Koerner Foundation to help offset costs of attending the Schulich School of Music at McGill University.

• An independent national restaurant guide chose **Rock Salt Restaurant** as one of the best places to eat in Canada.

• **GISS junior boys soccer team**, coached by Grade 12 student Keegan Pearson, made local high school history by winning a silver medal at the Vancouver Island championships in Powell River.

• **GISS senior boys volleyball team** was off to provincials in Kelowna after winning all six of its games at the Vancouver Island AA championships held at Pacific Christian School in Victoria. Unfortunately, the team was devastated by the flu at the championship event and ended up taking 13th spot.

• Salt Spring author **Brian Brett** was awarded the Writers' Trust of Canada non-fiction award for his book Trauma Farm: A Rebel History of Rural Life. The book was also nominated for B.C.'s National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction.



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## YEAR IN REVIEW

## Luxury cruise ship, deer attack, bus crash make the news

## REVIEW

continued from 19

Girl run aground north of Beddis Beach.

- Armed with funding from the West Coast Environmental Law Society and two private donors, the Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society planned to seek a court injunction to "block the issuance of any development or building permits for the Swanson's Pond property" until "a full environmental review" is complete.

## July

- Reaction was mixed to a two-day stop-over of The World, a 196-metre (644-foot), 12-deck luxury cruise ship. Although the community expected economic benefits from the presence of the ship, only 47 of its 200 passengers chose to explore the island.

- Siblings Rose and Richard Murakami spent a weekend hobnobbing with royalty. The two travelled to Government House in Victoria and met Japan's Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko.

- Salt Spring market vendor Wendy Beatty was banned from travelling aboard BC Ferries for six months after she experienced a momentary flash of frustration after arriving too late for the Crofton ferry and "nudged" a ferry worker who was blocking access to the boat. In addition to the ferry ban, Beatty faced possible assault charges.

- Fritz Fernandez was recovering in hospital after an aggressive deer attacked his scooter as he drove along Lower Ganges Road near the golf course at 5 a.m. one morning. According to Fernandez, the deer stopped, turned and charged, colliding with the scooter head-on. The driver suffered multiple injuries and had to be hospitalized.

## August

- The B.C. government's plan to combine the GST and PST into one 12 per cent harmonized sales tax (HST), beginning July 1, 2010, was coming under fire both locally and across the province.

- The Salt Spring Coffee Company's application to rezone a property at 1501 Fulford-Ganges Road and build a coffee processing facility there was unanimously defeated by the island's local Trust committee.

- Members of the Salt Spring Save Our Surgery group were upset to learn that, although Lady Minto Hospital's operating room had been closed for 14 months, it would not reopen before a needs assessment study for Salt Spring was conducted by the Vancouver Island Health Authority.

- Following several weeks of rumours, federal Green Party of Canada leader Elizabeth May announced she would run as a candidate in the Saanich-Gulf Islands riding in the next federal election. Her candidacy was immediately challenged by veteran Green politician Stuart Hertzog, but party members elected May to the position.

## September

- Salt Spring RCMP faced more questions than answers following bizarre attacks that left two island men with severe cuts to the face. The two men, aged 56 and 66, were both walking on Fulford-Ganges Road near the Fulford Inn when they were attacked by a man wearing gloves with blades attached. After a search that involved an off-island police dog unit, police arrested 39-year-old Salt Spring resident Lorn Nelson. He was charged with two counts of assault with a weapon, mischief, uttering threats and possession of a weapon.



PHOTOS BY DERRICK LUNDY

Above, Dawn Coe-Jones lights the torch of Darian Sport-Maxwell as the Olympic Torch Relay comes to Salt Spring on Oct. 31; at left, trustee Christine Torgrimson cuts the cake on the Islands Trust's 35th anniversary.



- More than 350 celebrants livened the streets of Ganges as Salt Spring's annual pride parade wound its way through the downtown core. The parade was considered the signature event of a full weekend of pride festivities across the island.

- The 2010 Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District budget was expected to reach \$2.2 million, according to trustees. The budget marked an 11 per cent increase over the 2009 budget, and more than doubled the budget from 2006.

- The federal and provincial governments awarded \$4.55 million to the Salt Spring Island Public Library Association for construction of a new library. The announcement meant Salt Spring taxpayers would be left with no more than \$3 million in costs for a proposed new library on McPhillips Avenue if a late-fall referendum was approved.

## October

- Six passengers aboard a Salt Spring Island transit bus, as well as the driver of an SUV, were treated for minor injuries follow-

## 2009: IT'S A WRAP

ing a Monday morning collision on Fulford-Ganges Road at the top of Lee's Hill. Police said the 53-year-old Quadra Island driver of the northbound SUV crossed the centre line and collided with the bus on the sharp curve near Salt Spring Vineyards.

- Lorn Nelson was handed a six-month conditional sentence after he pleaded guilty to slashing two men with homemade "Fredie Krueger-style gloves." Nelson had to spend the first three months of his sentence under house arrest.

- A bid by former children's entertainer Raffi to open a Centre for Child Honouring on Salt Spring took a huge step forward with the donation of the use of a house and 22-acre property. The anonymous donors said they are committed to Raffi's vision and mission.

- Salt Spring Islanders would have to wait until the middle of November before the first of three H1N1 vaccination clinics would be offered here. VIHA began the first phase of its clinics on Oct. 26 in seven Vancouver Island communities.

- Spectators dressed as witches and vampires cheered and waved Canadian flags on Halloween as the Olympic torch landed in Ganges via floatplane. The torch was carried through the downtown core and then driven to the ferry at Vesuvius, where it was taken to Crofton to resume its run on Vancouver Island.

## November

- Entities such as Lady Minto Hospital and the Gulf Islands School District were all set and ready for the potential influx of H1N1 flu patients, but the devastating onslaught predicted never occurred. Although many people suffered the virus, most experienced

mild symptoms.

- Salt Springers learned they must wait at least two years before the government would even consider funding an incorporation study and subsequent referendum. The news was given by Ministry of Community Services staff to the island's three local elected officials.

- Back-to-work legislation passed by the provincial government ended a seven-month strike by paramedics.

- BC Ferries put an end to any hope of a "hole in the fence" solution to Fulford ferry passengers aiming to make a quick turnaround at Swartz Bay in order to connect to Tsawwassen-bound ferries A BC Ferries spokesman said unequivocally that any in-terminal turnaround option for Salt Spring ferry users will not happen.

- Some 336 islanders rolled up their sleeves for an H1N1 vaccination at Salt Spring's first clinic, held Nov. 19 at the Fernwood Elementary School gymnasium.

## December

- Six people died when a Seair floatplane crashed shortly after takeoff from Lyall Harbour on Saturna Island. Only the pilot and one passenger survived the crash, which occurred at 4:12 p.m. while en route to the Lower Mainland. Devastated staff at Seair suspended flights for several days following the crash.

- The federal government announced it would provide Salt Spring Island with a security screening station in time for the 2010 Olympics. The announcement meant passengers aboard floatplanes travelling from Salt Spring to Vancouver would not have to be re-routed through Nanaimo or Sidney as was originally planned.

- Salt Spring residents and property owners voted 78 per cent in favour of borrowing the \$2.75 million needed to build a new library in Ganges.



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# Sports & Recreation

## INDOOR SPORTS

# Start the year off with a 'flick'

Badminton club keeps island tradition alive

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The history of badminton on Salt Spring dates back to the early 1920s, so it's no wonder the island continues to host an active club and a roster of skilled players.

Salt Spring's ever-evolving badminton group serves up an opportunity for expert and beginner players to meet up twice a week at the Gulf Islands Secondary School gymnasium.

According to club coordinator Gail Temmel, the badminton group's regular evening sessions are a chance for people of all ages and abilities to share some laughs, develop their skills and stay in shape through the dark days of winter.

Since Temmel became involved with the group in the 1990s, she's realized that learning to play badminton well is a whole lot harder than most people imagine.

If your experience of the sport is limited to badminton sessions in between burgers at the family's summer barbecue, you may be in for a surprise when you step into the gymnasium while any of the club's dozen or so regular players are on the court.

"We're not technically teachers, but everyone has something to offer," Temmel said. "You don't get better unless you play against better players."

For starters, it's fast and the action is intense.

"This is not a wimpy sport," Temmel said in a recent interview about the club. And it's not a "wimpy" club either.

Players of all abilities are welcome and playing against any of the group's talented core members is a surefire way to fine-tune muscles you never imagined existed.

"It's a different sort of movement; more



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

From left, Ross Harvey, Fred Lizotte and Bruce Creswick take a break from badminton action on a recent night at GISS.

**"We're not technically teachers, but everyone has something to offer."**

GAIL TEMMEL  
Club coordinator

of a flick than a whack," she said, dismissing any analogy to other popular racquet sports like squash and tennis.

Given that players only require a racquet, a pair of gym shoes and some loose-

fitting clothes, badminton is a great way to get everyone in the family out of the house and breaking a sweat.

Children are welcome, as long as they are accompanied by an adult who can keep an eye on them.

The GISS gym can easily accommodate up to 24 players on six courts. Normally about half that number of people turn out, so there's always plenty of opportunity for everyone to hit the court.

Salt Spring's badminton club meets on Thursdays between 8 and 10 p.m. (but 7-9 on Dec. 31) and on Sundays from 7 to 9 p.m. every week until May. For more information, contact Temmel at 250-653-4613.

Drop-in sessions cost \$3 for adults, \$2 for local students and \$5 for families.

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7:50 am except Sun	9:00 am
9:50 am	11:00 am
11:50 am	1:00 pm
1:50 pm	3:00 pm
3:50 pm	5:00 pm
5:50 pm	7:00 pm
7:50 pm	9:00 pm

# Driftwood OWNER'S MANUAL

.....chapter 6

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SEAN MCINTYRE

#### How often is the website updated?

The website is updated as required. If there is breaking news, (ferry disruptions, emergencies etc) we post it to the website as soon as possible.

#### Are there letters to the editors posted on-line?

Yes. You'll find opinion pieces and letters to the editor under the "opinion" tab.

#### Can I blog or answer an opinion piece on-line?

Yes, using the "disqus" (discuss) feature, you'll be able to "blog" or "post" responses to news and opinion pieces.

#### Is there video?

On a regular basis our reporters post video stories to the website. You will also find video from other community newspapers around British Columbia by clicking on the "BC Video" tab.

#### Can I find news stories from elsewhere?

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#### Can I find your classified ads on the website?

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Contact Peter McCully, Publisher at: 250.537.9933 or email: sales@gulfislands.net, and we'll have a sales rep help you with your advertising requirements.

# SPORTS & RECREATION

## TRAIL & NATURE

# January weather won't deter hikers, walkers, ramblers

Snowy-day options and some shorter hikes on agenda

On Thursday, Jan. 28, the annual general meeting will be at Harbour House Hotel. The meeting starts at 1 p.m., following lunch featuring Moroccan tagine. Doors and bar open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch tickets are \$15 (cash or cheque), avail-

able in January from your coordinator or SaltSpring Soapworks.

### New Year's Day Walk

Jan. 1: A short, moderate walk/easy hike ending by 12:30 p.m., so bring only a snack. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or Mereside/Fulford-Ganges Road at 10:10 a.m. Weather permitting.

### Hikers

Jan. 5: Ashley Hill-

iard will lead a moderate hike through the Cusheon Cove addition and other parts of Ruckle Park. There are some up-and-downs, particularly in the Cusheon Cove area, and some uneven rocky patches. Total 200m elevation gain over the entire hike. This will not be a long hike; we should be back by 2:30 p.m. Leave ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or join at the turnaround at the bottom of Meyer Road (off

Bulman Road).

Jan. 12: Fred Powell will lead a moderate hike on Channel Ridge. Leave ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m.

Jan. 19: Lynn Thompson will lead a strenuous hike up Mount Prevost. Meet at Portlock Park at 8:30 a.m. to catch the 9 a.m. ferry to Crofton. Note: the alternative route in the event of snow will be a moderate hike to Christie Falls near Ladysmith.

Jan. 26: Zeke Blazecka will lead a varied moderate hike with off-trail sections in the Isabella Point/Mountain Road area. The Mountain Road waterfall will be included. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 or join at Drummond Park at 10 a.m.

### Walkers

Jan. 5: A New Year's Adventure — a mystery will unfold. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. to pick a leader and trail to follow.

Jan. 12: Ailsa Pearce will lead a walk on Channel Ridge. Leave ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet at the end of Dogwood Lane at 10:15 a.m.

Jan. 19: Anke Smeele will lead an off-island walk on the Saanich Peninsula, exploring the winter garden and trails at Glendale Gardens, home of the Horticulture Center of the Pacific, followed by a shared pub lunch at the Prairie Inn. After lunch, a quick walk through Lillian Hoffer Park in

North Saanich on the way to the ferry rounds out the day, weather and time permitting. We are catching the 9:50 ferry from Fulford; take the bus or meet at ArtSpring by 9 a.m. to carpool. Anke will meet us at the ferry.

Jan. 26: John Flanagan will lead a walk in the Mount Tuam Nature Reserve (Mountain Road). The trail has some steep places, which may be slippery if wet or snowy. Leave ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet at Drummond Park at 10:15 a.m.

### Ramblers

Jan. 5: Ramble with Nora and Elenore Lloyd on Channel Ridge. Carpool from Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Jan. 12: Sterling and Maureen McEachern will lead a ramble in the north end. Carpool from Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Jan. 19: Beth Ranney will take us for a walk on Whims Road. Carpool from Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Jan. 26: Harold Page will lead a ramble in the south end. Carpool from Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

### New Members

Interested in joining us? Contact Barry Spence (membership) at 250-537-2332 or Zeke Blazecka (president) at 250-653-4782, or come on Tuesdays to the meeting point for the activity you are interested in.

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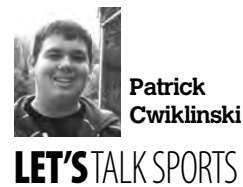
# Canada versus Latvia — time to pick on somebody your own size

Though it was only a day after the big guy in red spread his annual holiday cheer throughout the world, there was nothing Christmassy about the result of Team Canada's opener at the world junior championship against Latvia — a game that would even make Ebenezer Scrooge feel sorry for the boys from the Baltic.

Canada's 16-0 (yes 16-0, it's not a typo) victory over the Latvians reemphasized their superiority in the game of hockey, but also proved that the opposition was way out of their league when they took to the ice Saturday.

Of course, to call the match-up between Canada and Latvia a blow-out would not do it justice by any means. What transpired on the ice that afternoon was the hockey equivalent of watching a helpless gazelle get mauled by a cheetah.

It was ugly. But you can't blame the Canadians. They did exactly what everyone expected them to



do, which was to crush a team whose country's population barely exceeds two million and that hasn't produced a consistent NHL product since Karlis Skrastins.

By the way, at 35, Skrastins didn't lend too much of a helping hand to the Latvian juniors and probably couldn't have unless he met Doc Brown and took a ride in his DeLorean.

However, the TSN.ca headline for Canada's total annihilation of the Latvian junior hockey team summed it up best: "Never in doubt."

This statement, in my mind, negates the whole purpose of showing up for a competitive sporting event in the first place. It isn't even about being sympathetic towards the Latvians, but in terms of entertainment value,

after Canada's fourth goal in the first period, the game became about as exciting as watching paint dry.

The whole fun of watching a hockey game is seeing two teams play an evenly matched game with plenty of physical goodies to go along with it. That's why fans are generally more excited to watch a game between Canada and Russia than when they're paired up against the Japanese national team.

So what should the International Ice Hockey Federation do?

One idea could be to pool the teams differently and have tiers that coincide with the level of play of a particular team. In that case, you would have Latvia grouped with all the weaker teams competing in the tournament and Canada in a pool with teams like Russia, Sweden, Finland and the Czech Republic.

Ah yes, and who could forget our neighbours from the south?

Another idea, perhaps a little harsher, would be

to cut the tournament roster entirely and get rid of teams that would even crumble in the presence of their opposition's peewee hockey team. Call it a slap in the face, but at the end of the day they would be saving themselves a world of embarrassment as well as not having to deal with articles about how their play was reminiscent of a seal trying to escape an orca.

For those of you keeping count at home, that's two animal similes in one article.

Damn you, National Geographic.

The point is that the tournament organizers are not doing either of these teams any favours by letting one team beat the other until it's not even a hockey game anymore and leaving the other team to fend for themselves while an absolute powerhouse makes them wish they were never born.

In other words, it might be a wise decision to call a meeting sometime in the near future.

**2009 CLEARANCE! All Vehicles Priced to Go!**

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242264	2009	Pontiac	G5 Sedan	\$18,850.00	\$3,856.00	\$14,994.00	239609	2009	Chevrolet	Cobalt Sedan	\$18,430.00	\$3,262.00	\$15,168.00
299675	2009	Pontiac	G5 Coupe	\$18,320.00	\$4,794.00	\$13,526.00	276175	2009	Chevrolet	Cobalt Sedan	\$18,400.00	\$3,262.00	\$15,138.00
242627	2009	Pontiac	G5 Coupe	\$18,850.00	\$3,896.00	\$14,954.00	231717	2009	Chevrolet	Cobalt Sedan	\$18,300.00	\$3,381.00	\$14,919.00
269686	2009	Pontiac	G5 SE Sedan	\$21,865.00	\$6,017.00	\$15,848.00	544562	2009	Chevrolet	HHR LT	\$28,285.00	\$8,343.00	\$19,942.00
256243	2009	Pontiac	G5 SE Sedan	\$25,105.00	\$7,436.00	\$17,669.00	572801	2009	Chevrolet	HHR LT	\$26,445.00	\$8,061.00	\$18,384.00
442702	2009	Pontiac	Vibe GT	\$26,255.00	\$4,100.00	\$22,155.00	549592	2009	Chevrolet	HHR LT	\$27,620.00	\$8,251.00	\$19,369.00
154253	2009	Pontiac	G6 SE Sedan	\$25,395.00	\$7,155.00	\$18,240.00	564089	2009	Chevrolet	HHR LT	\$25,805.00	\$7,998.00	\$17,807.00
124947	2009	Chevrolet	Aveo Sedan	\$16,035.00	\$3,105.00	\$12,930.00	165075	2009	Chevrolet	Impala LT	\$29,880.00	\$7,121.00	\$22,759.00
202604	2009	Chevrolet	Cobalt Coupe	\$16,430.00	\$4,139.00	\$12,291.00	193881	2009	Chevrolet	Malibu Hybrid	\$29,790.00	\$9,579.00	\$20,211.00
197431	2009	Chevrolet	Cobalt Coupe	\$18,100.00	\$3,272.00	\$14,828.00	255154	2009	Chevrolet	Malibu Hybrid	\$29,770.00	\$9,488.00	\$20,282.00

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### Driftwood

Published WEDNESDAYS

Display deadline: **Monday 4 pm**

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### Driftwood WEEKENDER

Published FRIDAYS

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**Wednesday 10 am**

Word ad deadline:

**Wednesday 4 pm**



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## FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CELEBRATIONS

**CONGRATULATIONS** TO the Island Stream & Salmon Enhancement Raffle winners. First prize Bruce Muir print won by Betsy Johnston. Second prize firewood won by Nicky Haigh. Third prize from The Fishery won by Mary Harkema. Thank you Salt Spring for your support.

**Happy Retirement Jorge**  
From your many happy (hic) customers. See you on the tennis courts.



## FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DEATHS



**BARBARA ISABEL HICKS (NEE ARKLEY)**

Peacefully, at Lady Minto Hospital, Ganges, Salt Spring Island, BC, at age 82, early in the morning of December 23. Barbara was attended with great love and care by husband Lowell Salter Hicks and son Steven Harold Hicks, by Dr. Jan MacPhail, and by the superb staff of Lady Minto.

Barbara is survived by four children, Michael Taylor, Susan Barbara, Steven Harold, and Peter Lowell, by grandchildren David Hicks, Jesse, Nicola, and Jennifer Berg, Adam Hicks, and Sage Spicer, and by great grandchildren Jonathan and Matthew Hicks.

Barbara was an ardent believer in social justice and environmental stewardship, commitments she demonstrated every day even in the fifties and sixties when such ideas were still emerging in North American society.

A member of the Salt Spring Island Raging Grannies (Barbara was "the pink Granny"), the Trail and Nature Club, and many other organizations, Barb loved her protest trips to places like Clayoquot Sound, and adored her life on the island with Lowell, in a home they built together overlooking Active Pass & Mount Baker.

A memorial service will be held on an appropriately beautiful spring day in 2010 on Salt Spring Island. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to any charitable organization that embraces care of this earth and the people so fortunate to live on her.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CARDS OF THANKS

Dear friends and neighbours on Salt Spring

who sent me get-well and Christmas cards during my recent time in hospital.

**Thank you each and everyone.**

Your good wishes helped me recover. Never think I don't appreciate your kindness. Thanks and love to you all  
**Jocelyn Hocking**

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMING EVENTS



**seven stars tai chi club**

**Tai Chi Chu'an OPEN HOUSE Sunday, Jan 3rd**

10:30am to 12:30pm

@210 Cedar Lane

Come join weekly classes until June in Chen and Yang style Tai Chi

Phone Osman 250-537-5667

or [osman@saltspring.com](mailto:osman@saltspring.com)

[www.cedarlanestudio.com](http://www.cedarlanestudio.com)

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Island Arts Centre Society

Date: Sunday, January 17, 2010

Time: 5:00pm

Place: ArtSpring multi-purpose gallery

In addition to customary AGM business, members will vote on proposed revision of the IACS Mission Statement.



## AUDITIONS

January 6, 13 7 pm  
Mobile, Parks & Rec.  
145 Vesuvius Bay Rd.

Salt Spring Community Theatre (SSCT) is looking for 7 actors: 5 men, 2 women for a production of the comedy "Who's Under Where?" For more information call Steve Coopman (director) 250-653-9904, or Ann Stewart 250-537-9250

### DEATHS

## Brown, Lyle Stanford

We are saddened to announce the passing of Lyle, on December 18th 2009.

Survived by his wife Jean, sons Lyle (Inga), Michael (Tara), grandchildren Dawson, Hailey, Kendra and Joshua.

Also survived by mother Juanita, sisters, Josette (Jarl), Marilynne, brother Duff - many nieces and nephews.

Heartfelt thank you to Dr. Ron Reznick, ER staff, ambulance service, SS Fire Department, special angel Betsy who all tried valiantly to save Lyle.

**Thank you to everyone who phoned, sent emails, cards, hugs, flowers.**

**Thank-you also to Admiral Lodge #170.**

No service or funeral at Lyle's request.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMING EVENTS



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR EXCEPTIONAL GIFT IDEAS?

DISCOVER INDONESIA at AL'S ASIAN TREASURES & IMPORTS.

10 am to 4:30 pm TUESDAY TO SUNDAY

Metal driveway gates, stone & wood carvings, slate pots, garden fountains & statues, & MANY more unusual finds.

#7 9360 Smiley Rd., Chemainus (just off Henry Rd. & Trans Can. Hwy.)



## CHRISTMAS TREE CHIPPING

Sunday, January 3rd 10:00am-2:00pm  
Country Grocer parking lot

Minimum \$4 Donation with Proceeds to: **SSI Food Bank**  
Mills Tree Service  
250-537-8450

**UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
"Starting the Year with Music" by Jon Schwabach for our first service of 2010 at 11am, Sunday Jan. 3, at S.S. Seniors' Centre.  
[www.saltspringunitarian.com](http://www.saltspringunitarian.com)

**SWING DANCE** Class, 6 nights 7-9pm starting Wed. Jan. 6 at Mahon Hall. Morley 250-537-4898 or email: [mgallery@telus.net](mailto:mgallery@telus.net)

### DEATHS

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMING EVENTS

## SALT SPRING INN CHRISTMAS HOURS

Thursday, Dec. 24  
Christmas Eve  
8am - 3pm

Friday, Dec. 25  
Christmas Day  
CLOSED

Saturday, December 26  
Boxing Day  
CLOSED

Thursday, Dec. 31st  
New Year's Eve  
8am - 3pm  
5pm - 11pm

Friday, Jan. 1st  
New Year's Day  
BRUNCH: 10am-2pm  
LUNCH: 2pm - 5pm  
DINNER: 5pm - 10pm

250-537-9339

"Merry Christmas from all of us at The Inn!"

### INFORMATION

## CHILD-CENTRED SUPERVISED ACCESS

serving Gulf Islands and Victoria.

Criminal Record check. Supervisor, Geoffrey Anderson, BA. Lay counsellor.

250-532-8785 or email: [geoffreyanderson@live.com](mailto:geoffreyanderson@live.com)

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HAPPY NEW year all your artists, healers, activists...aha! Carry it on. Sue Hiscocks PEJ.org

### COMING EVENTS

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INFORMATION

IF YOUR Driftwood subscription label has the date highlighted, now is the time to renew!

### COMING EVENTS

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMING EVENTS

**WHAT'S ON PAGE 12**

### COMING EVENTS

## Salt Spring Singers Registration

Salt Spring Singers, a non-auditioned community choir directed by Mitch Howard, will hold registration and the first spring program rehearsal at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, at SSI Baptist Church, 520 Lower Ganges Rd. Registration will close at 6:45 p.m., with rehearsal at 7 followed by refreshments at 8:15. All voices welcome.

Call Lesley Reynolds at 537-4861 for a registration form or more information.

## COLE PORTER PRODUCTION AUDITION NOTICE

Auditions for a "Cole Porter Revue" (Linda & Cole) will be held on Tuesday January 5, 2010 from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM at 120 Cairns Place

- must be able to sing, act & dance (or good stage movement)
  - baritones, tenors, sopranos, belters • ages 25 - 60
  - be prepared to sing 24 bars of a ballad, 24 bars of semi or classical • no pop or hip hop • equity and non equity
- Call Maureen 250-537-9913 for appointment

## DOROTHY PRICE CERTIFIED YOGA TEACHER

[www.dorothyoga.com](http://www.dorothyoga.com)

Mon. 8 - 9am - ALL LEVELS  
The Core Inn (3rd floor), Ganges

Mon. 4:30 - 6pm - ALL LEVELS  
SSI Centre of Yoga, 355 Blackburn

Tues. 7 - 8:30pm - ALL LEVELS  
The Gatehouse, 190 Reynolds

Wed. 9am - 10:30am - ALL LEVELS  
The Gatehouse, 190 Reynolds

Wed. 6:30 - 8pm - ALL LEVELS  
The Core Inn (3rd floor), Ganges

Thur. 4:30 - 6pm - ALL LEVELS  
SSI Centre of Yoga, 355 Blackburn

Fri. 8am-9am - ALL LEVELS  
Pranayam & meditation option at 7:15am  
SSI Centre of Yoga, 355 Blackburn

250-653-4655 [dorothyoga@hotmail.com](mailto:dorothyoga@hotmail.com)

### COMING EVENTS

355B Blackburn Rd.  
250.537.9130

## Salt Spring Centre School

Where learning connects the child to the world!  
**Middle School Program Opening Sept. 2010**  
Leadership program offered through Grade 8. Interested? Come for a visitation day in the new year.

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**K - GRADE 6**

Do you have something to say about a story or letter? Comment on-line @ [gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES  
TUESDAY 10 AM

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## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INFORMATION

LOVE is letting go of  
FEAR  
ENOUGH is letting go of  
GREED  
WE is the inversion of  
ME

### THE VISION



GoAllPower.com

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

Re: The Estate of ROBERT MICHAEL AKERMAN, Deceased, formerly of 2501 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 1Z4. Creditors and others having claims against the Estate of ROBERT MICHAEL AKERMAN, are hereby notified under section 38 of the Trustee Act that particulars of their claims should be sent to the Executors at Box 414, Ganges P.O., Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2W1, on or before February 10, 2010, after which date the Executors will distribute the estate among the parties entitled to it, having regard to the claims of which the Executors then has notice. James Pasuta, Solicitor for the Estate of ROBERT MICHAEL AKERMAN.

### PERSONALS

1-877-20-TAROT TO know everything about your future, love, money, health, work. Holidays special, \$2.59/min. CONNEXION MEDIUM 1-900-52-TAROT, #3486. Fido/Rogers/Bell. www.connexionmedium.ca. 24h/24 7d/7.

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### LOST AND FOUND

**FOUND:** AT Love My Kitchen, 1 package from Harlan's. Claim at Love My Kitchen. 250-537-5882.

**FOUND:** IN Ganges in November, ladies bike. Call to identify 250-537-2652.

**LADIES RING** found in Ganges. Call to identify 250-537-2791

**LOST:** MEN'S glasses in case, flex-on frame, tri-focal, reward. 250-537-5826.

**LOST:** MITTS, brown, wool, about 2 weeks ago. 250-537-5107.

### TRAVEL

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**SUN PEAKS RESORT, BC** www.sunpeaksreservations.com Toll free 1-888-578-8369. Fully equipped hotels, studios to 4 bedroom condos and chalets. Ski in/Ski out or short walk to lifts, hot tubs.



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### HELP WANTED

**ELECTRICIAN:** LOOKING for Journeyman or 4th year apprentice for residential/commercial work. P/T to start, possibly FT. Competitive wages & benefits. Reply to Dept. 14, c/o The Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2V3.

**EXCITING OPPORTUNITY** as mother's help in London, UK, Jan.-June, then on Salt Spring July - Aug. Live-in position in beautiful Notting Hill flat. Nannying & cleaning req'd, hours & pay neg; all exp. paid. Apply to: robinrudgley@hotmail.com

**LOCAL RESTAURANT** looking for kitchen help. Seeking dishwashers and line cooks. Please email resume and wage expectations to wstcoastchef1@hotmail.com attention Chef.

**SALT SPRING INN LTD.** requires experienced prep cook. Resumes in person please. 131 Lower Ganges Rd.

**SEACHANGE SAVOURIES** is creating a new management position. This job requires excellent communication and management skills. Successful applicant will be experienced with both Macs and PCs, Excel, Word, and databases (preferably FileMaker), and will be able to perform basic technical support tasks. Daytime hours Monday to Thursday at SeaChange on Salt Spring Island, starting wage \$18.00/hr. Send resumes to: nicki@seachangesavouries.ca (no hyphen).

### INFORMATION

### HELP WANTED

**STORE MANAGER-** Home Building Centre, Salmon Arm. Must have retail store experience in a building centre environment. Reply to Box #6 c/o The Morning Star 4407 25th Avenue, Vernon, BC V1T 1P5 or email resume to john.kehler@hbcvernon.ca

### HOME CARE/SUPPORT

**ARE YOU** a senior who needs help at home? Experienced live-in caregivers available for senior, disabled or child care. \$1350/month for 40 hours/ week. Pacific Live-in Caregivers 250-616-2346 www.pacificcaregivers.com

### MEDICAL/DENTAL

#### RN'S & PN'S REQUIRED AS INSTRUCTORS

Sprott-Shaw Community College is currently seeking RNs and PNs to teach in our health care programs at our Courtenay and Nanaimo campuses. Areas of work could include: instructing classroom courses, supervising nursing arts labs, supervising clinical and practical environments.

Requirements:  
• Registered Nurse or  
• Practical nurse (Active registration required for Clinical work)  
• Demonstrated ability to work as part of a team  
• preferred:

Sprott-Shaw Community College is an accredited private post-secondary institution training over 4000 students per year. We offer a competitive package & excellent team work environment.

Please fax cover letters, resumes and copies of your credentials to  
**Lana H. at:**  
250-897-1889 or email to lanah@sprott-shaw.com

### WORK WANTED

**COMPLETE GARDEN** maintenance, Fruit tree pruning. 15 yrs. exp. Call Doug 250-653-9292.

**JOURNEYMAN CARPENTER** Contractor available. Additions, renovations, solariums, sun decks, concrete work. Quality experience and integrity. Jim Anderson 250-537-0779. References.

### PERSONAL SERVICES

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**MAKE YOUR** Resolution a reality! And, your first 15lbs are FREE. Look great. Feel great. Lose weight. Guaranteed. Call Herbal Magic 1-800-926-4363. Limited time offer.

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**DEBT CONSOLIDATION** Program. Helping Canadians repay debts, reduce or eliminate interest, regardless of your credit. Steady Income? You may qualify for instant help. Considering Bankruptcy? Call 1-877-220-3328 FREE Consultation Government Approved, BBB Member.

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**YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR CLASSIFIEDS**  
Call 310.3535

### INFORMATION

### PERSONAL SERVICES

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

**Cut Your Debt**  
by up to 70%

**DEBT FORGIVENESS PROGRAM**  
Avoid Bankruptcy, Stops Creditor Calls. Much Lower Payments at 0% Interest. We work for YOU, not your creditors.  
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**\$ NEED Money** \$ Do you have a locked in pension plan from an ex-employer (LIRA) or (LIF)? 3 easy ways to help. Call 1-866-341-3274.

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Serving the Gulf Islands  
Salt Spring, Galiano,  
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345 Rainbow Road

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**LET'S GET STARTED!**

Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.

**PLEASE CALL**  
**HELSET DESIGN**  
250-537-1037 & ask for Jim

### HAULING AND SALVAGE

#### STRONG WOMAN HAULING

Attn: SaltSpring Island residents, contractors & managers! I will sort, load and haul away. Construction/reno debris, tenant leftovers, household garbage, brush, yard waste. Look for the new PINK one ton/ WCB est. 1993

**Vanessa**  
250-538-8985  
Love Hauling!

### RECYCLING

**SALT SPRING** Island Recycle Depot is located at 349 Rainbow Rd. We are open Tues. through Sat., 10am to 5pm. This service is operated by Salt Spring Island Community Services. Please call the Recycle Depot at 537-1200, or Community Services at 537-9971 for information on materials accepted for recycling.

### PETS

### PETS

**FREE TO** suitable, loving home, two female pygmy goats. Approx. 10 y.o. 250-537-8976.

### REAL ESTATE

### COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

**BUILDING SALE!**... Priced to sell! Canadian manufacturer since 1980. Final Clearance! Special sizes. 20X24, 25X30, 30X40, 35X50, 40X60, 48X90, 50X110, 60X150. Others! Pioneer Steel Manufacturers, 1-800-668-5422.

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### REAL ESTATE SERVICES

**REAL ESTATE** listings for the Gulf Islands are viewable anywhere in the world with internet access. www.gulfislandsrealestate.ca

### RENTALS

### COTTAGES

**NEWLY RENO** Vesuvius bach sep ent, nr bus, quiet area. NS \$575 incl util. 250-537-0008.

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR RENT

**NOW ONLY 2** sites avail. on acreage close to Ganges with services, bring your trailer or RV. \$400 & \$600 + hydro. 250-537-2650 lv. message.

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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.

**LARGE 1 BDRM**, long term apartment near Ganges. \$850 incl util, Avail. Jan 1. 250-653-9898.

**RENOVATED 2 BDRM**, garden, quite acre, Vesuvius, NS, long term \$1100 plus util. 250-537-8393.

**SUNNY, CENTRAL** 1 bdrm & loft designer cabin (#4-750 Lower Ganges). Avail Jan 1 for long term. N/S, N/P, \$900. 250-537-4579.

### OTHER AREAS

### RENTALS

### SEASONAL ACCOMMODATION

**ACCOMMODATION INFO** for the Gulf Islands is a mouse-click away: www.gulfislandstourism.com

### SHARED ACCOMMODATION

**FURN. ROOM** in large 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath home. Close to shopping, cinema, ferry, ADSL, cable, phone, W/D. \$600. Ref's req. 250-538-6254.

### SUITES, LOWER

**1 BDRM** ground level suite. Own entry, W/D, satellite. \$700 all util's incl. Suits one person. 250-537-2949 or email: lsokol@saltspring.com

### WANTED TO RENT

**MATURE BC** Ferries employee needs a neat room/bachelor suite, with separate entrance, long term, starting Jan 1, 09. 778-558-5328.

### TRANSPORTATION

### AUTO FINANCING

**\$0 DOWN** at auto credit fast. Need a vehicle? Good or Bad credit call Stephanie 1-877-792-0599 www.autocreditfast.ca. \$500 Free Christmas Cash with purchase. OAC. DLN 30309.



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### OTHER AREAS

**warm MEXICO WINTERS**  
www.RealtySanMiguel.com

**Run it 'til it sells. \$24.99**  
Run your classified ad in The Driftwood 'til it sells!  
All ads appear on-line at:  
gulfislandsdriftwood.com and bcclassified.com  
Your private party (merchandise) classified ad will run in our next 4 insertions • If you need to modify the ad or run it again, just call us and we'll run it again for another 4 insertions • Extra lines at 1/2 price • Please, no more than 3 items, call to remove an item.

**Find what you need, sell what you don't.**  
**Salt Spring "New to You"**  
Merchandise ads with items totalling less than \$200 receive a 50% discount with your Residents Card.  
Deadline 10 am Tuesday for Wednesday paper, 4 pm Wednesday for Friday paper.

### ANTIQUES/VINTAGE

**NEW TO YOU** Find what you need and sell what you don't, in the Driftwood New to You classified section. For private party merchandise ads that total a value of less than \$200, use your Chamber of Commerce Residents Card and save 50% off the price of your ad. 250-537-9933. classified@gulfislands.net

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For all your building requirements, large or small!

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**FREE - ONE** dozen white Corelle cups and saucers 250-537-1577.

### FRIENDLY FRANK

**GOLDSTAR** MICROWAVE/convection oven, white, good condition, large capacity 221/2"wx18"dx15h. \$100. Also GE white microwave oven, in box, like new. \$50. 250-538-1944.

### Who reads us?

88% of Islanders read the Driftwood each week.  
-Combase survey

### FUEL/FIREWOOD

**FIREWOOD**  
SPRING SPECIAL  
CUT, SPLIT & DELIVERED  
Standing timber & logs wanted  
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FIREWOOD  
GUARANTEED CORD  
Cut, Split & delivered  
Cedar Fence Rails  
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**LIONS GARAGE SALE:** CLOSED Dec. 13 - Jan. 7. Thank you for your patronage!

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**HOT TUB (SPA) COVERS.** Best price. Best quality. All shapes & colours available. 1-866-652-6837 www.theoverguy.com

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**FIND IT! SELL IT!** Find what you need and sell what you don't - in the Driftwood Classifieds. For private party merchandise ads that total a value of less than \$200, use your Chamber of Commerce Residents Card and save 50% off the price of your ad. 250.537.9933, classified@gulfislands.net

**\*\*HOME PHONE** Reconnect\*\* Call 1-866-287-1348. Prepaid Long Distance Specials! Feature Package Specials! Referral Program! Don't be without a home phone. Call to Connect NOW! 1-866-287-1348.

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**29 STRING** Celtic harp with soft case \$700. Olds Tenor Saxophone \$500. 537-5139.

**Run it 'til it sells. \$24.99**  
Run your classified ad in The Driftwood 'til it sells!  
All ads appear on-line at:  
gulfislandsdriftwood.com and bcclassified.com  
Your private party (merchandise) classified ad will run in our next 4 insertions • If you need to modify the ad or run it again, just call us and we'll run it again for another 4 insertions • Extra lines at 1/2 price • Please, no more than 3 items, call to remove an item.

# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

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TUESDAY 10 AM

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TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION

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**2005 SMART CAR;** Cheap and Cheerful Diesel; Passion Model; 33,000kms; One Persnickety Female Owner; All maintenance records from North Shore Mercedes Benz Dealership; A/C; Heated Seats; Rear De-fogger; Keyless Entry; Alarm System; Bose Music System/CD; Fantastic Inexpensive Island Car. Grey Interior/Black with Grey Exterior. \$10,500. Kemble96@telus.net

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**SCRAP BATTERIES** Wanted We buy scrap batteries from cars, trucks & heavy equipment. \$2.00 - \$12.00/each. Free pick-up anywhere in BC, Minimum 10. Toll Free 1.877.334.2288.

**SCRAP BATTERIES** Wanted We buy scrap batteries from cars, trucks & heavy equipment. \$2.00 - \$12.00/each. Free pick-up anywhere in BC, Minimum 10. Toll Free 1.877.334.2288.

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SIMPLY SALT SPRING

**GULF ISLANDS** Optical. 50% refund on the cost of your eye test when you purchase a full set of frames & lenses. At the Lancer Bldg. **NEW IN:** "Clie" magnetic reading glasses (as seen on CSI) Clearance Sale: Selected Sunglasses \$10, Readers \$10, Prescription Frames \$35. 250-537-2648.

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

**RESIDENTS CARD SPECIAL** For private party merchandise ads that total a value of less than \$200, use your Chamber of Commerce Residents Card and save 50% off the price of your ad. 250.537.9933, classified@gulfislands.net. Find what you need and sell what you don't - in the Driftwood Classifieds.

**THE WARDROBE** Take an additional 30% OFF EVERYTHING! Natural fibre clothing from India/Thailand Full line by "Om Grown". Tie-dye, bags, scarves, & accessories. Shell, wood, stone & silver jewellery. 107 Morning-side Rd, Fulford. Open daily 11-5. Closed Jan 11-Feb 11.

## This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor  
www.sunstarastrlogy.com  
sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com 1.888.352.2936

**ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 20)**  
You will be on the march to strengthen your position in the world early this year. Obtaining new skills, tools and techniques is on your mind. Drawing upon past performances and successes in your public and professional life will prove extra important. You are determined to ascend to new heights and will take a pragmatic and serious approach.

**TAURUS (APR 20 - MAY 21)**  
Balancing a big picture perspective with the details for the sake of meeting the future with greater awareness and preparedness is on your mind. You realize that if you want to advance, and you do, you will have to be seriously committed to education and training. Changes in your self, home and lifestyle in general are implied.

**GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN 21)**  
The freedom you seek are bringing about endings and vice versa. You are in a take-command mood and this will continue for several months. Ironically, you must surrender to do what you feel you must. You are now in the middle of an important turn in the road that will lead you to new horizons; it is unlikely that you will return. Even if it hurts, trust your feelings.

**CANCER (JUN 22 - JUL 22)**  
Changes invariably affect the status quo of our relationships. This is likely to be the case. You may wonder who you are at this stage of your journey. The time has come to lay claim to hidden treasures. You are required to face certain fears. This may include saying important things to key people. Don't try to say it right, just speak your truth as you feel it. Yet, do commit to new ways of relating.

**LEO (JUL 23 - AUG 23)**  
Your focus is sharp and your tone is serious. In order to build and strengthen your foundation, it is important that you focus deliberately. Reputation does matter. How are you presenting yourself? Is there room for improvement? Do you want to obtain new tools and methods? Commit to improving your expressions. Take practical and realistic action, early in the game.

**VIRGO (AUG 24 - SEP 22)**  
New levels of power are on the rise for you. You are in the mood to bring forth a series of new angles of expression of your personal power. This includes better methods and to exploring new territory. Be patient with your progress. How can you know where you will need to improve if you do not first try and even fail? Begin it now!

**LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22)**  
When the going gets tough, you get going. Not

one to back down or to fight, unless absolutely necessary, you may feel challenged to find the right words. Yet, you are in a take command mood. With a revolutionary spirit, the time has come to embrace the changes needed. Meet one task and challenge at a time, gaining confidence with each victory, but not overconfidence.

**SCORPIO (OCT 23 - NOV 21)**  
If ever there was a time to open your heart and mind, this may well be it. Don't let pride get the better of you, yet do honour your individual needs. Outline the pros and cons on paper so they don't just tumble around in your head and cause stress. Start your list with what you feel you need, both practically and emotionally and then what you want. Get out of your minds way and follow your heart.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22 - DEC 21)**  
For the sake of the future, the time has come to build upon new foundations. Whatever your situation, you can do it. Be willing to give yet also ask for what you feel you need and want and for help getting it. Be willing to move on and don't look back. Sometimes it is more important to make New Year resolutions and stick to them. "God helps those who help themselves."

**CAPRICORN (DEC 22 - JAN 19)**  
Your focus will be extra strong and sober as the New Year begins. Amidst the celebrations, you are in the mood to advance your forces. The time has come to speak your mind. No more Mr. Nice Guy. Your sights will be sharp and your ambitions strong. All the while, you will want to present a more pleasing image. Iron fist, velvet glove - an old yet effective philosophy.

**AQUARIUS (JAN 20 - FEB 19)**  
Ah the opportunities for inward retreat at this dark, mysterious and magical time of year. Yet, maintaining a positive attitude can be extra challenging at this time. The simple depravity of sunshine can cause depression. The light of knowledge can be the key to inspiring illuminations and extra important to and for you now. Learn to love, accept and embrace more deeply and more fully.

**PISCES (FEB 20 - MAR 20)**  
Making new connections implies letting go of old associations. This may be occurring socially but also mentally as well, without and within. A metamorphosis of your consciousness is underway. This may prove challenging unless you are willing to cooperate with the process. You are also about to enter an expansive cycle. Avoid resistance or it could be your waist line that expands. Work with the process for success.

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HOMES FOR RENT

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Property Management Ltd. & Real Estate Services

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N/S, N/P, avail. Feb 1, 2009, long term...\$1100

**2 Bedroom Town House,**  
2 1/2 baths propane insert, hardwood floors, dishwasher, like new, close to town, N/S, N/P, avail. immed.....\$1350

**3 Bedroom Lake View Home,**  
2 1/2 baths, hardwood floors, furnished, washer/dryer, woodstove, live in cat, includes hydro, water, & local phone, N/S, N/P, avail. January and February.....\$1500

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Master Suite plus 3 additional bedrooms, large kitchen, all appliances, extensive decks with hot tub, N/S, N/P, long term avail. immed.....\$1900

**Beautiful Waterfront High End Home,**  
3 bedrooms plus loft, 4 baths, indoor pool, private dock, N/S, N/P, avail. immediately.....\$2700

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DECEMBER 14, 2009  
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BOOTH BAY FRONTAGE  
WOOD STVE/ELECT  
WORKSHOP/GARAGE  
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2 BDRM 1 BTHRM  
4 APPL OCEANFRONT  
CEDAR PRE FAB COTTAGE  
ELECT/WOOD HEAT  
LOW BANK ACCESS  
NS NP \$1700. + UTIL  
NORTH END 127253

3 BDRM 2.5 BTHRM  
STRATA ADULT COMM  
4 APPL FIREPLACE  
LEASE ASSIGNMENT  
NS NP 1425 + UTIL  
MID ISLAND 105674

LARGE OCEANFRONT  
FULFORD HARBOUR VIEW  
2 BDRM 2.5 BTHRM  
OFFICE AREA/ MEDIA RM  
ELECT HEAT MTH 2 MTH  
NS NP \$1800. + UTIL  
SOUTH END 123973

2 BDRM 1 BTHRM  
UPPER LEVEL SUITE  
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4 APPL ON BUS ROUTE  
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LWR LEVEL APT  
LARGE STUDIO SETTING  
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MID ISLAND 90959

3 BDRM 1 BTHRM  
4 APPL W/CHAIR ACCESS  
ELECT/WOOD HEAT  
CEDAR PRE FAB COTTAGE  
OCEANFRONT HIGH BANK  
NS NP \$1675. + UTIL NORTH END 127254

1 BDRM 1 BTHRM  
AVAIL UNTIL 1 MAY  
4 APPL LAKE VIEW  
ACREAGE  
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OCEANFRONT COTTAGE  
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2 BDRM 2 BTHRM  
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Run your classified ad in The Driftwood 'til it sells!  
All ads appear on-line at: gulfislandsdriftwood.com and bcclassified.com  
Your private party (merchandise) classified ad will run in our next 4 insertions • If you need to modify the ad or run it again, just call us and we'll run it again for another 4 insertions • Extra lines at 1/2 price • Please, no more than 3 items, call to remove an item.

**You Asked**  
Gulf Islanders' quandaries -- resolved.  
www.gulfislands.net/wordpress  
a new Q&A column and blog by Driftwood reporter Amy Geddes. See the column on page 26.  
DON'T MISS A POST  
Sign up for e-mail notification of new posts. Follow instructions on the blog.  
WANTED: Your questions about Gulf Islands life. Email ageddes@gulfislands.net or fill out the question form on the blog.  
Driftwood

# Don't trash that Christmas wrap: recycle or reinvent it



**Q. Does the Salt Spring Recycling Depot take wrapping paper?**

**-J.S., Salt Spring Island**

**A.** After the presents have been opened, it can be frightening to stand back and survey the unwrapping

aftermath. The cat is in his glory, stalking Christmas guests from beneath his new maze of paper tunnels, but to you, the piles of potential landfill waste is unsettling.

We all know the story, J.S., and I think

other islanders are also hoping our local depot takes the stuff.

Good news, the Salt Spring Island Recycling Depot confirms it does take wrapping paper, but only those truly made of a paper product.

Heavy foil-type gift wrap or those containing plastics are not accepted because they can cause problems during the recycling process.

The same goes for ribbons and bows, so these are not accepted either.

The ability of recycling plants to harvest the paper from the so-called wrapping "paper" is complicated by the fact that foil and plastic are often layered or woven into the gift wrap.

To identify a true "paper" wrapping, Salt Spring Recycling Island Depot manager Peter Grant offers a tip: if it's paper, it will tear, he says.

If non-recyclable materials are tossed into the bins, the depot could end up incurring a sorting fee, so check with staff on duty if you are unsure.

Grant said he pulled out "miles of ribbon" from bins at the depot on Tuesday alone.

The obvious moral of the Christmas wrap conundrum is to quit using store-bought wrapping paper.

You can always count on receiving wrapped gifts from others, thus creative courses of action are handy.

*Here are some other tips for what to do with your leftover wrapping:*

- shred it and use for stuffing and packing or as "fluff" in gift



PHOTOS.COM

Christmas wrap—there are many different ways to deal with it, other than tossing it in the garbage.

**You can always count on receiving wrapped gifts from others, thus creative courses of action are handy.**



Amy Geddes

## YOU ASKED

READ THE BLOG AT [WWW.GULFISLANDS.NET/WORDPRESS](http://WWW.GULFISLANDS.NET/WORDPRESS)

bags and gift boxes next year

- save for next year's gift tags and cards
- put gift wrap in a frame or wrap old paint canvases, wood blocks or old wall art and display for New Year's or as seasonal decor next year
- kids' art projects (i.e. paper snowflakes,

clothes for paper dolls, paper mache)

- cut into squares and try your hand at origami

• iron it on a low setting (paper only) and use it for scrapbook backgrounds

- make book covers or bookmarks

Visit the blog for step-by-step instructions on how to make some of the above or to add your own suggestions for wrap reuse.

See the Salt Spring Recycling Depot ad on Page 9 for holiday hours of operation.

## Here's my card...

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FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION CONTACT:

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