

50th
Anniversary
1960 - 2010



Education Week
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Young at Heart
INSIDE



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, March 17, 2010 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 50TH YEAR — ISSUE 11 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

COURT

Island man enters guilty plea in knife attack

Kitchen knife used in throat slashing

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

“You have to come over, something terrible has happened,” Simon Teskey told his mother in a telephone call only moments after a March 2009 drug deal took a turn for the worse.

Teskey was in Ganges Provincial Court last week facing charges of attempted murder and aggravated assault stemming from an incident in which Crown counsel said he used a “ridiculously big French chef’s knife” to slash the neck of an acquaintance who had come to collect a \$200 drug debt.

Court heard that Teskey, 30, had been partying off and on with the victim and three other island residents since the previous day when the early afternoon incident took place at Teskey’s Bullcock Creek Road cabin on March 20.

It was revealed that the partygoers had been drinking and using cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy and Ketamine (a tranquilizer/painkiller used in veterinary procedures) throughout the night preceding the attack.

Justice Adrian Brooks accepted Teskey’s guilty

COURT continued on A2

DEATHS

Former resident killed in motorcycle accident

Island friends remember Sandra Hunter’s life

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring residents are mourning the death of Sandra Patricia Hunter, a former long-time resident of the island who was killed in a motorcycle accident last week.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

MADE-UP: Trinity Forbes is transformed into this Avatar-like creature by make-up artist Fiona Kennedy (see “before” photo on Page 27). Kennedy was demonstrating her skill at the Salt Spring Craft Bazaar on Saturday.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Province recognizes Murakami generosity

Richard Murakami one of 45 B.C. Community Achievement Award winners

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

At this rate, the province’s Lieutenant Governor should just hand over the house keys.

Less than a year after Salt Spring’s Richard Murakami visited Victoria’s Government House to meet the Emperor and Empress of Japan, he’s been asked to come down and make yet another appearance.

This time around, Murakami and 44 other British Columbia Community Achievement Award winners will be celebrated as the guests of honour during an April 28 gala.

“You’re kidding,” Murakami said upon hearing the news at his collision repair shop on Tuesday morning. “I guess I’ll have to spray my shoes with a spray bomb to shine them up again.”

Murakami said he’ll dust off his suit and attend the ceremony even if it means having to take another big trip off the island.

An announcement by the British Columbia Achievement Foundation states Murakami was selected as a result of his “selfless acts of generosity, large and small.”

“Richard supports youth, the hospital foundation, the Heiwa Peace Park and most significantly, and the initiative that will affect the com-

MURAKAMI continued on A7

Hunter first came to Salt Spring from Ontario around 20 years ago, said Cherie Geauvreau, who remembers hiring the young woman as a short-order cook for the Fulford Inn pub.

Friends remember Hunter as a vibrant character with many artistic talents, a gardener who loved animals and a proponent of social justice. “She was a fiery social and environmental activist,” said Wendi Gilson.

She noted Hunter had lived in India as a child

and was the young mother of a daughter when she moved here.

Geauvreau recalls Hunter as being one of the six founding members of SWOVA as well as an original member of Salt Spring’s marimba band and of Samba du Soleil.

“She was a fabulous painter, she was a poet, she could write, she could sing and I’ll never

HUNTER continued on A7

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INDEX

Arts.....	A15	Ferry Schedule.....	A32
Bus Schedule.....	A4	Letters.....	A9
Classifieds.....	A35	Sports.....	A32
Editorial.....	A8	What’s On.....	A16

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NEWSBEAT

MEDIA NEWS

Best in Canada: three in a row for Driftwood

Newspaper earns 12 awards in 50th anniversary year

The Gulf Islands Driftwood has topped its circulation category in a Canada-wide newspaper competition for the third year in a row.

Results from the Better Newspapers Competition of the Canadian Community Newspapers Association were released Monday, with Driftwood winning first place in the 4,000 to 6,499 circulation class in a field of 26 papers from across the country.

"The staff at the Driftwood produce the best newspaper we can each and every week for our readers and advertisers and we couldn't do so

without their support," said publisher Peter McCully on Monday. "To be recognized by our peers in the industry is just icing on the cake."

The paper also earned second-place awards for editorial page, front page, special section (Aqua magazine) and its Owners' Manual in-house ad campaign. Support for the island's Residents' Card promotion earned a third-place community service award.

Awards are distributed at the AGM and conference of the CCNA in Toronto in mid-May.

The Driftwood is also a top-three finalist in six categories for this year's B.C. and Yukon Community Newspapers Association Ma Murray Awards, including best all-around paper.

BCYCNA regulations

regarding paid versus free newspapers place the Driftwood, with a circulation of 4,004, in the 6,001 to 12,000 circulation category for competition purposes.

Last year it finished second, behind the Whistler Question paper.

Also in the finalist round for 2010 awards are the Derrick Lundy Retrospective (special section), Aqua magazine (special publication), John Cameron's tiny baseball player photo (sports photo), Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island (for photo essay) and the Driftwood Owners' Manual ad campaign (newspaper promotion).

First, second and third-place awards are announced at a BCYCNA gala event in Richmond on April 10.

The Gulf Islands Driftwood

celebrates its 50th birthday on Wednesday, March 24. Next week's paper will include a special supplement featuring top stories and content from every year since 1960.

Driftwood staff have been working hard on the project and encourage readers to pick one up when it hits the streets.

Everyone is also invited to an open house celebration in the ArtSpring gallery space on Friday, March 26, with historic displays related to the past 50 years from both the newspaper and organizations and businesses dating back to 1960 or earlier.

Post your comment to this story online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Who reads us?

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

Aggravated assault guilty plea

COURT

continued from A1

plea to aggravated assault midway through Wednesday's trial based on a joint submission from Crown counsel and defence counsel John Green.

Teskey's lawyer maintained that his client had acted in self-defence based on fears that his acquaintance's efforts to reclaim the debt would turn violent.

Compounding matters was the victim's discovery, earlier that morning, that Teskey had "become intimate" with a woman who happened to be in a "romantic relationship" with the victim.

"[Teskey] was having a hard time understanding why the situation had deteriorated," said lawyer Green, noting that his client had unknowingly formed the third corner of a drug-fuelled lovers' triangle.

Immediately after the incident, the victim fled the scene and made his way to a friend's house before being driven to the Lady Minto Hospital. He was

treated for a six-centimetre laceration extending towards his throat from the left side of his neck.

According to a medical report presented to the court, the injury came within millimetres of penetrating the victim's left carotid artery, something that would have undoubtedly caused the victim to bleed to death on site.

One full year after the incident, the victim reports continued psychological and physiological effects from the incident.

Police arrested Teskey "with blood on his hands" later that afternoon after receiving reports of the injury from Lady Minto Hospital staff and a "suspicious" 9-1-1 call from Teskey's residence.

Teskey and his female guest had set to work on cleaning up his blood-splattered kitchen when police arrived.

"This mess is a cautionary tale of what can go wrong when you get mixed up with this kind of atrocious behaviour," said Teskey's lawyer.

Since the incident, Teskey has kept himself drug free thanks to a residential treatment program and strong family support.

Conditions of Teskey's sentence require that he attend further counselling as requested by his supervisor, seek employment or attend school, refrain from alcohol and drugs, and not travel to Salt Spring Island.

Justice Brooks called Teskey's acceptance of responsibility for the incident "critically important" and a major factor behind the judgement.

"He's intelligent and well-educated except he's wasted the past 10 years of his life," said Brooks of the accused.

"That he is drug and alcohol free is a significant accomplishment."

He issued a stay of proceedings to the charge of attempted murder.

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Newsbeat

Heads up!

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GAMING GRANTS

Funding seesaw shifts gaming grant balance

Adult-oriented arts and sports groups declared ineligible

BY SEAN MCINTYRE

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The prospect of no more gaming grants for Salt Spring's Graffiti Theatre brings with it a whole lot more drama than the Salt Spring-based theatre group cares to handle.

"We have the money for this year, but if we don't have that gaming money this time next year, we're in trouble," said Amanda Spottiswoode, Graffiti's executive director.

The \$18,000 of provincial funding Graffiti Theatre received for each of the past three years represents half of the group's overall annual budget. Finding ways to keep Graffiti rolling, Spottiswoode said, will mean relying solely on local business owners, individual donors and box office revenue.

Graffiti has always had great support from local businesses, but is hoping that individual donors will come forward with some sustainable funding that will enable the programming they've developed over the past 14 years to continue.

Graffiti was among several island groups declared ineligible for gaming grant funding when the provincial budget was delivered in Victoria on March 2.

According to the 2010-11 budget, the province has elected to redirect funds from adult-oriented sports, arts and recreation initiatives to more youth-based programs.

Public safety groups, human social services groups and public health programs are all eligible for the upcoming grant cycle. Grants to daycares, preschools, fairs, festivals and museums will decrease by 50 per cent.

Salt Spring Island groups received slightly less than \$200,000 in funding from gaming grants in 2008-09. Approximately 63 per cent of those funds went to adult-oriented arts, sports, recreation and public safety groups.

Grants range from \$670 received by Phoenix Elementary School to \$84,610 awarded to Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue Society.

In spite of the government's priority shift, the total amount of gaming grant revenue for 2010 increased to \$120 million from 2009's \$113 million. The province's projected deficit for the coming fiscal year is anticipated to reach \$1.7 billion.

According to figures compiled by the province, approximately 6,000 groups benefited from the gaming grant program last year.

Proposed cuts to theatre groups in the 2008-09 budget sparked a province-wide outcry that eventually led the government to reconsider its decision.

This year, Spottiswoode has yet to hear much protest.

Before the curtain is fully drawn on provincial gaming grants, Spottiswoode said, she's prepared to argue that Graffiti Theatre's significant youth component makes it eligible to receive funding under the new conditions.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Amanda Spottiswoode, Graffiti Theatre's executive director, hopes gaming grant cutbacks for community theatre groups won't mean more empty stages.

2009-10 Gaming Grants

Tuned Air Choral Society, \$12,000

Graffiti Theatre, \$18,000

Our Island, Our World Film Festival, \$2,300

Salt Spring Search and Rescue, \$84,610

Bandemonium Music Society, \$7,000

"Theatre groups that are youth-based will still be funded and we've always had a youth element," she said. "We do have a history and I think I can make that case."

For those who can't play the youth card, the province has established the Sports and Arts Legacy Fund to help pick up a portion of the funding slack. The new fund will provide upwards of \$60 million in funding to arts and sports groups over the next three years.

Whereas that may come in handy to groups like the Our Island, Our World Film Festival, Bandemonium Music Society or Tuned Air Choral Society, it won't help former grant

recipients like the Island's Natural Wildlife Care Centre.

Last year's cuts put serious pressure on the volunteer-driven facility's ability to treat and care for up to 600 animals per year.

"For us to miss this money for two years in a row is pretty devastating," said founder Jeff Lederman. "[The province] has completely cut out the environment again and this is after the 'green' Olympics."

To help make it through another year, Lederman has hired a fundraising consultant to establish more ways of raising money. Expanding his centre's donor base beyond the Gulf Islands, he said, is essential for the facility's long-term future.

In the meantime, he said, the centre is ready to proceed with another busy season of wildlife rescues.

"Doing the job is the easy part," he said. "I'm hoping we can get some good input about our [fundraising] options."

Provincial gaming grants are made available each year to applicants through the Ministry of Housing and Social Development. More information about the application process and eligibility requirements is available on the ministry's website.

News briefs

Experience card replaces prepaid paper tickets

BC Ferries is reminding passengers still using prepaid paper tickets that March 31 is the deadline for their final use.

The ferry corporation said in press material it has been working towards replacing paper tickets with its BC Ferries Experience Card since successfully intro-

ducing the program in 2008.

Customers can continue to transfer their prepaid ticket values onto the electronic payment cards up until the March 31 deadline.

After April 1, however, the paper tickets will hold no monetary value.

Minor routes without computerized point of sale systems will continue to sell and redeem prepaid paper tickets. These include Mill Bay-Brentwood Bay, Langdale-Gambier Island-Keats

Island, Denman Island-Hornby Island and Quadra Island-Cortes Island.

Halalt blockade over in Cowichan

A two-week blockade of Chemainus Road on the Halalt reserve ended last Wednesday after band elders were satisfied with a meeting held in Victoria with Aboriginal Relations Minis-

ter George Abbott.

Following negotiations, an aquifer water-management agreement was reached between the Halalt First Nation and North Cowichan council, according to the Cowichan News Leader-Pictorial.

The blockade was initiated to draw attention to the Halalt peoples' concerns about their water source.

The action inconvenienced travellers heading to the Crofton ferry dock if they were unaware of the road closure.

FOR THE RECORD

- Trustee George Ehring did vote in favour of amended Bylaw 433 regarding a Mount Maxwell property at the March 4 LTC meeting, contrary to a report in last week's Driftwood.

- Bob Elsea actually paid out \$3,775 in total to a fence builder to build a 775-foot fence on his Dukes Road property, not the \$3,000/100-foot fence reported in a March 10 story.

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NEWSBEAT

PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

HOOPSTERS:

Amanda Kimmel, with Zailaya Kimmel-Dashwood, sells Hoopnautic Hula Hoops at the Salt Spring Island Craft Bazaar at Mahon Hall.



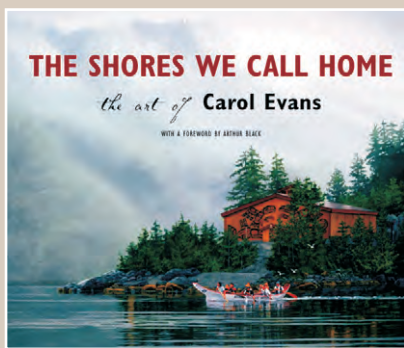
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BC FERRIES

Criminal charges laid in 2006 Queen of the North sinking

Near collision report also released

The B.C. Attorney-General's department announced Tuesday that charges of criminal negligence causing death have been laid in connection with the March 22, 2006 sinking of the Queen of the North ferry.

BC Ferries navigating officer Karl Lilgert faces the charges since he was the navigating

officer in charge of the vessel when it ran into Gil Island and sank while en route from Prince Rupert to Port Hardy. Two people died.

In related BC Ferries news, data compiled at the request of the Vancouver Sun newspaper found five near collisions for BC Ferries in 2009, the same number reported in 2008.

A story published in the Sun on March 14 cites four incidents in which BC Ferries vessels had

close calls with fishing vessels. An additional incident involved a pleasure craft.

Two of the near collisions occurred in Active Pass and one near the dock at Swartz Bay. Lambert Channel between Hornby and Denman islands, and at Tsawwassen were the locations of the remaining two incidents.

BC Ferries spokesperson Deborah Marshall is quoted as defining near collisions as "any time you need to take action."

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- Shawnigan Lake & oceanview home **\$1,390,000**
- North Trail Island, private 33 acre island, **\$3,900,000**



NEWSBEAT

CONSUMER FRAUD

Local businesswoman reimbursed a bit for invention-promotion scam

Jana Roerick still intends to pursue Shell Mate idea

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A cheque that appeared from the blue has redressed a small portion of the time and money invested in a fraudulent company by local businesswoman Jana Roerick.

Roerick, owner of Jana's Bake Shop, became the unknowing victim of a scam shortly after she moved to Salt Spring in 2003.

She responded to an advertisement in the Driftwood's classified section for Davison Design and Development, Inc., a company that offered to promote inventions.

Roerick happened to have an invention in development for the Shell Mate.

The device replaces the unwieldy combinations of foil and loose beans that bakers typically use to blind-bake



Jana Roerick

crusts for cream pies.

"I answered the ad and they called back promptly, so I was quite excited," said Roerick.

She recalls giving the company a prototype of her design as well as photos and paperwork pursuant to getting the Shell Mate into product development. Her experience did not cause her any concern, since the company even

provided its own research on whether a similar product was already on the market.

Over the course of a year, Roerick was in regular contact with a Davison representative, during which time she also invested funds into the project. At last, however, the promotion firm requested a larger contribution than she was willing to give.

"There came a time when they asked for a large sum of money as an investment. As soon as I said I'm not interested anymore, the lines of communication fell off," Roerick said.

Roerick requested the firm return her correspondence, but all she received was the Shell Mate prototype. That was the last she heard of the matter until she received a cheque from the U.S.A.'s Federal Trade Commission.

"Last year I received a cheque for about \$15 and realized this was a scam after all," Roerick said.

She recently received a

second cheque for \$20.03, with an attached letter from the FTC.

The letter explains the FTC settled a lawsuit on behalf of consumers against Davison Design and Development.

"According to the FTC, the defendants enticed consumers with false claims about their invention promotion operation," the letter states.

It continues: "Subsequently, the settlements required the defendants to pay the FTC monies to reimburse certain consumers."

Although Roerick said the two cheques represent only "a drop in the bucket" of what she actually invested, she's happy to receive validation that the development company was in the wrong.

Now she is ready to get back on track with developing the Shell Mate for the cookware market.

Roerick is also working with a local publisher on a Jana's Bake Shop cookbook set for release this summer.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

New transportation manager named

Commission seeks volunteers

Long-time Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission chair Bob Fenske has been named the group's new manager of transportation operations.

"Bob has worked tirelessly and we all appreciate his efforts," said Jean Taylor, who becomes the commission's new chair.

Fenske's prior experience as chair, she said, makes him

a valuable asset as manager. The decision was made official by the Capital Regional District on Monday.

The position is funded through the CRD.

Fenske stepped down as chair ahead of the commission's March meeting.

Taylor said the creation of the manager position underscores the commission's growth and the significance of transit-related issues to Salt Springers.

Fenske will be responsible for establishing operating

programs, objectives, procedures and priorities through the creation of a long-term strategic plan.

These duties include looking at transit service expansion and the development of a more pedestrian and cyclist-friendly Ganges.

With a big year ahead, Taylor said, the commission seeks two additional volunteers.

"We always hope to get strong candidates and we've been very fortunate so far," she said. "Community folks with an interest in transit

and transportation will enjoy working with this cooperative, motivated group."

The board's current membership includes newcomers Nomi Lyonns, Andrew Haigh and Janice Harkley, as well as veterans Garth Hendren, Nigel Deyner and Harold Swirenga.

Orientation information is available for all prospective applicants.

For more information about volunteering, contact the commission at 250-931-1372.

ENVIRONMENT

Fruit trees at mercy of "wacky" weather

Orchardist concerned about warm-cold swing

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An unusually warm spring could play havoc with apples and other tree fruit crops, says Salt Spring farmer Harry Burton.

The owner of Apple Luscious Organic Orchard at Beaver Point and organizer of the island's annual Apple Festival, Burton has observed very early budding of spring plants compared to those that occurred during more regular weather patterns in 2008.

In an email circulated March 1, Burton reported that dandelions flowered around March 15 in 2008, compared to Feb. 4 this year. Similarly, daffodils appeared on March 10 in 2008 and this year came out on Feb. 22.

As an apple farmer, Burton is naturally most concerned about how this year's weather will affect his crops — and it's the apples he said appear "most out of whack."

According to Burton, almond

and apricot trees are normally the earliest to flower in March, followed by plums around the first of April.

Early-producing Gravenstein apples typically start blossoming on the island around May 1, but this year Burton is already seeing swelling fruit buds.

An earlier than usual season will not in itself harm the fruit, but extreme changes in the weather could cause potential damage.

Burton warned that if the temperature goes lower than -2 C, nascent fruit buds could freeze and be destroyed.

A weather station at GISS reported a drop in temperature of -2 on Tuesday, March 9, but fortunately the apple buds did not freeze then, Burton said.

"We are okay — we didn't freeze because of that so we are still holding on," Burton said Monday.

Burton said trees growing in the island's higher elevations might have been affected by the shift in weather, but also may have been less advanced in their growing season and therefore will be in less danger if a freeze occurred.

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Islands Trust

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BOARD OF VARIANCE
APPOINTMENTS

The Islands Trust is inviting applications for three (3) positions on a new Board of Variance for the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area.

The Board of Variance has the authority to permit minor variances from, or exceptions to, land use bylaw regulations in instances where it deems compliance with the bylaw would entail undue hardship; and also to permit alterations or additions to non-conforming uses.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Variance, please submit a written expression of interest, specifying your background in any or all of the following areas:

- Previous experience as a member of a Board of Variance
- Experience on a local government council, board, local trust committee, commission or other body
- Experience with other volunteer boards, commissions or committees
- Experience and credentials in a planning, design or related profession
- Experience and credentials in a building or design trade
- Educational background
- Length of residency in the local trust area
- Any other related experience, education or comments

The positions are not paid, but all legitimate expenses will be reimbursed.

Please direct any questions, or send your expression of interest listing your related experience, by March 29, 2010 to:

Pauline Brazier, Deputy Secretary

Islands Trust

1-500 Lower Ganges Road

Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8

Tel: (250) 538-5606 or Fax: (250) 537-9116

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MAR	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT
	m	ft	m	ft
17	00:22	1.7	02:07	2.4
WE	06:35	3.1	07:25	3.1
	12:58	1.3	14:47	0.8
	19:41	2.8	22:53	2.9
18	00:54	2.0	02:54	2.6
TH	06:51	3.1	07:44	2.9
	13:30	1.1	15:35	0.7
	20:38	2.9	00:14	3.0
19	01:28	2.2	04:00	2.8
FR	07:07	3.1	08:07	3.0
	14:06	0.9	16:30	0.7
	21:40	2.9	01:31	3.1
			05:45	2.9
			08:38	2.9
			17:33	0.7

NEWSBEAT

EDUCATION OPTIONS

Late French Immersion info night explains School District 64 program

Time for interested families to explore requirements

For students and parents interested in French Immersion education in School District 64, the first door in the process opens next week.

Next Wednesday, March 24 sees an information evening held for families of all students currently in Grade 5 held at the library of Salt Spring Island Middle School beginning at 7 p.m.

The information session give parents and students better insight into the structure and requirements of the program, with administrators, teachers and students answering any questions people may have.

The program is dubbed "Late" French Immersion because it begins in Grade 6, rather than Kindergarten or Grade 1 like some other programs.

In grades 6 through 8 in the local program, 80 to 85 per cent of core subjects are taught in French. In Grade 9, three subjects — French, Social Studies and Math

— are delivered in French, and for Grade 10 the Math in the trio is replaced with Planning, French and Social Studies are the two subjects in Grade 11, with French the sole course in Grade 12.

Program application forms are available at the information evening or can be picked up in the main office of Salt Spring Middle School.

"This application form is a segue into a thoughtful discussion that we encourage parents to have with their child," explains GISS French Immersion teacher Ann Donahue.

"It is the start of a significant commitment of the next seven years for the whole family, as the student progresses from Grade 6 to 12. The motivation for choosing to be in the French Immersion program must be examined and weighed carefully."

Completed forms must be returned prior to the deadline to Salt Spring Middle School. They will be dated and numbered in the order that they are received. If the number of applications exceeds the num-

ber of places available, parents will be notified and informed of the selection process.

Finally, once staffing levels are known, usually in early June, applicants receive placement information.

Students who successfully complete the whole program from Grades 6-12 and the French Immersion Provincial Exam are awarded a B.C. Bilingual Dogwood certificate. It is widely recognized as an indication that these students have attained a high level of fluency in French and may pursue post-secondary studies in French as well as work in a French setting.

"Many of our former students have continued on to study languages in university, work in an international setting or in a bilingual setting in Canada," said Donahue. "Some have even become French teachers."

For more information about School District 64's Late French Immersion program, see the article and student's letter in this week's Driftwood B section, which is our annual Education Week supplement on Gulf Islands schools.

Tourist avoids impaired driving conviction

Lawyer identifies technicality

A man holidaying on Salt Spring Island dodged an impaired driving charge after establishing that his arresting officer had insufficient grounds to obtain a blood-alcohol reading in an incident dating back nearly two years.

Bruce Atherton was driving back to his room at a north-end bed and breakfast at 1 a.m. on May 19, 2008 when he stopped to ask the driver of a parked police car for directions.

That driver happened to be an on-duty Salt Spring RCMP officer who asked the lost visitor to submit to a roadside screening test.

Court heard that the officer's request was based on a strong odour of liquor coming from the lost driver.

Atherton's lawyer successfully argued that, even though his client failed the roadside screening test, the more than two hours between the initial meeting and the blood test undertaken at the RCMP detachment rendered the evidence inadmissible.

According to the Criminal Code of Canada, breath and blood samples can only be obtained when an arresting offi-

COURTDOCKET

cer "believes on reasonable and probable grounds that a person is committing, or at any time within the preceding two hours, has committed [...] an offence."

Given that samples were taken at the station after 3 a.m., defence lawyer Robert Claus argued the RCMP no longer had grounds to ask that a blood sample be provided.

Midway through the trial, Justice Adrian Brooks accepted a joint-submission from Crown and defence counsels based on the accused's guilty plea to driving without reasonable consideration.

Atherton will have to pay a \$400 fine and is prohibited from driving for two months.

In other court news, a 37-year-old Salt Spring man won't be able to drive for one year and has to pay \$2,000 in fines after pleading guilty to impaired driving and refusing to provide a breath sample in an event from July 3, 2009.

Court heard that officers on patrol outside Moby's Pub at 2 a.m. observed a vehicle driven by Paul Briand swerve across Upper Ganges Road as it left the premises.

Officers on duty had noticed Briand and

several friends waiting outside the bar for an opportunity to leave the area undetected by police. According to the officers' report, the group showed signs of intoxication and appeared to be waiting for officers to clear the scene before departing.

When stopped by police, court heard that Briand "displayed hostility" and ignored multiple requests for a breath sample.

A woman charged after officers caught her trying to back her car out of a ditch pleaded guilty to driving while impaired during her appearance at Ganges Provincial Court on Wednesday.

Aslan Sinclair, 28, will have to pay a \$1,250 fine, face a one-year driving prohibition and enroll in some form of alcohol counselling program as a result of her guilty plea.

After police detected an odour of alcohol and Sinclair failed a roadside screening device, she was taken to the RCMP detachment and provided blood-alcohol samples of 0.240 and 0.230.

Justice Adrian Brooks commended Sinclair's early plea and her success at keeping sober for nearly two months.

"I'm sure you appreciate that you could have killed somebody, possibly even yourself," he said.

SALT SPRING ISLAND TRANSIT SYSTEM Riders Guide

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 28, 2009 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

2 Fulford Harbour

Monday - Saturday

Visitor Info	Cushman Lake Rd.	Burgoyne Bay Rd.	Park 'N' Ride, Fulford Inn	Fulford Harbour	Fulford Harbour	Park 'N' Ride, Fulford Inn	Burgoyne Bay Rd.	Cushman Lake Rd.	Visitor Info
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					5 Fernwood				
Monday - Saturday					Monday - Saturday				
Visitor Info	Portlock Park	Vesuvius	Vesuvius	Portlock Park	Visitor Info	Ganges	Fernwood Dock	Visitor Info	Ganges
M-F 6:30	6:37	6:45	6:57	7:03	7:10	10:30	10:43	11:00	
8:30	8:37	8:45	8:57	9:03	9:10	2:30	2:43	3:00	
12:10	12:17	12:25	12:40	12:46	12:53	6:05c	6:38	6:53	
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.

www.bctransit.com
BUS INFORMATION
250-538-4282

4 Long Harbour			1 Ganges Local				
Monday - Saturday			Monday - Saturday				
Visitor Info	Long Harbour	Visitor Info	Visitor Info	D	H	C	Visitor Info
M-F 1:15	1:25	1:35	8:05	8:08	8:11	8:15	8:22
SAT 1:50	2:00	2:10	10:05	10:08	10:11	10:15	10:22
M-S 3:00	3:10	3:20	12:55	12:58	1:01	1:05	1:12
2:10	2:13	2:16	2:20	2:23	2:26	2:29	2:32
4:05	4:08	4:11	4:15	4:18	4:21	4:24	4:27
6:05	6:08	6:11	6:15c				

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.
SAT Trip operates Saturday only.
M-S Trip operates Monday to Saturday.
c - Combined route: Continues as 3 Vesuvius & 5 Fernwood. Drop off only at Brinkworthy Place.

FIRE PROTECTION

Fire district survey survey fuels long-range planning

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Results of a recently released Fire Underwriters' Survey indicate the Salt Spring Island Fire District has maintained an acceptable rating, but that long-term action is needed to improve service even more.

"Although improvements have been made to the fire protective services in the SSIFD since the last Fire Underwriters Survey, a change to the [ranking] cannot be made until improvements are made to the water

supplies, in addition to changes to the fire department," reads part of the 95-page document.

Chief Tom Bremner said one of the department's top priorities over the coming year will be to increase the physical area to which water can be effectively and efficiently delivered.

The survey suggests improvements could be made to the department's response reliability, fire station functionality, training facilities and water supply coverage.

The report reiterated the need

to deal with finding a suitable new location for the aging Ganges Fire Hall and recognized the department's ongoing efforts to find a new site.

"Hall number one is outdated and quickly becoming a major concern," Bremner said.

Longer-range projects will require the fire department to work alongside island water districts and local government bodies to increase the number of adequate fire hydrants serving the island.

Because much of the island's

waterworks infrastructure was built for domestic purposes, many of the systems fall short of meeting modern firefighting standards.

The Fire Underwriters' Survey is conducted for fire insurance grading and classification purposes. Specific recommendations will be addressed in the protection district's upcoming revised 10-year strategic plan, slated for release later in the spring. The full survey can be viewed online at www.saltspringfire.com.

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NEWSBEAT

FUNDRAISERS

Cops: moustaches for monkeybars

Daycare playground fundraiser

A group of officers at the island's RCMP detachment hopes they've embarked on a fundraising campaign that will grow on islanders.

After more than 30 years of operation, the Salt Spring Island Daycare and Preschool will soon be packing up and moving to a new home on Drake Road.

Fundraising efforts, a "grandfather of all windfalls" and much-hoped-for grant money will help ease the transition into the preschool's new digs with the exception of one very important element — the playground.

Daycare board member and RCMP detachment clerk Loretta Rithaler said a basic no-frills playground set can cost anywhere between \$10,000 and \$30,000.

"They're really expensive and what this will do will be start," Rithaler said. "We are continuing to raise funds to reach our goal."

To help complete the daycare project, officers Kent Emery and Bran-



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Salt Spring RCMP constables Kent Emery, left, and Brandon Smith show off the burgeoning moustaches they're growing as part of a fundraiser for Salt Spring Island Daycare playground equipment. Islanders can donate to the cause at the RCMP station. If the two men collect at least \$1,000, Sgt. Danny Willis pledges to shave off his 29-year-old, trademark moustache.

don Smith have agreed to set the razors aside and grow their moustaches until the end of March.

As an added incen-

tive, Emery said, Sgt. Danny Willis has agreed to shave his very own 29-year-old moustache if the officers can raise \$1,000.

Pledge forms and more information about the daycare playground project can be obtained at the island's RCMP detach-

ment on Lower Ganges Road.

Tax receipts for donations of more than \$25 can be provided.

Province honours SSI's Richard Murakami

MURAKAMI

continued from A1

community for years to come, he donated land for the construction of a recently completed 27-unit affordable social housing project," reads part of the official announcement.

Award recipients are chosen based on nominations submitted to an advisory council comprising municipal politicians

from across the province.

The recipients of the 2010 British Columbia Community Achievement Awards will be recognized at a formal presentation ceremony. Winners will receive a certificate and a medallion designed by artist Robert Davidson. This is the seventh consecutive year the awards have been presented.

"Together, British Columbians build a stronger province, and in the midst of these

demanding times, we gather confidence from those in our province who consistently and honourably create safe, caring and vital communities," said Premier Gordon Campbell during Tuesday's announcement. "I applaud the outstanding contribution these individuals have made to regions throughout British Columbia and their commitment to making our province the best place on earth."

The British Columbia Achievement Foundation is an independent foundation established and endowed by the province to recognize and celebrate excellence in the arts, humanities, enterprise and community service.

Post your comment to this story online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Island friends look to hold April potluck in memory of Hunter

HUNTER

continued from A1

get her laughter," Geauvreau said. "Sandy has affected a lot of people in her life and lived life to the fullest."

Her outdoor pursuits included sailing, dragon boat racing, riding horses and motorcycles. She worked as a computer programmer in Victoria and travelled between Vancouver Island and Salt Spring for the past few years.

Hunter was riding her motorcycle in Mill Bay when she was hit by a car turning left from the Trans Canada Highway onto Kilmalu Road on Monday, March 8. She died the following day of her injuries at Victoria General Hospital.

Hunter's friends in Duncan are organizing a motorcycle ride in her honour for Saturday, March 27. On Salt Spring, a memorial potluck is being organized by Geauvreau for Sunday, April 11 from noon until 4 p.m. at Lions Hall. Friends are urged to bring food, stories and art work.

"Knowing Sandy, the marimba band will probably even play," said Geauvreau.

Hunter leaves behind a 24-year-old daughter and a three-year-old grandson in Duncan. She was 50.

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 GOLD - Ad Design Award, Under 25,000, Collaborative "Cardino's" / SILVER - Best All-Round Newspaper, Category C
2009 BC and Yukon Community Newspapers Association Awards



EDITORIAL

Big Iron's big lesson

Avalanche country may be a long way from the placid shores of Salt Spring Island, but the impact of the weekend deaths of two people at the Big Iron snowmobiling event near Revelstoke stands to reverberate across the province.

In the days immediately following Saturday's mammoth snow slide, calls came out to think up legislation that could prevent a similar tragedy from occurring again. By midweek, talk of criminal charges against event organizers was making headlines in newspapers across the province.

A quick look at what goes on at your average Big Iron event indicates this isn't the kind of thing participants are likely to try on a whim.

The extreme high-marking event involves snowmobilers riding their machines as far up a slope as possible, then usually falling off and rolling down the mountainside.

THE ISSUE:
Backcountry regulation

WE SAY:
A great yet impossible solution

The event takes place among mountains renowned around the world for deep powder and steep slopes, elements that also make the region prone to monster avalanches.

What's more, the Canadian Avalanche Association posted and broadcasted multiple avalanche bulletins stating that risks were at an all-season high for nearly a week prior to the event.

For some, it seems that's not enough to get the message out. It hasn't been in the past and it won't be in the future.

The province was already set to implement a much-needed licensing system for off-road vehicles sometime in 2011, but this weekend's tragedy has encouraged it to take a closer look at ways to reduce the number of avalanche-related deaths in B.C.'s backcountry.

The province's solicitor general has mused about the closure of backcountry areas and the levying of fines to people who ignore warning signs.

For a provincial government that's posted a less-than-stellar record in the management and maintenance of recreation areas in its own provincial parks system, it's worth asking who will be out there chasing adrenaline-infused snowmobilers across the vastness of the British Columbian wilderness, how perpetrators will be brought to justice, who will be left with the bill, and how, ultimately, this will lower the province's number of avalanche-related deaths.

In the end, we'll all be shortchanged and commonsense will still come out the loser.



Community ready to grow together

BY SHOSHANAH RAY

On Saturday, March 6, an amazing thing happened. Over 100 people from all over this island came together and talked about growing more food locally.

"Let's Grow More Food" was an opportunity for people to meet, share needs and opportunities, and build connections. The feeling in Mahon Hall was one of deep concern, excitement and solidarity. The high energy was due to the fact that the challenge of how to feed ourselves locally is also an opportunity to grow more together as a community.

Looking around the circle, we could clearly see how our vision of a more food self-reliant community might be possible. Sixteen people in that room have fruit trees needing harvesting.

Twice as many people have land to share as those who need land. Here is a couple in their 80s, wishing for help maintaining the acres of good soil and trees they've cultivated for years. There is a woman with lots of growing experience, who doesn't have the space to do it. All of this potential, just waiting for connections to be made!

The open space format invited people to answer the question "How can we grow more food?" There were 19 suggestions that were enthusiastically explored by 15 dialogue groups. The groups shared ideas and came up with plans and next steps, including: wild edible foraging workshops; creating a growing networking website; classes in preserving and storing harvests; creating seasonal celebrations and rituals to honour our Earth; finding ways to promote and protect compost; and figuring out a system to distribute (share/barter/sell) any excess food people produce.

A particular need was made evident by who was missing. About three-quarters of the people in the room were three-

VIEWPOINT

The feeling ... was one of deep concern, excitement and solidarity.

quarters of their way through life. We need more young people growing food. Farming without chemicals and petroleum is hard work, and it doesn't pay that great — we need to create supports for young, idealistic people to take that on. Without more and affordable housing we are stuck — where could we house willing workers?

People had creative solutions to the labour shortage: getting kids involved through volunteer credits; creating a calendar of volunteer work days at local farms and gardens; scheduling "crop mobs" to help get big projects done; and putting together the resources and tools to make new growing opportunities for young people without a lot of capital. A hopeful sign is that many people expressed an interest in investing in the purchase of community farmland or starting community-supported agriculture where people pay a sum in the spring for a share of the produce of the farm over the growing season.

Let's Grow More Food was the start of a community conversation concerning our self-reliance — a conversation that will continue to grow and which requires every mind and voice in order to create a truly sustainable island.

We started and ended by holding hands in a circle, creating a space where everyone has an equal opportunity to lead and participate. We felt the potential to accomplish anything we set our minds on. This is the gift of community — so let's grow together!

Contact letsgrowaltspring@gmail.com to get involved with projects that came out of the March 6 event. One tool that may be of interest to readers is www.saltspring.sharingbackyards.com — a map for posting land or garden space needed or to share. A follow-up meeting is planned for March 27.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you watching the Paralympic Games?

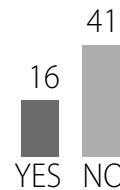
Yes No

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you without a family physician at present?



Driftwood

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IslandVoices

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"I guess I'll have to spray my shoes with a spray bomb to shine them up again."

RICHARD MURAKAMI, ON RECEIPT OF LATEST HONOUR

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What elective would you add to the GISS curriculum?



ALLIE GEORGE

Take photography classes on more field trips. Get some field experience and bring in a guest speaker.



BEN BARTER

More freedom to design your course.



RUDY GUMMESON

A parkour [art of moving] course.



DEENA WHITCUTT

More personal-choice selections. More student-driven electives.



NADEEN WHITCUTT

Have a choir course during school hours.

Letters to the editor

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

Difference? Go figure

On the front page of last week's Driftwood was a story about an office building already constructed on Kings Lane. Zoned for two physicians, the owners were asking for a zoning amendment to accommodate five. George Ehring and Trust members approved it unanimously.

On the second page was a story about a carport constructed on Castillou Way seeking Trust approval for a highways setback (already approved by the highway department).

George Ehring denied the application, he said, because "if we were to issue development variance permits on the grounds that the building is already there, we may as well take the island's land-use bylaw and use it to light the fire."

Well, George, make sure you apply for a burning permit before you torch it.

My variance permit application cost me \$750 and that is what I will light my next fire with.

BRIAN LITTLE,
CASTILLOU WAY

Don't throw the poor overboard

I used to have an ex-brother in law. I don't anymore, he died recently.

He wasn't important nor did he try to be. He was a hard and steady worker by day and a hard and steady drinker by night. I do not fault him for that. Some fall into that trap early and are happy with who they are despite the handicap. When you work all day and drink all night there is never any savings, usually no home or the "normal" family life. In

short, you wouldn't like it, but it happens, everywhere. Here too.

Despite that and being a total wildman on many occasions he had lots of friends who loved him sincerely because that's what he was, sincere. He was loud, he was loco, and yet he was honest and solid. He was a part of our community. As he got older he worked more off-island, returning regularly to be with his dad and friends. This was his happiness.

Had life gone differently for him, he may have been your neighbour that you could go to for help and company. There was to be no home for him and in the end his home was the sea.

Finally as the recent storm roared into Fulford Harbour he was seen on deck dragging anchor in five-foot seas at 3:30 in the morning trying to save what passed for his home, an old troller that sank.

Dave Barnard died that night.

In last week's Driftwood, I read that the islands trustees are researching a bylaw that would restrict liveaboards. Jonathan Yardley had written to the Trust urging for a bylaw for Fulford Harbour and Burgoyne Bay. Trustee Ehring was quoted as saying, "We are not intending to simply move people elsewhere in the Gulf Islands." I am wondering if he would clarify his remark for us next week?

I interpret this statement as there will be no liveaboards anywhere in the Trust domain. I would remind the trustees that these are everyone's islands, not a chosen few. The trustees are mandated to preserve and protect our unique community and lifestyles for all of us, and that includes poor people who may, because of circumstance, lifestyle or desire, find themselves

only able to afford to "live-aboard."

The trustees are claiming to be concerned about low-income and homeless people having shelter, yet are ready to toss the poor overboard. I urge them to listen to all on this issue — not just a few.

DREW CLARKE,
MOUNT BELCHER

Roof water's a solution

Congratulations to Mike Larmour for the two-part series on water problems facing Salt Spring Island with its increasing population. (Feb. 24 and March 3 Driftwoods.) I believe this is a complex subject that most of us would rather not think about.

On the other hand, there may be some solutions that require thinking "outside the box." The box or boxes in this case include every building on this island:

houses, barns, condominiums — every building with a roof.

The rain from all of our roofs amounts to many hundreds of thousands of gallons per year of relatively clean water that is wasted. Some of us are already storing rain water from roof catchment to water gardens and orchards on a small scale. But this potentially huge resource is generally neglected.

There are many possibilities that could be explored. For instance, we could encourage the owners of new buildings, perhaps with some financial incentives, to include a design that would collect, filter and store rain water.

If this situation wasn't so serious, it would be comical!
GEOFF CUE,
DEER RUN,
VESUVIUS

MORE LETTERS continued on A10

Appeasing the gods of 'Nogoodnik' one way to survive

This week we find ourselves in one of the more eventful periods in the calendar year. During the span of March 14-20, we will have passed through four major annual commemorations.

We will have begun this topsy-turvy week with our annual one-hour deposit into the Bank of Daylight Savings. Hopefully, we can stave off environmental foreclosure and keep the earth going for at least another six months so we can redeem our hourly investment at face value in the fall.

The week will end with the first day of spring or the vernal equinox. This is the exact time when the hours of daylight equal the hours of darkness. For those living in the northern hemisphere, the equinox heralds the transition from winter to summer (except for some of us on the Fulford end of Salt Spring who must still endure a couple more months of long nights and darkness).

Sandwiched in between these two dates are the ominous Ides of March on the 15th, followed a couple of days later by the ever-green St. Patrick's Day.

The Ides of March is probably best known for being the day Julius Caesar (Emperor of Rome and founder of Orange Julius Inc.) was assassinated in 44 B.C. His dying words, "et tu, Brute" (Latin for "just a little bit lower and a titch to the left"), form probably one of the most memorable quotes in all of history. Sharing the same date of obituary are a number of other notables

ranging from Pope Lucius II (1145) all the way to the former Commissioner of Major League Baseball, Bowie Kuhn (2007).

For many centuries now, the Ides of March has been associated with supernatural phenomena causing global calamities and disasters. Earthquakes, hurricanes, epidemics and plagues have purportedly chosen this day in history to do their nefarious destructive handiwork.

Personally, I have found that the best way to avoid personal mutilation and demise on the Ides of March is to take a proactive stance. Instead of waiting for a tree to fall on my dome or the earth to open up and swallow my unsuspecting remains, I begin each March 15 by deliberately stubbing my big toe against a very large rock or concrete wall. This action seems to appease the gods of "Nogoodnik," and they allow me to stick around for yet another year. The fact that I'm able to write these words now is testament to the effectiveness of this strategy.

This brings us to the fourth of the special days we celebrate this week in March: St. Patrick's Day. As everyone probably knows, St. Paddy is the patron saint of Ireland. Most people associate him with parades, green beer, the shamrock, green beer, corned beef, green beer, cabbage and, of course,



Shilo Zylbergold

NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

green beer. Ah, but there's so much more to the legend of St. Paddy than a cold pint of emerald Guinness (although that in itself would have been enough reason to celebrate the man).

There are a number of surprises to be found when researching the life of this fifth-century saint. Perhaps most astonishing is the realization that the man himself was actually a hated Englishman. He was captured as a lad of 14 by Irish raiders prowling the English coastline and taken back to Ireland as a slave. He spent the next six years of his life in bondage before escaping from his tormentors and making his way back to England.

You would think from his previous experience on the Emerald Isle that St. Paddy would have struck Ireland off his list of preferred vacation destinations. Such, however, was not the case. On direct orders from none other than Pope St. Celestine 1, St. Patrick was entrusted to return to Ireland to minister to the flock so they would abandon their pagan beliefs and embrace Christianity.

This brings us to the most often repeated myth about St. Paddy: that he rid Ireland of snakes. While it is true that there are virtually no serpents to be found anywhere on the island except in public zoos and working in the offices of lawyers, none of

the credit can go to St. Paddy. In fact, scientists have determined there have been no snakes in Ireland since the last Ice Age, approximately 15,000 years ago.

Historians now agree that the snake myth is actually a metaphor for the various pagan beliefs that dominated fifth-century Ireland. Because the snake was seen as a powerful symbol of paganism, it is understandable how the banishment of snakes from Irish shores came to represent the abolishment of all non-Christian practices.

Another legend or myth associated with St. Paddy revolves around the wooden walking stick (Ash of Patrick) he carried with him while preaching the Gospel. Apparently, during one of his sermons in Aspatia, he thrust his stick into the ground to make a point. It took so long for his evangelising message to get through to the mystified gatherers that the stick actually took root. We've probably all had days like that.

St. Paddy died on March 17, 460, and his body is enshrined in Down Cathedral, in Downpatrick in County Down. As inspiring as his life's work may seem, one still has to wonder how effective it actually has been.

St. Patrick's mission was to unify Ireland and bring its people together in the nurturing fold of the Christian faith. Judging by recent Irish history, perhaps he should have brought more snakes with him.

thyme2001@hotmail.com

OPINION

Remembering Sandra Hunter who died last week

BY TANYA LESTER

When I learned over the weekend that Sandra Hunter, former Salt Spring Island resident, died early last week in a vehicle accident near where she most recently lived in Duncan, I was shocked.

I knew right away, though, what the writer on the Salt Spring community list online was referring to when she alluded to Sandra dying while she was doing what she loved.

She had been riding her motorcycle. Along with dragon-boat racing, riding her bike was a great passion for Sandra.

I met Sandra for the first time about a decade ago during the protest against the Texada land owners who were clear-cutting the trees in the south end.

I was working as a Driftwood reporter and covered the story often as it unfolded.

Sandra was among those courageous people who camped on Texada land in opposition to what they were doing to our island's

environment.

I interviewed her more than once and was impressed with what an articulate spokesperson Sandra was.

Once when she phoned, I think she realized I was struggling to sort through my memory bank to remember just who she was (this happens often because I associate with so many different people in all the various things I am involved in).

Sandra cut to the chase. "I'm the one with the bald head," she said. Whenever she referred to her follicle-free head, this always made me smile.

There was something so refreshingly honest about how she owned what, no doubt, everyone thought about her when they first met her. I always admired how she crowned her head with such groovy caps.

She was not one to shrink away from people because of her somewhat different appearance. It just would not have fit her dynamite, larger-than-life Scorpion (astro-

logical sign) personality.

One adventure Sandra shared with me occurred when I decided to go on the Caravan to Cuba. She knew little about the Caravan and its annual journey in protest against the U.S. embargo against Cuba, but with the soul of a true social activist, Sandra quickly embraced this cause when I explained what it was about.

She very generously volunteered to drive me and many boxes of aid for Cuba to the Peace Arch border crossing in her van where I would join the bus caravan.

I still have on file the photos she took of me. We had a blast going over to the mainland, singing along at the top of our lungs with the Motown tunes blaring out of her sound system. This was Sandra.

Yes, she had deep-felt political views but she also had the ability to get maximum enjoyment out of the moment despite the serious aspects of any activist event.

... she also had the ability to get maximum enjoyment out of the moment despite the serious aspects of any activist event.

Three years ago, Sandra moved over to Duncan to be with her daughter who gave birth to her grandson.

I heard little from her after that except occasionally on Facebook. In November, she and friends planned a 50th birthday party for her.

I could not go and I emailed her to say that having just returned from Europe, I needed to make some money doing readings on Pender Island that day. I did men-

tion how wonderful life had been for me in my 50s has been so far.

Of course, now I know Sandra was not destined to live into her 50s.

But of course I strongly believe she will remain with us in spirit.

Early last week, I woke up from a dream that puzzled me. In the dream, I saw a tall, thin woman. I thought, she looked familiar but I could not place her. I now believe the universe was showing me Sandra's spirit as she ascended into the light of the afterlife.

There are other things I remember about Sandra. These things are too personal to mention but, Sandra, the sisterhood will always remember these things that happened to you as well.

We will continue to struggle for positive change.

May the Goddess be with your spirit always, Sandra.

The writer is a Salt Spring tea-leaf reader and workshop leader, freelance writer and author.

Riding for peace 25 years ago and waiting for justice

BY R.G. O'NEILL

Twenty-five years ago I belonged to a cycling organization, The Toronto Randonneurs.

This organization stemmed from an original hiking club that took up serious cycling journeys worldwide.

So one year after Terry Fox tried to run across Canada, we cycled from Victoria to Toronto for peace. We named ourselves Cyclists For Peace.

Our sign was the established peace sign, then a popular emblem.

Before our start we cycled to Terry Fox's gravesite to pay him our respects, along with the then mayor of Vancouver.

Recently there was a news item that another disabled person with an artificial leg also once ran the

INDEPTH

distance to raise donations for cancer research to the tune of \$14 million.

A section of the Victoria waterfront is named after him, but is now in dispute over some of his more questionable activities.

Whereas we cycled for "peace," not dollars and cents, his cause is just as genuine if he did in fact raise that amount exclusively for cancer research.

Our cause did not bring about "world peace" as yet, much as cancer is still our human prime fatal disease. So we still have a way to go for both objectives.

When we cycled across Canada I was a mere 56 years of age.

Now at 80 I've slowed down

a tad, and in good weather still cycle a few k's.

I even have a battery-assisted EV bike if regular cycling here on Salt Spring Island gets too strenuous!

But I have to admit I also drive a low-gas-mileage automobile when the necessity arises.

Well, at 80 I may as well continue, since at 82 my licence needs renewal and that may be more difficult than I imagine, as the testing is now tending to get us "old fogies" back on the buses.

However, life continues and they now estimate we seniors have a good life, living as we do with basic pensions at least enabling us to live on the established "poverty level" of \$1,460 a month, as long as we do not pay more than a third of that in rent, if we don't already live in some sort of pala-

tial residence or seniors abode.

I thank my lucky stars that I do not have to live on the streets.

I recently had occasion to have to go close to the courtyard of the Open Door to witness the spectacle of the homeless and disenfranchised who use the facilities therein.

It was dismal to watch and see what circumstances this unfortunate population of Canada's destitute, for whatever reason, endures.

So, to conclude, I suppose it will still be some time before we achieve a society that promises "from each according to ability and to each according to need," particularly when one considers that the wealthy top richest CEOs grabbed \$730 million in 2008.

One example is that Thomas Glocer, CEO of media giant Thom-

son Reuters, took home \$36.5 million in 2008 to top the list of executives.

These are only the top 100 executive officers in Canada, whose personal average was a mere \$7.3 million.

Here I quote: "To put it in perspective, Canadians will work full-time throughout the year to earn the national average of \$42,305, when the top CEOs pocket that amount by 1:01 p.m. on Jan. 4 — the first working day of the year."

I rest my case.

Maybe my children's children will be as fortunate if they can dump these top-of-the-list crooks who manipulate our daily lives, and take that power away and give it back to the ordinary people.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Be Part of Your Community!

Islands Trust **Apply To Join an Advisory Committee**

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee seeks advice from, and taps into the expertise of residents wishing to work on advisory committees. As community leaders and volunteers, we value your time and your ability to contribute.

The Committee is now receiving applications from interested community members to fill vacant positions on its four advisory committees;

- Advisory Planning Commission
- Advisory Design Panel
- Advisory Environment Committee
- Advisory Agriculture Committee

All applicants must be electors of the Local Trust community and residents of the Salt Spring Island Local Trust area. These appointments are for a 2-year term and may be extended further.

Citizens interested in participating in any of these committees are invited to apply in writing. Applications will be received up to March 29, 2010 and must include a statement of interest, relevant experience, qualifications, and identification of which committee(s) you wish to be a member of, and should be addressed to:

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE, ISLANDS TRUST
1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8

Further information regarding the roles and responsibilities of advisory committee members as well as an application form may be obtained at the Islands Trust office, by email request through ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca or on the Islands Trust website at www.islandstrust.bc.ca/lc/ss/default.cfm. We can also be reached at 250-537-9144.

MORE LETTERS

continued from A9

All in favour

Last week's article headlined "LTC approves 'model' housing solution" mistakenly reports that I voted against the bylaw to rezone a property jointly owned by Axel Dollheiser and Damien Barstead to create an affordable housing unit.

The article correctly notes that I do not think it was appropriate to ask the applicant to sign a letter indicating a willingness to enter into a hypothetical housing agreement without knowing the terms of any such agreement.

However, after the LTC voted 2-1 to require that provision, I voted in favour of the amended bylaw and it passed unanimously.

GEORGE EHRLING,
LOCAL TRUSTEE

French speakers wanted

Connecting Generations is looking for French-speaking adults who would like to have conversations with students in the French Immersion Program (Grades 11 and 12) at GISS.

Whether you are an artist, a musician, a writer or involved in media, sciences or sports, the opportunity for youth to have a conversation with you in French would enrich

their knowledge of the language and culture.

If you speak French and have interests, skills or life experiences you would like to share with youth, please contact Sarah Hook-Nilsson at shooknilsson@sd64.bc.ca or leave me a message at the high school 250-537-9944.

SARAH HOOK-NILSSON,
CONNECTING GENERATIONS PROJECT, GISS

Reproductive barrenhood

It is very pleasant to sit and play bridge on a Saturday afternoon, but to play to raise funds to destroy what God has given to us as a loving gift, an amazing gift such as a child, is beyond my comprehension. ("Fundraiser provides crucial service" Viewpoint, March 3 Driftwood.)

The very act of contraception is destroying that gift. One person, who has been denied the right to live, is regarded as having no value.

As an 84-year-old fetus I thank my parents for giving me the right to live and enjoy the beautiful things life has in store for us.

Reproductive technology, which denies the right to life, should be named "reproductive barrenhood."

RUTH D. LISTON,
SALT SPRING WAY

MORE LETTERS continued on A12

OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

HOME BUYER: Lisa Cherneff stands at a dock in Ganges as her new house is barged in by Nickel Bros behind her.

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Public needs to be informed about selling of Canada Post

BY DENIS LEMELIN

Canada Post is not being sold to the private sector just yet, but the Crown corporation is in the midst of selling the public on its view of today and its vision for the future.

This vision includes some privatization and more post office closures.

In recent months, Canada Post has been featured in news stories that paint a picture of a post office in need of a major tune-up.

The corporation has been telling anyone who will listen that volumes and revenues are down, in part due to the recession.

According to senior management, business is difficult. The post office faces increased competition from electronic communication and its machines and plants need to be upgraded and repaired.

Any vision of our public post office's future should be good for the public, not sell it short.

Not to worry — Canada Post says it has a plan to deal with its challenges. The problem is it needs the federal government's support to fully succeed.

For a start, the corporation is modernizing our post office by investing \$2.5 billion in new plants, vehicles, equipment and other items.

It expects to save millions annually from modernization, largely through productivity gains that pave the way for management to eliminate thousands of jobs in communities across the country.

It is also making cuts to service (e.g. closing post offices, removing rural home delivery) and argues that it must do much more to reduce operating costs. This is where the government comes in.

The corporation wants the federal government to

INDEPTH

reconsider its moratorium on rural post office closures, even though the Conservatives recently announced they would be maintaining this moratorium.

Canada Post has also asked the Conservatives to approve an employee share ownership plan. The corporation believes workers would be more engaged and productive if they owned shares. It ignores the fact that such a move would partially privatize Canada Post.

If shares are sold or given to anyone, even employees, our post office would be expected to make profits to satisfy shareholders.

Its focus would be profits, not providing service to the public.

For the record, the corporation is not opposed to deregulating our post office either, but it would like to modernize first. A recent review of Canada Post found there is virtually no support for postal deregulation.

Canada Post has also asked the government to appoint a third party to review its contract with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW).

It wants this person to identify changes that would make the contract more "competitive," which is code for cutting labour costs.

It wants the government to show support for these changes.

It appears postal workers are being set up to be one of the problems that must be solved if Canada Post is to meet future challenges. In fact, CUPW members have worked hard at improving postal service and being part of the solution to post office problems.

CUPW understands that our public post office faces challenges, but it has a different view of what they are and a different vision of how to meet them.

Instead of simply asking "How do we revamp the post office?" the union thinks senior postal managers should be asking "What is the best way to keep our universal,

financially-sound, service-oriented public post office?"

A few suggestions for a better postal future follow:

Add revenue-generating banking services to postal outlets in communities that do not have banks.

Get the government to improve Canada Post's financial future by not reintroducing Bill C-44.

Thankfully, Bill C-44 died when Parliament was prorogued. This bill would have partially deregulated our post office by removing international letters from Canada Post's exclusive privilege to handle letters.

It is the exclusive privilege that allows our post office to generate the money it needs to provide postal service to everyone, no matter where they live.

Urge the government to reject an employee share ownership program at Canada Post.

Urge the government to stop taking dividends from Canada Post.

The money the government siphons off in dividends should be invested in preserving and improving public postal service.

The government waived dividends for 2008. This is a good start.

Don't impose solutions on postal unions and their members. Imposed solutions usually fail to solve underlying problems. Let free collective bargaining work.

Insist that Canada Post use the money it saves from modernizing our post office to preserve jobs, keep public post offices open, continue rural mail box delivery, extend door-to-door delivery and take other measures that allow the public and postal workers to share in the benefits of modernization.

Any vision of our public post office's future should be good for the public, not sell it short.

You can get information on CUPW's vision of the post office at www.cupw-sttp.org.

The writer is national president of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers.



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SEE PAGE A22 FOR DETAILS

OPINION

Taxes should be for peace, not war

BY JAN SLAKOV

For those who object to war and militarism, is it morally acceptable that they should pay, through their taxes, for others to go to war?

Members of a Canadian peace group called Conscience Canada answer "no" to that question and their cause has been taken up by many parliamentarians over the years. Bill C-390, which would establish a peace tax fund to ensure that conscientious objectors' taxes would not be used for military purposes, was most recently tabled on May 15, 2009 in Parliament.

What kinds of programs would these peace taxes be used for? As a teacher and long-time member of Conscience Canada, I support the establishment of a federal department of peace. "There is a widespread, pernicious assumption that we can solve a whole host of security problems through the use of mili-

tary force. We tend to neglect the force of nonviolence, which many have termed "the force more powerful" because it embodies the values we seek to promote. When we invest in nonviolence, we strengthen what is best in our society, whereas when we resort to violence, we inevitably get caught up in what Martin Luther King referred to as a "descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy." Canada should join with other nations, such as the Solomon Islands, Costa Rica and Nepal in establishing a federal department of peace so that we can work systematically to foster the power of nonviolence at home and abroad.

Don Woodside is a retired psychiatrist and president of Conscience Canada. He notes as well that "It is wonderful that so many Canadians have contributed to efforts to help Haiti in a time of dire need.

The armed forces are playing an important role in facilitating the aid. However, we look forward to the day when Canada will be able to dispatch a peace service equipped and trained for humanitarian assistance, rather than a force trained and equipped to fight wars. That would be a most valuable 'alternative service' for our military taxes."

Conscience Canada asks Canadians to think deeply about what we want in terms of "security." Humanity is at a crucial turning point in history, where the threats of environmental collapse and social disintegration are enormous. To address these threats, we need to find ways to live well with less waste and consumption and more social justice. A new federal budget was introduced in early March. Does it make sense to invest our "security" dollars in the military when the military approach requires huge

inputs of fuel and other non-renewable resources? There are plenty of ways we could be working to create a fairer world with better chances for a healthy future for our children. Bombing people in far-away lands is not one of them.

Conscience Canada has developed a "peacetaxreturn," which citizens can file along with their traditional income tax return, in order to show their support for the establishment of a federal peace tax option. For people who file their taxes online, there is a new ePTR option available.

To learn more, visit www.consciencecanada.ca or contact either myself at 250-537-5251, or Don Woodside, of Hamilton, Ontario, at 905-522-8048.

The writer is a Salt Spring-based peace activist and board member of Conscience Canada.

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To our friends on Salt Spring!

"Thanks for stopping by." - Geoff



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WHAT'S ON PAGE A16

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SKIP IS MISSING!

Gray Tabby
Last seen Mar. 6 on Quebec Dr. He's a handsome and loveable fellow and very much needed at home on Maliview.

Please call if seen or found - 537-0675

MORE LETTERS

continued from A10

GM and porn

In light of the information contained in the single paragraph, quoted below, taken from the book Empire of Illusion by Chris Hedges, I would strongly suggest that no funds be used to "bailout" General Motors unless and until it divests itself of all pornographic interests.

"There are some 13,000 porn films made every year in the United States, most in the San Fernando Valley in California. According to the Internet Filter Review, worldwide porn revenues, including in-room movies at hotels, sex clubs and the ever-expanding e-sex world, topped \$97 billion in 2006. That is more than the revenues of Microsoft, Google, Amazon, eBay, Yahoo!, Apple, Netflix, and Earth-Link combined. Annual sales in the United States are estimated at \$10 billion or higher. There is no precise monitoring of the porn industry. And porn is very lucrative to some of the nation's largest corporations. General Motors owns DIRECTV, which distributes more than 40 million streams of porn into American homes every month. AT&T Broadband and Comcast Cable are currently the biggest American companies accommodating porn users with the Hot Network, Adult Pay Per View and similarly themed services. AT&T and GM rake in approximately 80 percent of all porn dollars spent by consumers."

Surely there is a better use for our tax dollars than supporting porn.

ART MORTON,
PARK DRIVE

Let's not lose Ruckle Farm Day tradition

I'm sad to see that Ruckle Farm Day may not happen this year ("Ruckle Farm Day needs help to survive," March 3 Driftwood). I hope that it can go ahead without the horse ploughing if necessary.

I remember the crowd of people there last year, especially the number of families with young children. If we want to preserve and protect a rural lifestyle on Salt Spring, surely Ruckle Farm Day is important.

For children in 4H it is a very important event, and a chance for the rest of us to see and appreciate these possible future farmers. But

there is so much more, from spinning and weaving, willow basket weaving, tool making, blacksmithing, fruit tree grafting, log sawing, games, displays, pictures and history of the farm, music and good food, the sheep dog demonstration, and the good feeling of people getting together, a feeling of community.

Having the farm day in May could mean a chance of better weather than if it were held in March, but March is when the land is best for ploughing and seeding.

By May the ground is so hard the horse last year couldn't plough it. The tractor had to do it. Also, May is too late for seeding. There is poor germination and the weeds take over, so the use of this field to grow good food for the livestock is seriously diminished, resulting in the need to buy expensive hay before the next year's grass is available. Ruckle is still a working farm, a teaching farm, an historic site and a source of food for many people. Respect for the earth, the seasons and the way farms and farmers fed us in the past, and still do, is truly important. Ruckle Farm Day is a chance for us to learn this while having a good time.

With thanks to all who participate and coordinate it, Ruckle Farm Day is a tradition we don't want to lose.

NANCY WIGEN,
FERNWOOD

IRQR success

This is a thank-you letter to everyone who came to the Jihad for Love event on Sunday night.

A cheque is going today from the Allies for IRQR account to the Iranian Railroad for Queer Refugees group for \$1,400! This more than reaches our goal for two refugees to be helped out for a year.

We received just over \$500 at the Sunday event alone and have received a number of generous donations at other times.

If the folks in Turkey could speak now I'm sure they would. Please take a moment to imagine how it would feel to be in their shoes, and I think it will be not too difficult to know something of what this means.

If you would like to be involved in any of the following — organizing talks on international GBLT rights, further fundraising for Iranian Queer Railroad refugees or brainstorming how to go forward from here, contact me at rjpercy@shaw.ca or 250-537-2831.

ROWAN PERCY,
SALT SPRING

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OPINION

RANTS *and* Roses

Rants

Pitchforks full of slimy mold on the garden of the person in a silver truck who was seen stealing mulch from Summerside place on Sunday morning. You're a pretty brazen thief to back your truck up and just help yourself. C. James

Roses

A big bunch of roses to Mainroad for fixing up the sides of our roads. Thank you, guys. Island Pathways.

A moving van full of roses delivered to all the people who helped with my recent move. A very special thanks to Paul, Randy and the movers, Muriel, Sallie, Mike, Ken and Shelley. I am humbled and honoured by all your help. Thank you so much. Penny

Bountiful bouquets of roses to Barry and Jeremy at the Salt Spring Inn for their generosity in so many ways to the Salt Spring Grandmothers to Grandmothers Scrabble Fundraiser in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. We especially appreciated the magnificent delicious spread on March 6 and all who donated to that feast: Marz Fraser-Buchanan, Basil Chow, Salt Spring Dry Cleaners, Thrifty's, Salt Spring Cheese Co., The Rental Stop. More thank-you roses to Harry Warner, Mark Roop, Ron Cooke, Steve at SS Coffee, Helen at Country Grocer, Deb Nostdal, Marie Mullen, Sue Mouat, Joan Byrne, the schools, the donors, the participants and all the volunteers.

Lotus Ruckle would like to thank the unknown person who left orchids on her doorstep two weeks ago. She would like to know who you are.

With much gratitude and thanks I send backpacks full of crayola-coloured roses to Lauren, Sarah and Anna for all the hard work they do at the food bank on Fridays. While they could be playing, watching TV or doing homework (do kids do that on Fridays?) these three beautiful young ladies are contributing to others and to their community. You are an inspiration and an indication that the world is in good hands with young people your age coming up as the new generation of volunteers.

A bouquet of the sweetest-smelling roses to the lovely young couple and their baby who had dinner at Auntie Pesto's on Friday evening, March 6. After they left, the waitress informed us that they had paid for our dinner. We had never seen them before and neither had the waitress. Thank you so much. You made our evening and left us with a warm and fuzzy feeling. Ron & Bev

To all the Monday and Tuesday volunteers at the food bank and Let's Do Brunch programs at Salt Spring Community Services, I give you my gratitude and heartfelt thanks for doing such an awesome job each week. Ruth, Pat, Val, Nancy, Ellen, Petra, Mary, Lise, John, Terry, Jim, Cary, Terry O., Susan, Sam, Chris and Erin, Kandra and Peter, Ken and David, Dori, Mary, Chris, Phil, Angela, Jenny and Baby Elliot — without your selfless giving of your time, experience and goodwill, these programs would not be so well run. I know the people we serve each week are much appreciative of the services we offer and the respect that they are given by each of you.

A classy single rose to Nolan Magnus for doing a brilliant job on the split-rail fencing by Greenwood. It looks spectacular. Island Pathways

Wild Salt Spring roses to Joanne from Chocolate Beach and her fine efforts to bring organic sugar to other businesses on Salt Spring. And to the kind souls who filled the potholes in front of our bake shop. We live in a blessed place. Jana

Bouquets of early spring roses to all those who contributed to the Fulford Valley Homeschool Kids' drive to raise funds for a shelterbox for a family in Haiti. A shelter box has been purchased, and Sebastian, Gia, Gabriel, Calli and Julia's goal has been realized. This community's spirit of giving is a great example for our children to learn and live by. Thank you all!

A huge bouquet of peace roses to all the Salt Spring community, including members of the Salt Spring United, Anglican and Catholic churches, who gave of their time on March 7 supporting the photo appeal to CIDA to restore funding to KAIROS. Also, thanks to the Driftwood for their help. This effort will be ongoing until the funding is restored and compassion shown. On behalf of Salt Spring KAIROS, Tom Mitchell

A big bunch of roses to the three young men picking up the garbage around the skateboard park last week. I walk past the school and park a couple of times a week and have been finding it depressing to view the litter lying around. Perhaps the school could instigate weekly clean-ups. Thanks for lifting my spirits, guys. Tom Mitchell

Thanks so much to all the people who have put so much into the Fulford Hall. It looks fantastic! Now if only the person(s) who removed the painted murals done by Alfred Temmel would kindly return them, all would be wonderful. Thank you. GM Berry

A ferry full of roses to Char and Janine, who helped me last Monday when I was scrambling to make the ferry with my little baby. Thank you so much — and Char — I owe you a coffee!

A pile of Jana's treats to Driftwood staff members who are still hanging in as we pump out 196 pages of glorious text, photos and ads in only eight days. Apologies to anyone startled by my sudden bouts of hysterical laughter. GS



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

UP AND AWAY: Bud Kerr is in a sky-high bucket as he cleans the gutters at Salt Spring Elementary School during spring break. Students return to island schools on Monday morning.

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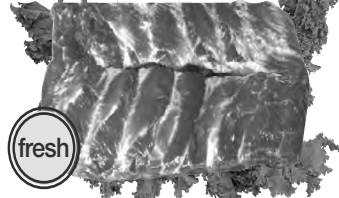
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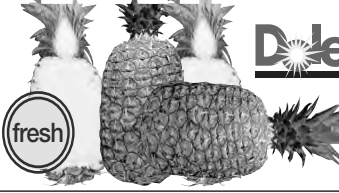
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NEWSBEAT

LETTERS HOME

Korean banks: many ways to make deposit

BY RICHARD ADDISON

Canadians, no doubt including Salt Spring Islanders, are world leaders in the use of debit cards, so when we first went to live in Geoje five years ago it was a surprise to re-enter a cash-based society.

We could use credit cards at large hotels (of which there was only one at that time) or in department stores (of which there were none: we had to go to Tongyeong, the nearest mainland town, to experience that) or in gas stations, but everything else required cash.

The Korean monetary system at the time didn't make that easy, because the largest currency denomination was the 10,000 Won bill; this sounds like a lot, but is actually worth only about \$10.

... felt like those characters

in the "B" movies who keep

opening suitcases neatly

packed with bundles of bills.

To prepare for our first trip, we were warned that it would be difficult to open a bank account quickly and to have money wired from Canada, so we should bring funds to cover a month's rent of our furnished apartment, a security deposit, money to buy supplementary bits and pieces for the apartment, and money to live on for a month. We brought about \$8,000 worth of the equivalent of \$10 bills. We needed a separate bag for the cash, and felt like those characters in the "B" movies who keep opening suitcases neatly packed with bundles of bills. Fortunately, Korea was, and still is, a very safe country, and although each of us routinely carried around several hundred dollars' worth of cash, and had another couple of thousand or so lying loose in our apartment for emergencies, we never felt threatened or vulnerable to mugging or burglary.

Now, five years later, banks routinely issue debit cards, though in practice you can use them only in larger stores or supermarkets and for fairly large transactions like buying the weekly groceries.

Also, Korea has invented a 50,000 Won bill (\$50 approximately), so we shouldn't need to carry around a bulky wad of paper any more. However, the corner stores and the small mom-and-pop cafés where you can buy lunch for 7,000 Won (a bowl of soup, a plate of noodles with vegetables and ground beef, and the inevitable accompaniment of kimchi, dried squid and bits of seaweed — and very tasty it can be, too) don't want the larger denomination bill, so you still need a wad of 10,000-Won bills.

As it turned out, it wasn't difficult to open a bank account in Geoje, but it was labourious and time consuming. Every step involved the bank making copies of our passports, foreign resident certificates, proofs of employment and, on at least one occasion, of our marriage certificate. But we finally got the process over with, and had an account — in my name only.

We weren't able to open a joint account, perhaps because we were foreigners, or more probably because Korea is still very much a male-dominated society and joint accounts just aren't used. However, my wife Jean was given an access card that allowed her to draw funds out of my

account, but not to deposit funds to it. I can't follow the logic of that, but it does seem discriminatory — though to whom?

But to be fair to the banks, once you are in "the system" with your deck of access cards, debit cards, passbooks and so on, it works very well. The 10 ATMs in our bank's lobby can do almost anything for you except foreign currency transactions, so you rarely have to actually go into the bank.

But when you do go into the bank to buy, for example, U.S. dollars, the process is bewildering.

First, you join a line-up to speak to the teller. You explain to him what you need; he calculates the equivalent amount of Won; you walk out of the bank to the ATMs in the lobby, draw out the appropriate amount of Won and carry these back into the bank and present them to the teller, who gives you your U.S. dollars. Since the bank and the teller both know what's in your account, and since the teller has an access/debit card reader at his desk, I just don't understand why he can't debit our account electronically. I keep reminding myself that the region is called "the mysterious east" for good reason.

Perhaps the most unexpected feature of the bank's services (which probably necessitates the sheer length of time required to do any transaction in person) is its provision of washrooms. The bank no doubt provides its washrooms for the exclusive use of its clients, but the citizenry of Okpo views them as its own. During our first visits, we thought that the large crowds moving through the bank were customers undertaking complicated financial transactions.

Then we realized that the ATMs could do almost anything you needed, except foreign currency transactions — and surely all these people couldn't be exchanging Won? Eventually it dawned on us that many of them were just there to use the washroom, the bank being strategically located in central Okpo. Since there are very few public washrooms in Okpo (certainly none that you would want to use except in dire emergency), the bank plays the same essential but discreet role in the everyday life of Okpo as does Mouat's in Ganges.

That was five years ago, and things have changed: globalization has reached Geoje, bringing with it, like erratics on a glacier, coffee shops. Korea has embraced cappuccino culture enthusiastically and we now have six coffee shops, including a Starbucks, within five minutes' walk of our apartment.

All of them provide clean, spacious and comfortable washrooms, but since you feel obliged to buy at least a cup of coffee, there's really no net gain in using them. Unfortunately, the proliferation of cappuccino joints has put the traditional Korean tea-rooms out of business. There, you used to be able to sit at low tables in semi-darkness, surrounded by heavily-carved oriental furniture, and sip on exotic teas served in delicate porcelain cups in an atmosphere subtly suffused with incense. But they didn't have nice toilets.

Well, perhaps it does make sense that a bank should provide washrooms: after all, it's just another way of making a deposit. (Groan . . .)

OK, OK, — I won't do it again.

Until recently the writer lived on Salt Spring Island, and for the past 15 years has visited and worked in intervals in South Korea. This is the second in a series of letters home.

Arts & Entertainment

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

SPRING BREAK

ART: Wyatt Sawchuck works intently on a "monkey mug" as he takes part in a Creative Fire Clay Workshop held at Tracy Harrison's studio. More workshops are set up for this week.

SPECIAL EVENTS

<p>Wednesday, March 17, 8-11pm St. Patrick's Day with DJ Dubblan & Owen Mathieson</p> <p>Thursday, March 18, 8-11pm Blues: Soul Shakedown & Friends</p> <p>Friday, March 19, 8-11pm Live Music: Lane 31</p> <p>Saturday, March 20, 8-11pm Live Music: The Karuna Movement</p> <p>Sunday, March 21, 7-10pm Jazz: TBA</p>	<p>Wednesday: Pint Club</p> <p>Monday: Mexican Night</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OPEN FOR BREAKFAST 7-11am daily</p>
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THEATRE

Topnotch fringe show on island

Death of a Clown finds humanity in a dehumanized world

ITSAZOO Productions visits Salt Spring Island for the first time with *Death of a Clown* by Sebastien Archibald.

"If Charlie Chaplin and George Orwell collaborated on a theatre production, *Death of a Clown* would be the result. Infusing the epic theatre of Bertolt Brecht with the art of clowning, this hilarious satire is for the rabble-rouser in each of us," press material states.

Death of a Clown follows the story of Roy, a floppy, fun-loving clown born into a rigid, oppressive metropolis. A natural outsider, Roy suppresses his clowning nature in favour of a life spent clawing his way up the corporate

ladder. But when he meets Anna, a sassy clown with big plans to turn the world upside down, Roy's life is thrown into chaos. Which path will he choose?

"At its core, *Death of a Clown* is about the freedom to act with reckless abandon for all the right reasons. It's about finding humanity in a dehumanized world," writes playwright Sebastien Archibald.

Following its debut at the 2006 Victoria Fringe Festival, *Death of a Clown* has evolved from a modest experimental Fringe show to a full-scale two-act multi-media extravaganza, featuring seven original songs, dance numbers, video, animation, projections and a live band.

Death of a Clown features several University of Victoria alumni, including performances by Archibald, Cameron Anderson, Melanie Moore, Chris Wil-

son and Colby Wilson; costume design by Meredith Grantier; makeup design by Carly Wolk; and props and set design by Kyle Sutherland. Vancouver artistic contributions include performances by Lesli Brownlee and David Benedict Brown; music written and performed by Courtney Lancaster and Will Smith; choreography by Tara Schaufele; video and projection design by Mike Antonakos, John Crossen and John Russell; lighting design by Graham Ockley; and stage management by Cassandra Tattie.

Death of a Clown runs at ArtSpring on Friday, March 26 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$14 for students, seniors and the unemployed. Tickets can be purchased through the ArtSpring ticket centre at 250-537-2102. For more information, visit www.itsazoo.org.

Death of a Clown
"It's hard to climb the corporate ladder with size 22 shoes"

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FRIDAY, MARCH 26 AT 8PM

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\$18 ADULTS
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BOOKS

Marlyn Horsdal and colleagues share words at March 21 reading

Brindle and Glass group welcome literary crowd

Islanders are invited to a special book launch event for Salt Spring author Marlyn Horsdal's debut novel called *Sweetness from Ashes*.

It will include a reading from Horsdal, as well as guest readings by Ann Erickson, author of *Falling from Grace*, and Margaret Thompson, with her book *Adrift on the Ark*.

The free event runs from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 21 at ArtSpring. Refreshments are provided.

All three books are from Brindle and Glass Publishing Ltd. of Victoria.

The publisher describes *Sweetness from Ashes* as "a vibrant novel with a voice and perspective that is

contemporary but gives a nod to the past."

"Set partially in Vancouver, partially on a farm in rural Ontario, and partially in West Africa, *Sweetness from Ashes* is a novel about family in its various forms."

Horsdal co-founded Horsdal & Schubart Publishing in 1984 and ran the company until its sale in 2002.

Educated at Queen's University and the London School of Economics, she was also a CUSO volunteer in Ghana and started a scholarship program in Ghana called *Educating Girls in Africa*. All proceeds from *Sweetness from Ashes* will be donated to the cause.

Book sales will be handled Sunday by Salt Spring Books.

Indulge

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What's On This Week

www.gulfislandstourism.com/calendar.htm



Wed. Mar. 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

St. Patrick's Day Celebration. With Bruce Everett, Ken Lunn & Jane Squier. Tree House Cafe. 5 to 8 p.m.

St. Patrick's Day Bash. Live music at Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.
Annabelle Chvostek. Past member of the Wailin' Jennys performs as part of Home Routes house concert. 7 p.m. Tickets at Acoustic Planet. Info: Rob Pingle, 250-538-7262.

ACTIVITIES

Spring Break at the Library. Animal Sculptures presentation with artist Paul Burke. Suitable for ages six to 10 but all "young at heart" islanders and visitors welcome. SS Library. 1 p.m.

Thurs. Mar. 18

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic. Hosted by Stephanie Rhodes at The Local. 8 p.m.
Blues Night. With Soul Shakedown & Friends at Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Mistake Cup Cake. Kids' clay workshop at Creative Fire Studio. 10 a.m. to noon. Info: 250-538-0144.

Fri. Mar. 19

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Legion Open Jam. With Dave & Buck at the Legion, 7 p.m.
Mike Alviano. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 5 to 8 p.m.
Lane 31. Live band at Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.
Karen and Randy. Live music at Raven Street. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
KC Kelly. Live music at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Song Angels and Weird Wizards Make an angel or a wizard out of clay at Creative Fire Studio kids' workshop. Info: 250-538-0144.
Spring Break at the Library. Mammals that Love Water presentation with Jean Gelwicks. Suitable for ages six to 10 but all "young at heart" islanders and visitors welcome! At the SS Library. 1 p.m.
Rollerblading. Fridays at Fulford Hall. 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Sat. Mar. 20

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Karuna Movement. Live band at Moby's. 8 p.m.
Billie Woods. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 5 to 8 p.m.
Lisa & Charley Erck. Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

SSI Minor Baseball & Softball Registration. At the Shell Gas Station. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Forms at Sports Traders, PARC or Shell gas station.
Poultry Swap Meet. Buy, sell or trade poultry-related products. Fulford Hall. Chicks, coops, etc. 10 a.m. to noon. No dogs, please. Info: 250-931-5179.
Fabulous Flea Market. A Fulford Hall fundraiser at Fulford Hall. Delicious homemade food available too. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Note the date has changed from its original one.)
Clay Amulets and Magical Mandalas. Kids' clay workshop. Info: 250-538-0144.
Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association. AGM at Meadowbrook. 9:30 a.m.

Sun. Mar. 21

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Foggy Hogtown Boys. Toronto bluegrass band plays at Fulford Hall. 7 p.m.
Celtic Service. Special United Church musical event to mark the spring equinox. SS United Church. 10 a.m.
Live Jazz. TBA at Moby's. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Maple Syrup Demo & Tasting. Syrup-making demonstration and tasting. Harbour House parking lot. No dogs, please. 2 to 4 p.m.
Marlyn Horsdal Book Launch. With additional guest readings by Ann Erikson and Margaret Thompson. ArtSpring. 1-3 p.m.
GLOSSI AGM. Wine, cheese, election of officers. Harbour House. 2 to 4 p.m.

Mon. Mar. 22

ACTIVITIES

Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary Society. AGM at Lions Hall. 1:30 p.m.
Word, Excel or Powerpoint. Six Monday course with Philip Benson begins tonight. info@sscommunityed.org

Tues. Mar. 23

ACTIVITIES


Introduction to Observational Astronomy. Six-Tuesday course with Larry Nelson begins tonight. info@communityed.org
Photo Editing for Photographers - Part II. Six Tuesday Community Education course with Charles Buchwald begins tonight. info@communityed.org
SS Transportation Commission. Meets at 118 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 7 p.m.
BC SPCA - Salt Spring Branch. AGM at Lions Hall. 5:30 p.m.

Wed. Mar. 24


ACTIVITIES

Seniors Social Afternoon. At SS Seniors Services Society. 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Late French Immersion Program Info Night. For parents and students interested in Sept. 2010 entry into the Grade 6 program at SIMS. In the SIMS library. 7 p.m.
Watercolour Basics. SSI Painters' Guild Workshop presented by Frank Townsley. ArtSpring. 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Info/register: Maggie, 250-537-0887; margiro@mac.com
Favourite Uncommon Ornamentals at Home & in the Wild. SS Garden Club talk by Sue Milliken and Kelly Dobson at Community Gospel Chapel. 7 p.m.

THE FRITZ MOVIE THEATRE
 at Central Hall call 250-537-4656 for showtimes & info www.thefritz.ca Fri. Mar. 19 to Tues. Mar 23



DEAR JOHN
 1 hr 49 mins
 Rating: PG
 Fri. Sun. Tues. 7pm / Sat. 9:15pm



VALENTINE'S DAY
 2 hrs 5 mins
 Rating: PG
 Fri. Tues. 9pm / Sat. Mon. 7pm / Sun. 4pm Matinee

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CINEMA

How to Train Your Dragon — DreamWorks' (Shrek, Kung Fu Panda, Monsters vs. Aliens) latest animated feature opens next week at The Fritz!

Valentine's Day and Dear John play next at The Fritz, followed by Alice in Wonderland!

EXHIBITIONS

- **Point Gallery:** In the upper gallery is The Crowd, terra cottas by Deborah Gainor. Lower gallery is Mute Traces, an installation by Heather Thomas. Show closes April 10. Walk-in entrance on South Ridge Drive in Fulford. More information: 250-653-0089.
- **ArtFully** off in all Directions, an exhibition of visual art by Salt Spring school children, runs until March 19 at ArtSpring.
- **Starfish Gallery & Studio** is featuring new work from local photographers Gilleen Proctor, Susan Huber, Ken Ketchum, Skip Smith and emerging artist Anais La Rue. Expose: Alanda Nay with Emily McPhee is the March exhibit at Salt Spring Coffee Company in Ganges.
- **The Salt Spring Painters' Guild** shows an exhibit of flowers in the ArtSpring lobby for the month of March.
- **J. Mitchell Gallery** — soon to be known as Gallery 8 — has re-opened its doors in Grace Point Square with a fresh new look.
- **Cafe Talia** features native eagle masks, drums and oars by Halukwii from Nitinaht Lake, B.C.
- **The Salt Spring Island Painters' Guild** is showing and selling works at Bruce's Kitchen.
- **Gillian McConnell** has work hanging at Salt Spring Books.
- **Lisa Lipsett** is exhibiting her work at Island Savings Credit Union.
- **Shari Macdonald** shows new photos at Jana's Bake Shop.

Fabulous Flea Market
 Delicious homemade food available.
 A Fulford Hall Fundraiser
Saturday, March 20th
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

THE SOUND OF MUSIC: Naomi Burkhard plays her autoharp outside of Thrifty Foods in Ganges.

CASTING CALL

Rocky Horror auditions

Planning for summer production well underway

Rachel Jacobson is asking local performers to "activate the transit crystal" and get ready to "do the Time Warp again."

The performer and director behind local hit productions such as *Fiddler on the Roof* in 2004, Jacobson is gearing up to mount a live staging of the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* for the summer of 2010.

She is seeking people to fill many positions in what she promises will be a "fabulous community show."

Auditions take place April 23-25. Actors who can sing and who will be on island from the end of May until the end of August can call Jacobson at 250-537-1091 for an appointment.

Parental permission in writing is required for those under 18 years.

Jacobson is looking for artists to start immediately on painting backdrops and making set pieces.

Materials such as fabric and paint will be gratefully accepted as donations, as will costumes "a la Rocky."

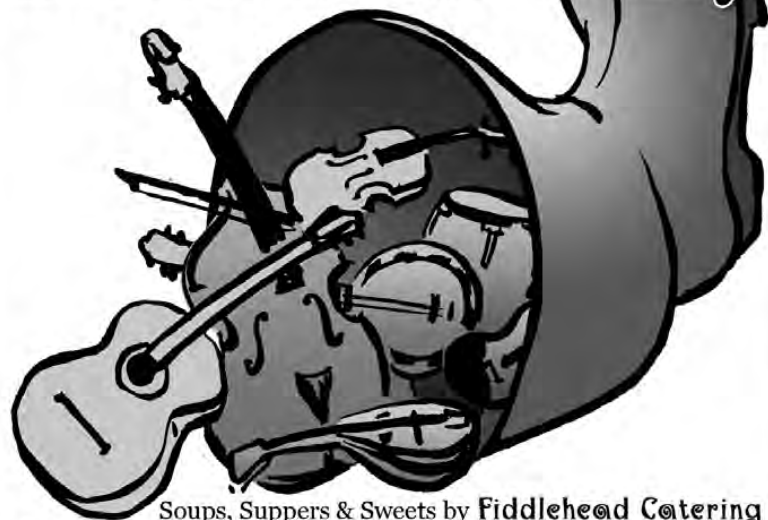
Crew members being sought include a production coordinator, a technical troubleshooter, a set overseer and a publicity and promotions agent.

A technical manager to run sound for the four last rehearsals and all shows is required, as well as a stage manager, an assistant stage manager and a prop manager.

Jacobson is also on the look-out for musicians to form a great band.

The *Rocky Horror Picture Show* is slated to open on July 30 at Fulford Hall and to run weekends throughout August.

GuMBooT Gala Bill Henderson & Valdy



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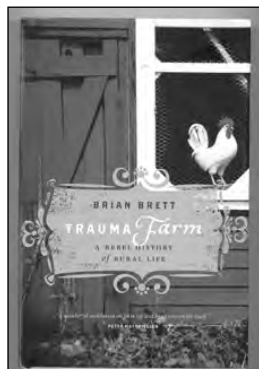
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BOOKS

Brian Brett's rural life classic gets three more award nods

Trauma Farm snags unprecedented number of BC Book Prize nominations



Salt Spring resident and Writers' Trust of Canada prize winner Brian Brett is on tap for three additional awards for his latest book.

Trauma Farm: A Rebel History of Rural Life was nominated for three BC Book Prize awards, including the Hubert Evans Non-fiction Prize, the Roderick Haigh-Brown Regional Prize and the Bill Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award. The results will be announced in Vancouver at an awards soiree on April 17.

Brett has already captivated the hearts

of islanders and fellow Canadians with his story of life on the farm located near historic Ruckle Park. He and his wife Sharon Doo-benen have struggled for 20 years to make the farm viable, producing vegetables, fruits, seeds and ornamental foliage to be sold at local businesses.

Trauma Farm has also already won the prestigious 2009 Writers' Trust Award for Non-fiction and was long-listed for the B.C.

Award for Canadian Non-Fiction. It was also an Amazon Top 100 Book for 2009.

Brett is a man who thoroughly enjoys nature and being outdoors as much as possible. He is most certainly a family man, often mentioning his wife throughout the book as well his children, grandchildren and beloved animals.

Trauma Farm contrasts this organic lifestyle with the harmful effects of big business agriculture, a message that is resonating with readers across the country.

As Brett said in a 2009 interview, "We always need to think outside the envelope and rebel against accepted cultural practices; we need to get people to think about the human condition and the environment."

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ISLAND STAR VIDEO presents...

Flick Pick



Jason Tudor

Ninja Assassin a fun time if you like blood

Ah, ninjas. I remember in elementary school when the most daring kids in class would make little ninja throwing stars out of four pins and some tape. They didn't work very well, and not nearly as well as the body-shredding "shuriken" used in *Ninja Assassin*.

The ninja craze of the mid-1980s spawned untold number of films that were not very good but at least frequently gory enough to be entertaining. *Ninja Assassin* takes that formula to the extreme, in that it's pretty terrible, but terrible — and bloody — enough to be a pretty fun time for those who find that kind of thing a fun time.

The film's plot begins with a Europol agent named Mika (Naomie Harris), whose research into a series of high profile murders quickly leads her to believe in the existence of the heretofore-supposedly-mystical ninja. Protecting that secretive status, a clan of ninjas comes after her in the night, and it's only the sudden appearance of a rogue ninja named Raizo (Korean pop star Rain) that saves the day... er, night.

Raizo spirits poor Mika around Europe, fighting off hundreds of black-clad, sword-wielding assassins, and eventually the two figure out that in order for them both to survive they're going to have to take down the entire clan. As the 2008 Oscar for Best Picture should have said, "There Will Be Blood."

I was fully unprepared for just how violent *Ninja Assassin* turned out to be. Computer effects have brought melee weapon violence to new levels of yucky awesomeness, and the very first scene proves this by having a whole gaggle of Yakuza sliced and diced into tattooed chunks of steak by waves of shiny blades pouring out of the darkness. Neato!

It's all so ridiculously over the top, that at times I thought it was a comedy. Certainly, enough of the dialogue is bad enough to warrant that kind of designation, but Harris and Rain play things straight just like it would have been done in 1985. As a result, *Ninja Assassin* is a decent watch for action fans but a whole lot of nothing for everyone else.

Even a lot of those action fans might be turned off by the stylized combat (director James McTeigue is a disciple of the Wachowski brothers) and CGI blood, making this film's effective market actually pretty small. So I guess this is a positive review, but only as long as you know what kind of mess you're getting into.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



THE BOYS ARE BACK: The Foggy Hogtown Boys, a cutting-edge bluegrass band from Toronto, performs at Fulford Hall on Sunday, March 21 beginning at 7 p.m. They'll have their new CD *Scotch and Sofa* on hand, and the concession will raise funds for Fiddleworks programs.

ART BEAT

Master watercolourist celebrated in new book

Book launches March 26 at Gallery 8

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A painting by watercolourist Carol Evans is a testament to the awe-inspiring scenery of the B.C. coast. To see our environment reflected and transformed by Evans' brush is to see it with new eyes, to be reminded of just how lucky we are to be here.

With three decades spent perfecting her technique, Evans has unarguably reached master status. Her ability to portray water and light, in particular, has been noted as being exceptionally fine. Her paintings contain an almost photographic quality of realism, but with the crucial element of the painter's personal touch, which gives them a human element.

Evans' body of work has been thought important enough to warrant publishing in two previous books. The newest and third collection, called *The Shores We Call Home*, will be launched Friday, March 26 at Gallery 8 (formerly J. Mitchell Gallery).

Printed by Harbour Publishing, *The Shores We Call Home* is a gorgeous, full-colour book boasting 80 pages of reproduced paintings. There is also an engaging and well-written preface by the artist herself, in which she speaks about her fascination with the landscape that has inspired her work.

Evans relates in the preface that she once planned to attend art school in a city, but instead wound up being one of 10 people living on Mudge Island. (She writes a compelling passage about the skills required to navigate across False Narrows from Gabriola in a row boat.) Evans did, in fact, complete her first year of a fine arts degree at the University of Victoria, before realizing her intended career as an illustrator of children's books would not be financially possible.

She was also not able to find anyone doing watercolours to learn from.



"I really wanted to paint in the classic watercolour way with a lot of washes — I was hoping to find a master to study under at UVic," Evans said during an interview. "There really wasn't anybody doing watercolours, so I kind of made it up."

It's perhaps for the best that Evans never completed her formal training. Using a technique of loading more colour than is usual on the brush, she developed her own style of high definition and depth that helps produce her paintings' realistic look.

"Once I discovered I could do it, I just kind of went crazy. I really got into it," Evans laughed.

Evans' paintings immortalize many diverse locations along the B.C. coast, from the Gulf Islands to Haida Gwaii and beyond. Her decades spent on and around the water have translated into an almost uncanny ability to make paint and paper look like seawater: crystal clear, reflective on its surface and realistically shadowed.

Emerald green water that covers a shell-littered cove is sublime in its execution in works such as *Peace in Fury Cove* (2007). In *Shells in the Sunshine* (2008), reflected blue sky ripples over golden sunlight illuminating the sand beneath. *Shells in the Shallows* (1999) is a masterful reproduction of clear, jade water, with sunlight caught at

the edge of every ripple.

If Evans' landscapes are unfailingly spectacular, that's because she tends to emphasize certain qualities to bring out the best of what she sees. For example, she might increase a certain quality of light or water in order to emphasize the natural beauty of the surroundings.

"I just feel quite a bond of love for the place, so I just help people see it at its best, in a way — to share in its appreciation," Evans said.

But pristine coves and beaches don't make up Evans' entire body of work. She is just as attracted to the coasts' unique settlements.

Her paintings capture modern mariners' enclaves such as Pender Harbour's Bargain Bay, as well as the older communities of Haida Gwaii. In these works she is just as likely to celebrate the human occupants of the landscape, with portrayals of the modern lives of First Nations peoples.

In all her work, Evans communicates her deep regard for the coastal environment and for the people who choose to live there.

"I just want to share the appreciation of this land and where we live. I think if we care about it, we'll look after it," Evans said.

Evans will be in attendance at the book launch of *The Shores We Call Home* at Gallery 8, Friday, March 26 at 6 p.m.

Community Newspaper Party!

The Driftwood Newspaper celebrates
50 years of publication with a newspaper party!

Friday March 26th
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What's for Dinner?

LEMON PASTA

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

LEMON PEPPER, also called lemon pepper seasoning, is a seasoning made from granulated lemon zest and cracked black peppercorns. The lemon zest is mashed with the pepper to allow the citrus oil to infuse into the pepper. This mix is then baked and dried although it was originally used primarily for fish it can be used on meats and pasta's as well. I know you will enjoy this Lemon pasta recipe!

Prepare **4 cups pasta** of your choice, drain and set aside. Heat **3 tablespoons olive oil** in heavy large skillet over medium heat. Sauté **2 minced garlic cloves**. Add **1 cup washed and drained spinach**, **1 cup sliced mushrooms**, **4 chopped stalks of asparagus**, **2 tablespoons lemon juice**, and **1/2 teaspoon Lemon Pepper**. Add cooked pasta, stirring frequently, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat and top with **1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese**, **salt and pepper to taste**. For an added touch you can top with **1/4 cup cooked meat** of your choice. Serve with a freshly baked baguette.

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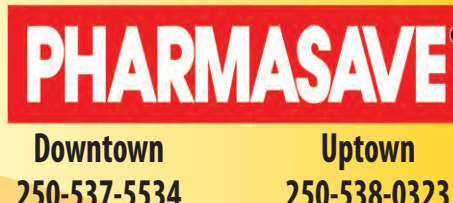


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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CD RELEASE

Allison Crowe launches eagerly anticipated Spiral album

Island performers, producer and manager part of latest project

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

There's one more reason to celebrate St. Patrick's Day for fans of Allison Crowe. March 17 is the release date for Crowe's highly anticipated album, *Spiral*.

Crowe's Salt Spring-based manager Adrian du Plessis said *Spiral* will be available today in digital formats, including on Crowe's web site, Facebook and YouTube pages.

The music has also been sent to digital stores such as iTunes and Amazon, although some locations may not be able to post the music on the same date.

"We'd like as many people to have the music available as possible on that date, but if some online stores can't post *Spiral* until later, at least most everyone will be able to find the music somewhere on March 17," du Plessis said in an email.

Hard copies of the album in CD form will also be available. Du Plessis said he has had pre-orders waiting for people across Canada and the United States and as far away as Europe and Australia.

It's not just the public who is eager to hear the new recording, which features Salt Spring musicians Billie Rocha-Woods on acoustic guitar and backing vocals and Laurent Boucher on percussion. U.S.-based entertainment blog Muruch named the album among its most highly anticipated.

U.K. music blog We Write Lists included *Spiral* as one of The Twelve Most Exciting Albums of 2010, remarking: "Crowe's specialty is startlingly beautiful piano-based songs that sort of make you wonder why you bother with anything else." (Crowe is joined on the list by top names like Fleet Foxes, Gorillaz and Massive Attack.)

Du Plessis notes that in over a decade of reviews, the word most often used to describe Crowe's voice is "gorgeous." Press material describes the acclaimed singer-songwriter's seventh album as containing eight of Crowe's original songs, "ranging from the tender and playful country/roots of *Dearly*, to the upbeat pop of *Double-Edged Swords* . . . and [the] darker terrain of *I Don't Know* and the hard rocking title track."

"Raw, natural emotion is embraced passionately with elegant beauty and melody in these, and such joy-filled tunes as *Going Home Tonight* and *No Matter the Battle*.

With the live track *Wake Up*, Crowe renders the personal universal and the global human," press material states. Rocha-Woods, one of Crowe's frequent touring partners, said it was a honour to work on the new CD.

"She came over and we recorded the tracks at my sunny Vesuvius residence," Rocha-Woods said in an email. "All these songs we had practised and performed while touring in Canada and through Europe, so it was a breeze. She previously had to walk me through the harmonies, but after practising in her home in Newfoundland and singing them as we walked through the new cities at night, I had them down!"

"Putting in little guitar noodles was the funniest and most creative part for me. The whole CD will mean a lot to me, as I was

there for a lot of the songs that were written and/or have heard the stories behind them (if there is one), so I'm super excited about it," added Rocha-Woods.

But the Salt Spring connections on this project don't end with the performers and locale.

Spiral was produced by Kayla Schmah, who grew up on Salt Spring and is now a Los Angeles-based composer and film scorer who orchestrates the recording with a cinematic sensibility.

The diverse mix of music was created in Corner Brook, Nanaimo, Denman Island, Salt Spring Island, Vienna and Hollywood.

Du Plessis said Crowe's transnational and international concert dates for 2010 will be announced during the spring.

To hear *Spiral* and other recordings by Crowe, visit www.allisoncrowe.com.

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Patrick Cassidy, the owner of SSI Medical Equipment was looking for a new business for Salt Spring. His criteria for the new venture was "to be helpful to the community, work from home and to enjoy life on the island."

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Patrick offers sales of daily living accessories including walkers, lift chairs, scooters, raised toilet seats, hip and knee replacement aid kits, and grab bars. He offers installation and repair of medical equipment. SSI Medical Equipment also rents out equipment for short or long-term use and is starting to gather good quality used items for sale. There is also consignment sales and service. So if you have some good clean used equipment he may purchase it or put it on consignment for you.

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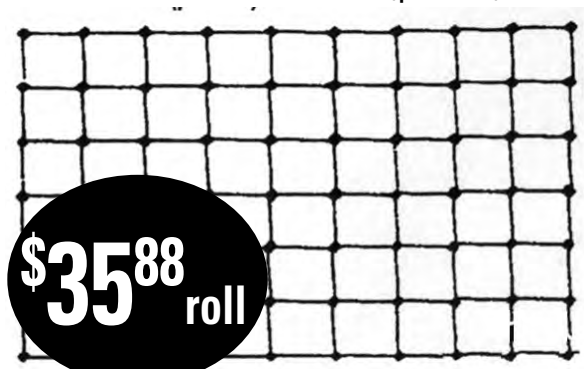
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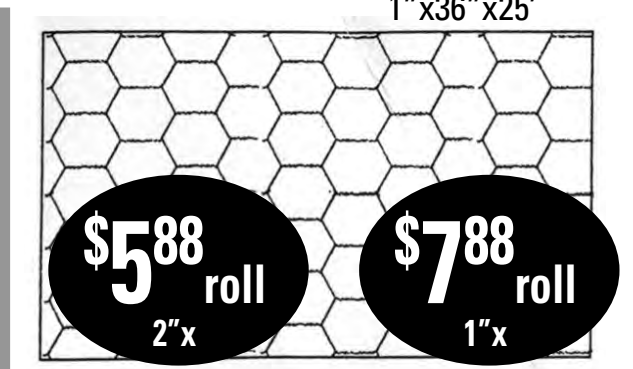
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

FROM THE STUDIO: Seen among the vendors at last weekend's Salt Spring Island Craft Bazaar at Mahon Hall was artist Bay Hale of Off the Grid Studio Gallery on Stark Road.

SPIRITUAL EVENTS

United Church's Celtic Service will celebrate spring equinox

All welcome to musical extravaganza

BY PAT BARCLAY
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

This year, the spring equinox falls on Sunday, March 21, so it's no coincidence the United Church in Ganges has chosen to mark the occasion with a Celtic service.

This worship service will honour some ancient traditions that were in place before the advent of Christianity. For example, a 12- to 15-minute prelude will offer beautiful music to gather by, and the opening prayer will salute the four corners of the earth.

Guest musicians will be harpists Oona McQuat and Yvonne Gibbon, and Christy Cook on the hammer dulcimer. These gifted artists will also accompany music director Shirley

Bunyan during hymns and for the offertory.

The body of the service, led by Rev. Ruth Cairns, will feature reflections, moments of silence and storytelling. Some stories will be Biblical, others folk tales, and some will be original myths and stories, told by Oona McQuat as she accompanies herself on the harp.

This remarkable service is a harbinger of the darkness of Good Friday and the lightness of Easter morning, as the earth is held in balance by the equal hours of day and night at the spring equinox.

As there is music in the heart, so also the Celtic people believe there are prayers in the heart, and that it is the people who set them free, as in the ancient song, Be Thou My Vision:

Christ, as a light illumine and guide me.

Christ, as a shield overshadow

me.
Christ under me;
Christ over me;
Christ beside me on my left and my right.

Celtic prayers are designed for our minds and feelings to follow the direction within the prayers, and to feel our connectedness with innermost being.

Among the gifts the Celtic style of prayer offers are the sense of our own centre, of our environment, and of God's connection with every part of our being, and the being that surrounds us.

Among the musical gifts offered to participants in this Celtic-style service will be the choral anthem, Home and the Heartland, which was first written for River Dance.

All are welcome to join in celebrating the spring equinox, Celtic-style, at 10 a.m. on March 21, at the United Church in Ganges. But please, come early.

MUSICIANS

Winter Light CD project seeks funds

Rasma Bertz needs pre-sales to make it fly

BY LAUREN ANDERSON
GISS WORK EXPERIENCE STUDENT

A vocalist who has become part of the local musical tradition at the annual Christmas event at All Saints Church for the past two years is now working on her first CD.

Local spectators loved Rasma Bertz' performances so much they just had to ask the question, "Do you have a CD?"

Bertz was so enthused about her audiences' response that she jumped to it and will begin recording in April.

She started fundraising around the same time as the Haiti earthquake and said she reached the halfway mark at the end of February. To complete her goal she needs to sell roughly 150 more CDs in advance.

Bertz' style of music on the CD called Winter Light is mainly from the Medieval and Renaissance periods. She is also part of two Salt Spring ensembles: the Bach on the Rock choir and Women of Note. Bertz will perform with Bach on the Rock in May and Women of Note is taking part in this season's Music and Munch program at All Saints.

She started singing at the age of four, although if you ask her mother, she'd say Bertz "was born singing!"

She has a Bachelor of Music degree from UVic,

and also attended Robinson College, Cambridge.

Currently she studies with Nancy Argenta in Victoria. Apart from singing, Bertz is a professional sekhem and quantum biofeedback practitioner, and she volunteers at the Salt Spring library on Thursdays.

Anyone interested in Bertz' CD and music talent can go to her website at www.wix.com/rasmab/winter-light or send her an email at rasma@ssisland.com.

Marriage Commissioner

The Vital Statistics Agency, Ministry of Health Services, is looking for an individual to serve as a Marriage Commissioner for the Salt Spring Island area. The individual will perform civil marriages within their community on behalf of the Agency.

For information and an application form please visit our website at: www.vs.gov.bc.ca/marriage



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In addition to creating a manageable saving strategy, you should also focus on paying down your debts. Once you are free of debt, you can begin to save more money each month through your Pay Yourself approach. Although you can change your financial diet at any time, it's especially important for Gen Y to start saving now.

Planning ahead and saving in small increments can also help you achieve short-term goals. For example, you could set-up a special account for holiday spending – that once-a-year trip you want to take, the wedding you're planning on attending, or the Christmas gifts you often scramble to pay for. It will be a relief when December rolls around and you've got the money to pay for gifts! Before setting-up multiple savings accounts, however, you should look at the transaction fees to manage your costs.

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As of April 1, 2010, prepaid paper tickets for the minor routes will no longer have a monetary value and will not be accepted as a method of payment. Customers are able to transfer the value of their existing prepaid paper tickets onto a BC Ferries Experience™ Card until March 31, 2010. The BC Ferries Experience™ Card is an innovative product which has replaced the old prepaid paper tickets.

NOTE: This notice does not apply to the following routes:

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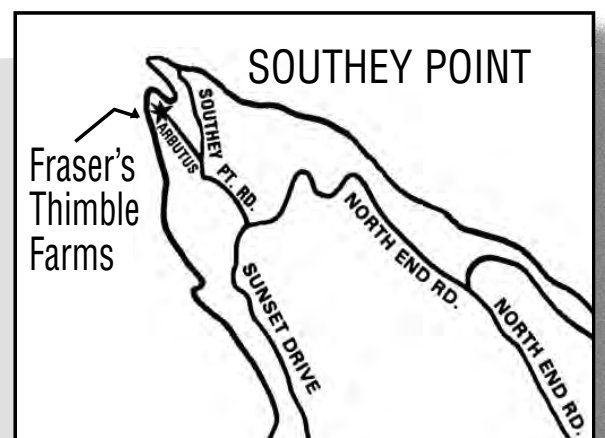
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THEATRE

Rare professional theatre treat en route

Innovative, award-winning Halifax company presentation

We've seen it often enough: A group of actors, often fresh out of university and impatient with the mainstream theatre dominating the local scene, get together to form an artist-led alternative company. They do a few energetic projects and then fall apart.

Halifax's 2b theatre is the exception. Five actors who wanted to do something different from the city's venerable Neptune Theatre formed a company called Bunnies in the Headlights Theatre in 1999. They did several well received productions. But then, instead of falling apart, they carried on to become one of Canada's most interesting and innovative small companies.

Two of the actors, Christian Barry and Anthony Black, took over as artistic co-directors in 2004 and changed the name to 2b theatre, a title derived from the initials of Barry and

"As artists, we create works that explore the world around us, and our experience of what it means to be."

Black, but also consistent with their philosophy:

"As artists, we create works that explore the world around us, and our experience of what it means to be."

To date they have staged 13 productions, including nine world premieres, and received high praise along the way, including three awards in 2008 in Nova Scotia's Merritt Awards for Best Director, Best Actor and Best Lighting Design. In 2009 they also received a nomination for best actor for Colombe Demers' lead role in *The Russian Play*, one of the two pieces 2b theatre will present March 31 and April 1 and 2 at ArtSpring.

The *Russian Play* is by Hannah Moskovich, whom the Belfry Theatre has described as "the hottest Canadian playwright on the scene today." It is a Chekhovian story of a peasant girl in Stalinist Russia who falls in love with the wrong man, reaps the consequences and takes us on a journey into what it means to be torn between fate and desire.

"To call the play 'brilliantly dark' would be an oxymoron anywhere but in the world of the Russian soul," says ArtSpring executive director George Sipos. "This is classic theatre at its best."

Also on the program is an earlier Moskovich play called *Mexico City*, a sardonic comedy about a Canadian couple who confront the privations and disappointments of married life on a holiday to Mexico in the 1960s. What they discover is not at all what they expected.

The two shows make a full evening of theatre, of which there will be three performances.

"Generally, plays do not

tour widely in Canada, so it is a rare treat for us on Salt Spring to see an exciting production from the other side of the country," says Sipos.

"It would be heartening to see big crowds coming to enjoy some of the best drama in Canada."

Tickets at \$24 for adults and \$5 for all youth are available from the ArtSpring ticket centre — 250-537-2102. Showtime is 8 p.m. for all three performances.

Sipos also hopes that students from the high school's Performing Arts program will have an opportunity to work with the 2b theatre company while they are on the island.

Its repertoire includes another Hannah Moskovich play, the Governor General's Award-winner *East of Berlin*; an original multi-media stage adaptation of Yann Martel's short story *Manners of Dying*; and original pieces conceived, written and directed by company members.

See the website at www.2btheatre.com for more information.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

MAKE-UP WIZARD: Fiona Kennedy, right, begins with the hair as she turns Trinity Forbes into the "creature" featured on the front page of this issue of the Driftwood.

THEATRE

Comedy of 'underwearers' up next for Community Theatre

Great Canadian script prompts director to return to first love

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

So, there's a thing happening in a hotel room where mistaken motives and confused identities lead to all sorts of people running around in their underwear. It's either a typical Friday on Salt Spring or the opening of a new play by Salt Spring Community Theatre. Or is it both?

Who's Under Where? is indeed the latest offering by Community Theatre, which comes to the stage with direction by Steve Coopman. The script has enough merit that it was the key to pulling Coopman out of a 15-year retirement from the theatre, where he had a career as a professional director for 20 years.

Coopman's experience as an educator and director is full of prominent positions, including teaching at Brock University and the University of Toronto.

He was an assistant director for two seasons at Stratford and directed all over the province of Ontario, where he often worked with Theatre Ontario to bring professional experience to community theatre groups.

He was an adjudicator for theatre festivals and spent his final five years in the province as artistic director of Solar Stage in Toronto.

Coopman began his long break from his former career when he moved to the west coast.

"I couldn't see myself living my entire life in a darkened theatre, so I thought it would be fun to do something else," Coopman explained.

Farming and wine tastings



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Steve Coopman

are some of the things he's tried — he wrote a column on wines for the Driftwood for about 10 years and will soon be offering a course in wine appreciation for Community Ed.

Coopman returns to directing for the first time since his break at the prompting of Community Theatre's Ann Stewart and with the attachment of the right script.

"Ann asked what I would do if I came back and I said it would have to be a farce, because I like to see people laugh," Coopman said.

And he knew just the play: he directed *Who's Under Where* with Toronto's Gryphon Theatre in 1991.

Written by Marcia Kash and Doug Hughes, Coopman said this play is different in that it's a true Canadian farce.

"That's unusual," Coopman said. "There's a lot of Canadian comedies but not a lot of them

are farces."

With its contemporary yet adaptable time period and its hotel setting, the play fits easily into any community — it could even take place at the Harbour House Hotel.

The play's action hinges on the dreams of two women (played by April Russell and Christina Penhale) to expand their women's lingerie company to include a line for men.

They plan to show the new line to a flashy Italian designer (Vaughn Fulford) in a hotel room when their husbands get wind of it and get all the wrong ideas.

In the pattern of farces, confusion reigns and hilarity inevitably ensues. One of the husbands (John Cade) has to model the extreme male fashions, while the other (Gordon Keel) dresses in women's lingerie to escape and attracts the lust of the security guard.

As Coopman observed, "It's a classic farce, except instead of women running around in skimpy things, it's men running around in skimpy things."

Despite a healthy measure of sexual innuendoes, however, Coopman said the production is completely family friendly.

"There's nothing untoward in it. Children might not get all the double entendres but they'll enjoy all the action — and the people dressed in their underwear," said Coopman.

"If someone's interested in having a good laugh, then they'll come."

Who's Under Where opens Friday, March 26, 8 p.m. at Mahon Hall. Additional shows are Saturday, March 27 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 28 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 at Salt Spring Books or at the door.

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

ST. PADDY FUN:

Staging a St. Patrick's Day lunch and bake sale at the Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church are, from left: Therese Ng, Jay Sturgess, Rita Dods, Bev Meyers, Marie Hopkins and Rose Heinekey.



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LOCAL HISTORY

A portrait of Salt Spring's pioneer past

Passion for genealogy and history in Mary Davidson's book

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Archives founder Mary Davidson has something of a passion for genealogy.

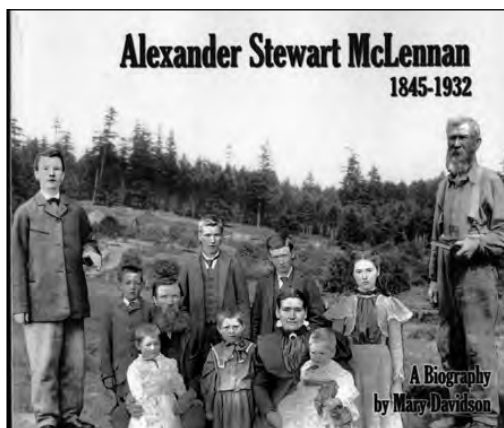
In her many years as a librarian and teacher, she taught students and parents that they should know where they came from and be proud of that information. In her 20 years managing the archives, she helped countless families trace their ancestors' island roots and helped create a well-established database that generations will be able to consult into the future.

Davidson's interest in her own family's history has resulted in another boon to the public record: a biography of her grandfather Alexander Stuart McLennan, which she created mainly for family interest, is the latest publication to shed light on Salt Spring's intriguing past.

Davidson was just 18 months old in 1932 when her grandfather passed away at 87. She was told that she strongly desired to look into his casket, although she doesn't remember the experience. But although she was too young to remember him in person, Alexander McLennan continued to exert a strong presence in the family, with stories of his life in Scotland and in Canada passed on through his many children and grandchildren.

Davidson still has memories of living as a young child on the farm McLennan created — and now, family, islanders and history buffs have another resource for understanding the past. With her interest in genealogy and the wealth of historical data available, she said it was natural to want to research this early islander.

"There is an old saying that if you don't know your history, you don't know the mistakes, so you repeat them," Davidson said in an interview at her home. "And if you don't know who you are, you don't have that pride. I think if you have that background knowledge and you know something about your origins, it's very good for you."



Davidson begins the story with McLennan's parents. His father Ewan was a gentleman from Scotland's Glenshiel County, a scenic region filled with lochs and crags, who had holdings in Jamaica as a planter and trader. When he died at age 48, however, he left behind the children of his first wife, who had died before him, as well as Alexander.

"As an educated young gentleman with little financial wherewithal, there is not much he could have done without further training, to earn a living in Scotland," Davidson writes, theorizing this circumstance sent him to Ontario where two uncles were established. Family tradition says McLennan was waiting for money from his mother to attend military school in Canada, but had to drop out when it didn't arrive.

Long before he arrived on Salt Spring, McLennan's travels took him west as a surveyor for the CPR. He spent time in the gold rush town of Barkerville, where he tutored two little girls, and also went north into the Peace River Country. But he was living in Victoria when he became acquainted with Salt Spring's Henry Ruckle, who convinced McLennan to take over pre-empting a 200-acre plot of land next to his when the original claimant passed away. To look at the property, he and Ruckle travelled from Victoria to Sidney by stagecoach and then rowed by open boat to Beaver Point.

Davidson notes McLennan's pre-emption was registered March 8, 1882. In the years following that first contact, McLennan and his wife Elizabeth raised a large family of children and increased their

farm property to 600 acres. Davidson writes that perhaps McLennan wasn't happiest as a farmer, but he was a very community-minded person who made many contributions to the island.

McLennan helped to found Beaver Point School (with Ruckle and pioneer Theodore Trage) and served on the school board as secretary. He also served at various points as postmaster and Justice of the Peace, and was a member of the Agricultural Society (now the Farmers' Institute).

"I think my grandpa was a really good pioneer. He certainly had a lot to contribute and he didn't hesitate to do the contributing. But then, he had a lot of great people to work with," Davidson said.

McLennan's biography may have been inspired by the personal memories of those close to him, but it is equally fascinating to any island resident because of its foundation of historical documents and photographs and its relevance to island history. Designed by Davidson's fellow archivist Frank Neumann, the book's design reproduces these original documents and photos on every page.

Davidson said her family is lucky to be filled with people who have saved books and letters and passed them on with the generations. Also fortuitous is the fact that a member of the family had a camera "very early on." (There's one photo of Davidson's father Murray on the farm taken around 1905 — he's young enough to be wearing a toddler's gown but is also holding a rifle!)

Even with the primary resources, however, Davidson's book shows that history is in many cases a matter of detective work. There are several places where she makes a best guess as to the reasons for her grandfather's actions.

"You have to have a bit of background knowledge when you're doing genealogy," Davidson said. "The records aren't always accurate, and people make mistakes. When you come across two records that don't agree, you have to use your background knowledge and information."

The book, called Alexander Stewart McLennan, 1845-1932, is available at Volume II Books or from Davidson at 250-653-4357.

News Updates

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About to list your house for sale?



Times have changed and so have the real estate companies and their business models.

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Conservancy set for Dyer visit

Intellectual heavy-hitter speaks at ArtSpring April 25

The geopolitics of climate change will be on the agenda when internationally renowned current affairs author/journalist Gwynne Dyer gives a presentation at ArtSpring on Sunday, April 25.

The Salt Spring Conservancy is sponsoring the visit of the Canadian-born military historian known for his numerous books, documentaries, and radio and TV series on war.

Dyer currently lives in London, but was born in St. John's, Newfoundland and joined the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve at the age of 16.

While still in the naval reserve, he obtained a BA in History from Memorial University of Newfoundland.

He went on to get an MA in Military History from Rice Uni-

versity and received his Ph.D. in Military and Middle Eastern History at King's College London.

He served in the Canadian, American and British naval reserves, and taught military history and war studies for two years at the Canadian Forces College in Toronto.

In 1973 he began writing articles for leading London newspapers on the Arab-Israeli conflict and soon decided to abandon academic life for a full-time career as a journalist, broadcaster and lecturer.

Dyer now writes a column on international affairs, which is published in over 175 newspapers in at least 45 countries

Many people came to know Dyer through the seven-part television series called War he created with Tina Viljoen for the National Film Board of Canada, which was first telecast in 1983.

War was shown in 45 countries, and one episode, titled

The Profession of Arms, was nominated for an Academy award.

Dyer also worked on two series in 1994 called The Human Race and Protection Force, both of which won Gemini awards.

His award-winning radio documentaries include The Gorbachev Revolution, a seven-part series based on his experiences in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, and Millenium, a six-hour series on the emerging global culture.

Dyer has written nine books to date. One of his best known is The Defence of Canada: In the Arms of the Empire.

His latest book is entitled Climate Wars, which will form the basis for his Salt Spring talk.

The April 25 event begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are available now at ArtSpring (250-537-2102) for \$25. They're expected to go quickly, so people should get them as soon as possible.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

PLAY ON: Amanda Hoy, left, and Christa Rogers are seen with Long Play 33 Dj Disc Purses at last weekend's Mahon Hall craft fair.

FUN SKILLS

Circus course begins with open house

Semance ready to share mesmerizing talents

For anyone who's ever dreamed of running away with the circus, a Community Education course that begins on

Thursday, March 25 might be just the thing.

Hosted by Johane Boisclair, also known as Semance, it begins with a free open house event at Mahon Hall on March 25 from 7 to 9 p.m.

For the rest of the all-ages course on five more Thursday

evenings, participants will learn balancing, juggling and twirling tricks, and practise poi with balls and ribbons.

For more information or to register, contact Salt Spring Community Education at info@ssicommunityed.org, or 250-537-0037.

PERSONAL HEALTH

Conquering insomnia in sight with Sounder Sleep workshop

Anna Haltrecht leads session on March 27

Islanders will learn how to say goodnight to insomnia through Anna Haltrecht's popular Sounder Sleep System workshop when it's offered next on Saturday, March 27.

"The Sounder Sleep System is based on the discovery that certain small, slow, gentle, physical movements can shift us from an alert, waking state to one of profound

physical and mental repose, at will," says Haltrecht in a press release. "When you reach that tranquil state, if you need sleep, you will fall asleep."

In the workshop, people will learn "gentle, remarkably effective movement techniques called mini-moves that are synchronized with one's breath.

"If you wake up during the night, the mini-moves get you back to sleep. They will relax your body, calm your mind and lull you to sleep.

"Workshop participants will also learn self-healing techniques called DayTammers™ that are practised during the day to combat stress, tension and anxiety to make life more peaceful. When your life is more peaceful, your sleep is more peaceful."

The workshop runs from 1 to 4 p.m. at Haltrecht's Cats Pajamas Studio.

The workshop will include everything people need to begin practising what she describes as a powerful system for enhanced

relaxation, inner peace and surer, sounder sleep.

It will also benefit those that have taken the workshop previously as new movements will be taught.

Haltrecht trained with the founder of the Sounder Sleep System, Michael Krugman. She is a Feldenkrais® practitioner and Bones for Life® Trainer.

Pre-register by calling her at 250-537-5681 or email anna@bonesforever.com. The fee is \$40.



Driftwood

OWNER'S MANUAL

..... chapter 4

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Is it available on-line?
Yes. Gulf Islands Real Estate is available as a "flipbook" in adobe pdf format. Click on the upper right hand corner of the right hand page, and it turns the page! Go to www.gulfislandsrealestate.ca to view on-line

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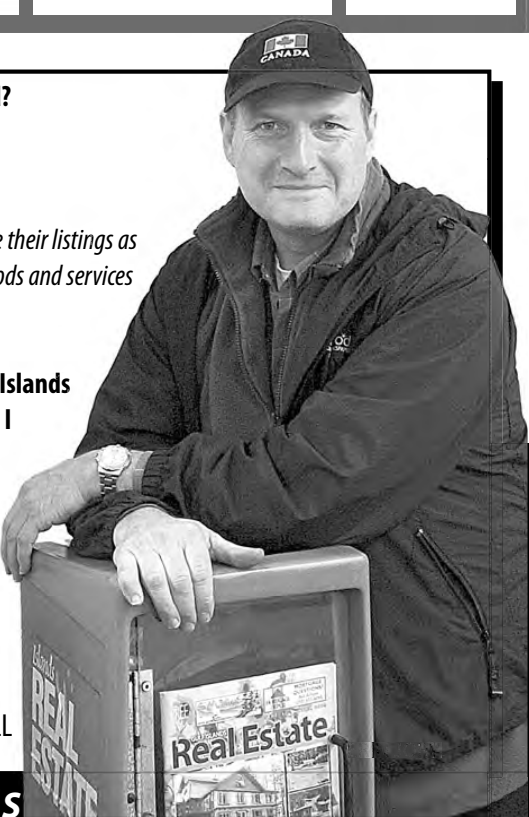
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11:50 am	1:00 pm
1:50 pm	3:00 pm
3:50 pm	5:00 pm
5:50 pm	7:00 pm
7:50 pm	9:00 pm

MEN'S SOCCER

SS FC wraps up a strong year

Alumni hosts Sunday morning showdown

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It couldn't have gotten any closer than it did.

Salt Spring FC came within a single goal of clinching first place in its division after playing to a one-all draw in its final regular-season game at Portlock Park on Saturday afternoon.

"It was good enough for second place and we can live with that," said coach and player Jordon Morrison.

Despite vocal local fan support, Vantreights jumped ahead to a one-goal lead early in the first after an unremarkable shot took "a funny bounce at a critical moment."

Harrison Jason levelled the score at one after intense pressure near the Vantreights goal.

"After that both teams tightened their belts and their defence and it became more difficult to crack Vantreights open," said Ryan Smith, a player on loan from Ganges Gremio. "FC did still manage to gain numerous opportunities and controlled much of the play, but that final touch was always lacking and was painfully magnified when their last chance, taken from well inside the 18-yard box, went sailing over the bar."

Morrison said Sunday's game concluded one of his best seasons on and off the field.

"This was the best group of guys that I have had the privilege of coaching," he said.

"There were no egos on this team, which made my job quite easy throughout the year. I would like to thank all of the players for their hard work and would also like to thank Malcom Legg [of the soccer association] and all of the officials for the work they have done and continue to do every year.

"We may not agree with their calls on the field but all of the players are full of respect for them."

In other soccer news, Ganges Gremio made the long trip up to Campbell River where they were defeated 6-0 in spite of a pre-game parking lot audiobook session with Sun Tzu's The Art of War.

The "extremely depleted" nine-per-



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

There are high fives as Harrison Jason scores the Salt Spring FC goal.

son Gremio squad did its best to contain the only undefeated team in its division, but eventually succumbed to the pressure.

"We did our best to contain them and nipped at their heels every chance we got, but they did eventually score a go-ahead goal before the half," Smith wrote in a post-game report. "Our half-time pep talk involved a lot of hands on knees and heavy breathing, and then we went back out for more punishment."

Gremio held its own until the game's final 25 minutes when Campbell River pulled out all the stops in a shooting-gallery style finale.

The team plays its final two games of the season this weekend at Portlock Park. Start time for both games is 2:15

p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

"With a couple of wins we can still take third place, which everybody agrees is a good finish in light of our season," Smith said.

Inclement weather cancelled Alumni FC's highly anticipated quarterfinal match against Cordova Bay Orange on the weekend.

The two teams are scheduled to take to the field at Portlock Park on Sunday morning at 10:30.

The winner of Sunday's match advances to play Gorge FC in the cup final. Both finalists automatically advance to the provincial finals held in early summer.

"We are looking for tons of fans to come out and cheer us on," said player Lyle Brown. "It should be a battle."

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SPORTS & RECREATION

CANOEING

New island canoeist calls for calm

Trincomali rescue deemed unnecessary

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It's difficult to say who was more surprised when Coast Guard and RCMP officers approached Vincent Theriault and his 26-foot voyageur-style canoe in Trincomali Channel earlier this month.

As far as Theriault was concerned, he was out for his usual Sunday afternoon paddle with some friends.

When winds and currents in the channel began whipping up the sea, onlookers from the shoreline assumed the worst and called for help. Rescue crews came out expecting a full-on rescue mission.

Emergency personnel ended up towing Theriault and his vessel closer to shore and, though he appreciates the lift and residents' vigilance, the incident made him want to set things straight.

"I'd just like to let people know that I know what I'm doing, because I'm going to be doing a lot of this," he said in an interview following the non-incident.

"I was just surfing with the wind and having a hell of a time."

At 60 years of age, Theriault's experience on the water extends from his service aboard a deep-sea tug in the Baffin Sea to lobster fishing off Canada's East Coast and working off the Haitian coast.

Theriault said he's also the inventor of a self-contained maritime rescue capsule used by deep sea vessels and their crews.

In keeping with his home province of New Brunswick's rich maritime and cultural history, Theriault has plenty of yarns and a strong spirit of adventure that assures many more gems are sure to follow.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Residents can get used to seeing Vincent Theriault sailing his giant canoe around the island in the weeks and months ahead. The long-time sailor asks that people take a closer look before assuming he and his customized high-speed canoe require assistance from emergency personnel.

"I know what danger is."

VINCENT THERIAULT
Ocean canoeist

"I know what danger is," he said.

Given the tempestuous seas he's faced throughout most of his life as a commercial fisherman, the waters of the Salish Sea, he said, are the ideal spot for a laid-back retirement.

Theriault spends much of his "retirement" these days working on island farms and fine tuning the giant nine-person fiberglass canoe that sits outside his Fulford Valley

residence.

The boat was shipped across the country, equipped with a sail and two outriggers for added stability.

The fully loaded vessel weighs in at more than 300 kilograms (650 pounds) and can reach speeds of up to 20 km/h in the kind of wind that so alarmed Theriault's north-end onlookers.

Similar vessels made of birch bark were used by Canada's 17th-century coureurs de bois. Theriault said it was common for the "coureurs" to put in 10- to 12-hour days paddling at between 50 to 60 strokes per minute as they pushed European influ-

ence westward across North America for the glory of New France.

Over the past several weeks, Theriault has completed two non-continuous circum-navigations of the island and fully intends to keep hitting the water every Sunday as the weather improves.

In the event of a real emergency, Theriault carries a VHF radio, extra paddles, PFDs and survival gear.

Should people ever see him flashing an SOS signal to shore, he added, that's the time to call for help.

Theriault offers free rides every Sunday afternoon.

If you can catch him.

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BASEBALL

Local baseball season now getting underway with registration blitz

Second date set this Saturday

The second of two registration dates for Salt Spring Island Minor Baseball and Softball will be held on Saturday, March 20.

Last week the Sports Traders

store on Hereford Avenue was the spot to bring in completed forms and pay the registration fee.

This Saturday the registration table is set up at Johnson's Shell Service in Ganges from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Registration forms are available at the Parks and Recreation Commission office, Johnson's Shell Service or Sports Traders.

Photocopies of birth certificates are required to complete registration.

TENNIS

PARC to take swing at disintegrating facilities

Fulford tennis not about to fall through the cracks

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The scale of work needed to improve Fulford's public tennis court means the facility could stay closed until 2011, according to Gayle Baker, chair of the island's Parks and Recreation Commission.

PARC closed the Fulford court as a result of "serious safety concerns" posed by the courts' deteriorating conditions.

The anticipated cost to reconstruct the court, which is located

on property leased from the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District, has been budgeted at anywhere between \$65,000 and \$75,000.

"That's a lot of money for a facility on rented land," she said. Baker said the commissioners will discuss how to proceed with the court issue at Monday's monthly PARC meeting at Portlock Park at 7 p.m.

Fulford area tennis players can rest assured that commission members are aware of PARC's ongoing commitment to tennis in the south end, Baker added.

Over time, she added, it's hoped the best and most cost-effective solution can be developed.

Also under discussion on Monday will be commissioners' final recommendations on how to proceed with work on the tennis courts at Portlock Park.

Discussions up to this point indicate the commission could choose to fill existing cracks on courts 2, 3 and 4, or go with a longer-term option to resurface courts with a layer of asphalt. Costs for the work have been budgeted at \$9,000 and up to \$30,000 respectively. PARC members are still receiving quotes for the short-term solution.

Cracks have reappeared since repair work was conducted on the courts three years ago.

GULF ISLANDS Driftwood WEEKENDER www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

THIS WEEK: Mexico and the Zen of Cycling

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Island man triumphs over 745-km, seven-day challenge

Mexico and the Zen of Cycling

Shelly, a teacher specializing in curriculum development and a reading specialist, has worked in 12 classroom settings, done curriculum development, taught in the first North and with First Nations communities, as well as teaching ESL in Papua New Guinea and Thailand. She went back to take upgrading courses eight years ago. She went back to take upgrading courses eight years ago. She went back to take upgrading courses eight years ago.

SPORTS & RECREATION

PROFILES

Who's at the PARC office? Meet Kees, Carin, Tracey

Parks and Recreation Commission member Jane Horsburgh submitted the following mini-profiles of PARC office staff to the Driftwood for publication as part of a public awareness campaign being undertaken by PARC.

BY JANE HORSBURGH
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Salt Spring is lucky to have dedicated, hard-working PARC staff.

Carin Perrins is officially PARC's administrative secretary, but she is much more.

As PARC's "money lady," she does accounting and produces accurate budgets.

Perrins can save here, transfer a surplus there and track every penny spent.

She runs the Saturday market, which is a PARC responsibility, is the go-to person for questions about Rainbow Road Pool and organizes the successful Camp Colossal for kids.

When outside groups use PARC property, Perrins ensures they have the necessary insurance.

Perrins and her husband Mark came to Salt Spring from Richmond in 1984 to help build Mark's parents' house.

They stayed and now Mark runs Crystal Blue Pools & Spa. Sons Christopher and Erik keep this working mom busy.

She is involved with the minor baseball association and also enjoys the Stagecoach Theatre, helps coordinate the Relay for Life, and she and Mark own West of the Moon.

Tracey Shaver and husband Joel, who owns the Ganges Sports Traders store, arrived on Salt Spring in 2003.

Shaver works as the secretary (preparing letters and minutes), clerk and receptionist. This last task means that she functions as Salt Spring's municipal "information central."

Residents and visitors alike call PARC's office with a multitude of queries, such as "When are you coming to collect my brush?" or "What time is the next ferry?"

While more questions are now asked about our trails and beaches, Shaver feels most Salt Springers don't realize how varied PARC's tasks are. "Ask us questions!" she says.

Born in Burnaby, Shaver lived in Santa Rosa, California for some years.

She and Joel were drawn to Salt Spring because as a child she spent summers here with her grandparents.

She is also a multi-tasking mom, taking sons Dylan and Brennan to basketball and baseball.

Salt Spring is lucky to have dedicated, hard-working PARC staff.

Kees Ruurs became PARC's manager in 2008 and comes to Salt Spring from The Netherlands via Arizona, California, Alberta, Yukon, the Okanagan and Oregon.

With more than 30 years' experience supervising parks and recreational facilities, negotiating agreements and preparing budgets, Ruurs is turning PARC into a vibrant, useful service that all Salt Springers can utilize and enjoy.

Ruurs and his wife Margriet, who is an internationally renowned author of children's books, have adopted Salt Spring Islander's multi-tasking skills.

They run Between the Covers Book Lovers' B&B. They chose Salt Spring for its "green" attitude and climate.

Also, Ruurs currently volunteers with the Salt Spring Conservancy and fire department to eradicate the invasive, flammable Scotch broom, which is a serious fire hazard.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

PARC staff, from left: Tracey Shaver, Kees Ruurs and Carin Perrins.

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VOLLEYBALL

GISS grad shines on national court

UBC-Okanagan places third in finals

A stand-out performance from former Gulf Islands Secondary School volleyball sensation Chris Howe helped the Okanagan Heat earn a bronze medal at the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association National Volleyball Championships in Edmonton over the weekend.

Howe, who graduated from GISS in 2009, earned a player-of-the-match award in his game against Quebec's Limoilou Titans.

"This is quite an accomplishment for a rookie player on a national stage. I have no doubt that there will be many more great achievements to come for Chris in his volleyball career," said Kellie Booth, Howe's former coach at GISS.

"He is a fine young man, with a tremendous work ethic and I am very proud of him."

Booth said she watched the games on the internet.

"All of Salt Spring would have been proud of the way Chris carried himself on this national stage. The commentator could

not quit talking about the calibre of his play as a first-year player and the happy, positive manner in which he played the game."

The Titans went on to win the 2010 national title.

Howe and the Okanagan Heat qualified for the eight-team event after clinching third place at the BCCAA Provincial Finals in Victoria earlier this month.

Howe was a unanimous selection to the province's all-rookie team following the March 12 final.

Do you have something to say about a story or letter?
Comment on-line @ gulfislandsdriftwood.com

YOUTH SOCCER

Rothwell immersed in Whitecaps soccer event

BY LAUREN ANDERSON
GISS WORK EXPERIENCE STUDENT

Salt Spring athlete Kimberly Rothwell competed in last weekend's Whitecaps West Coast College Showcase in Surrey.

The showcase was an invitation-only event that gave young soccer players the opportunity to listen to guest speakers from North America, compete, and show off their skills in front of college and university coaches and scouts.

"Getting the chance to play with all the girls I normally played against" was the best experience of the weekend, she said.

Rothwell's name was added to the list of athletes attending after she sent in a player profile.

The 14-year-old high school student attends GISS while not on the field during practices and games. Rothwell has been playing on a soccer team since she was in the second grade and now plays for the Upper Vancouver Island Metro U15 girls team.



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DEATHS

WENDY LEIGH CROMIE
 December 7, 1947 - March 11, 2010
 Passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by those who loved her. She will be deeply missed by her children Patrick (Tee), Lyndsay (Steve), and Anna (Luke) and her Grandchildren Oliver, Emily, Lara and Lucy. Survived by her brothers Barney and Patrick, and her sister Jill.
 Special thanks to Dr. Barclay, Susan Banks and the wonderful staff at Lady Minto.
 Deepest gratitude to Wendy's dear friend, Romi, for all his help.
 For Wendy, give flowers to someone you love.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

FABULOUS FLEAMARKET, DATES HAVE CHANGED
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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

SALT SPRING ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NOTICE
 The annual general meeting of the members of the Association will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Monday March 29, 2010 at the Lower Hall of the Salt Spring Island United Church, 111 Hereford Avenue, Ganges.

GARDEN SEEDS now at SOLID Exchange beside library, Thur.- Sun. 10:30 - 2:30

DEATHS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SSI SEARCH & RESCUE
 April 6, 2010 at 7pm
 Search & Rescue Hall
 261 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

LADIES' BUSINESS meeting in the SSI G & C Clubhouse Lounge with complimentary coffee and muffins, 9am. on Tuesday, March 23 (for playing members). Opening Day Golf - 9 holes of golf followed by a Luncheon and Fashion show on March 30, contact pro-shop for tickets and times. All Lady Members welcome.

DEATHS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

FREE: MAPLE syrup making demonstration and tasting from Salt Spring big leaf maple trees. Sun. Mar. 21, 10am-noon. Harbour House Organic Farm. Come through the farm gate at the top of the harbour House parking lot. Families welcome. No dogs please, as we have scaredy goats!

DEATHS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

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DEATHS

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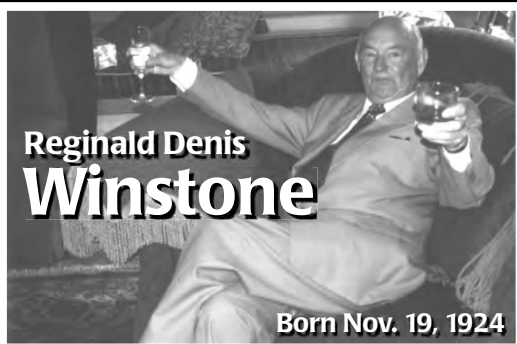
DEATHS

Ellen Mellstrom

March 8, 1922 ~ March 10, 2010

Ellen was born at Cape Scott, BC and lived a pioneer life with her parents, three sisters and two brothers. Tragedy struck the family in 1938 with the loss of her two brothers, only to be followed closely by the death of her mother. In spite of the hardships, Ellen had fond memories growing up in the wilderness, which kindled a lifelong love of animals. In 1942, the family moved to Nanoose Bay where Ellen met her husband Carl. They were married in 1944. Ellen and Carl raised their children Linda, Dale, Camellia and Ernest as well as numerous foster children in Nanoose Bay and were active members in the community. After retiring in 1974, Ellen and Carl moved to Salt Spring. Together they volunteered for Seniors for Seniors, Meals on Wheels and other groups. Carl passed away in 1980. Ellen continued helping with the Seniors for Seniors luncheons for many years.

Declining health meant Ellen needed the care that Greenwoods provides. She resided at Greenwoods for 5½ years, where she was known for her love of chocolate and coffee. Ellen passed away peacefully at Greenwoods on March 10 and will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Thank you to the staff at Greenwoods, Dr. MacPhail and the Hospice Volunteers. No service by request.



Reginald Denis Winstone

Born Nov. 19, 1924

Reg died peacefully on March 10, 2010 at Lady Minto Hospital. Reg was born in Southampton, U.K. into a family of builders. Reg served in the second World War as able seaman on 'The Phoebe', participating in the Burma Campaign for 3 years. Reg came to Salt Spring in 1981. He worked as a carpenter and was active at the Legion, the Golf Club, bowling and as a member of Crofton Brook board of directors.

Sadly missed by his wife Vanda, many children and grandchildren and his snooker buddies at the Legion.

There will be no service at Reg's request. The whole family wishes to thank the nursing staff at Lady Minto, particularly Susie, who showed special kindness to Reg.



Alexandra Margaret Bell (nee Porteous),

artist, died peacefully at the age of 76 (June 16, 1933-March 11, 2010) on Salt Spring Island, B.C., with daffodils and crocuses blooming. Alexandra (Sandra) blazed her own trail and left a mark from her start in Arcola, Saskatchewan-- through school years in Winnipeg, with summer trains to Carlyle, the lake, and her grandparents and through the family she built with her husband, Bobby: her three children Nancy (Kevan King), Rob (Lynne) and June (Scott Simmons), and her six Calgary-born grandchildren, Kathleen, Parker, Jillian, Amanda, Keith and Thomas--until her final "Salt Spring Moment".

Alexandra was a communicator with an eclectic and extensive body of work both as a radio journalist and travel writer. She provided public relations expertise to The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta, the Alberta Trucking Association, several oil companies, and lastly to Calgary Transit during the

launch of the C-Train. While living and painting in Elbow Park, Calgary, she was an active member of Christ Church, enjoyed golfing at the Glencoe Golf & Country Club and most importantly, loved and cared for her entire family. Away from home, she traveled extensively to paint in Europe and to work in Taipei and Hong Kong. As a "Snow Bird" in Arizona and Hawaii, she shared her love of travel with her entire family by including them on these, and many other trips. In 2003, Alexandra became a Salt Spring Islander and embraced island life, pursuing her art and as a member of the Weavers and Spinners Guild, Painters Guild, Probus Club, Bridge Club, Book Club and a parishioner of the Anglican Church. As she had throughout her entire life, Alexandra continued to welcome family and friends to the beautiful island world she created and ensured that each visitor enjoyed treats and experiences meant especially for them, a ritual she continued until the end of her wonderful life.

A service will be held at St. Mark's Church, 961 North End Road, north of Central, Salt Spring Island, B.C., at 2:00 PM Friday, March 19. In lieu of donations or flowers, Alexandra would have appreciated those who knew and loved her doing something nice for themselves or their family in her memory.



Carrie Louise Cunningham

1910 - 2010

Passed away peacefully at Greenwoods on Feb. 24, 2010 just 5 days before her 100th birthday. Born to Louise S. Davis, noted educator, and Albert B. Davis, engineer, in New Orleans. Carrie Louise met Cyril Cunningham from Victoria, her future husband, when he was working for her uncle and training to be an entomologist in New Orleans. Carrie Louise and Cyril moved to Canada when she was 19 years of age. They were married for 63 years. The couple retired in 1965 on Salt Spring along with other members of her bridge club, who were looking for adventure. Carrie Louise was a treasurer for the North Vancouver School's band and the North Shore Victorian Order of Nurses during the 1950's and 1960's. Carrie Louise was known for her wit and Salt Spring bridge tournaments. Mourned by her son, Allen (Maxine), nephews Gary (Ernell) and Allen Jr., nieces Jerie-Lynn (Mike) and Peggy (Ray) and friends and Greenwoods' staff. Special thanks to Greenwoods for the many years of wonderful care and thoughtfulness both at the daycare level and in permanent residence. Their dedicated staff and caring personnel made her life truly worthwhile during her later years. A celebration of her life, New Orleans style, was held at home. A graveside service for family is planned.

ISOBEL KERR

Isobel died peacefully in her sleep on 8 March 2010 at Lady Minto Hospital. Born 27 January 1922 in Ladysmith BC, the only child of Bert and Kate Mainwaring, Isobel is remembered with love by sons Richard (Janice McLean) of Salt Spring Island and Bruce (Janet) of Victoria, granddaughters Kathryn and Erin, and by numerous friends and family members.

Isobel grew up on Vancouver Island where her grandparents had homesteaded in the 1870s. Wherever else she lived, Isobel always considered Vancouver Island to be her home. As an Air Force wife for 14 years, Isobel raised her sons in trailer camps at various RCAF stations in Canada and France. Although the conditions were often primitive, Isobel enjoyed the opportunities to travel, especially in Europe. At 40, she unexpectedly had to combine single parenting with building a new life and career. After going back to school, Isobel obtained an editor's position at the Ottawa Citizen, where she worked until retirement.

Throughout her life, Isobel had a knack for forming lasting friendships. She delighted in surprising her friends and family with occasional risk-taking, most notably her paragliding adventure in Mexico. Isobel derived great pleasure from contact with nature at the cottage she had built near Algonquin Park. From her childhood, Isobel was very fond of animals and passed this trait to her sons.

The last six years of Isobel's life were spent at the Extended Care Unit of Lady Minto Hospital, only a short distance from where her life began. The family would like to express our deep appreciation and thanks to the hospital staff and volunteers who were extremely caring and helped to ease the difficult last years of this "tough old bird" - as Isobel liked to describe herself. Isobel's ashes will be scattered, as she requested, on the shores of the Pacific. There will be no service at Isobel's request. Donations in Isobel's memory may be made to the SPCA or the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation Extended Care Fund.

DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATHS

DEATHS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS



Denton, John Norman Mallory _ Died suddenly from an arterial embolism March 11 in hospital on Salt Spring Island. J.D., an irrepressible wheeler-dealer with a booming voice, never met an argument he didn't like. John was a longtime horse breeder and owner who

knew nearly everyone involved in equestrian activities in British Columbia. Born in Vancouver on June 17, 1927, he met and married Dorinne in Calgary in 1952-53. In the early days they hit the road across Canada, selling encyclopedias to everyone from millionaire entrepreneurs to dirt-poor farmers. The family spent 1961-64 working in Australia. John passed the Canadian Securities Course in 1968 and for many years was a fixture on the Howe Street investment scene. He is survived by Dorinne, daughters Laurie (David) and Lynne (Mark), grandchildren Robert (Doris) and Patricia, great-grandchildren Lance and Maximo, brothers Robin and Pat and sister Rosalyn. As per John's wishes there will be no formal funeral service. **Please raise a glass of your favourite libation in his memory** and if you see fit, donations to the SPCA Biscuit Fund would be greatly appreciated. Special thanks to the staff at Lady Minto hospital, especially Dr. David Woodley and Dr. Jan MacPhail and all the nurses and paramedics. Arrangements by Hayward's funeral home. 250-537-1022.



Pool Equipment Fundraising Burgers

Outside Country Grocer
Saturday, March 20
10 am - 2 pm



We're still waiting...

opening soon
154 Kings Lane
250 537 2444

info@gangesyogastudio.com
www.gangesyogastudio.com

ARGENTINE TANGO DANCE

Saturday, March 20, 9pm, \$10
preceded by:
Argentine Tango Lessons
Robert Creeese and Julianna Slomka
3:00 - 4:00 pm
Beginners / Intermediate
4:30 - 5:30 pm
Intermediate / Advanced
Classes are \$15 each or both / \$25
Classes and Milonga at:
All Saints Anglican Church
110 Park Drive
Info: Karen Pedersen 250.538.7472
http://www.ssitango.com
ssitango@gmail.com

BINGO

MEADEN HALL
Royal Canadian Legion

7 PM THURSDAY
March 18
Early Birds, 6:30 pm

Sponsored by
Ladies Auxiliary
Royal Canadian Legion Br. 92
All proceeds to bursaries
for Salt Spring Students.

CLASS SERIES
INTRODUCING
MINDFULNESS
(Vipassana)
MEDITATION
with Heather Martin
7 Thursday evenings,
starting April 1.
Registration:
hmartin@saltspringwireless.com

DOROTHY PRICE
CERTIFIED
YOGA TEACHER

250-653-4655
e: dorothyoga@hotmail.com

MONDAY
9:00-10:30 AM ~ All Levels
The Core Inn - 3rd floor, Ganges
4:30-6:00 PM ~ All Levels
SSC of Yoga - 355 Blackburn Rd

TUESDAY
7:00-8:30 PM ~ All Levels
The Gatehouse - 190 Reynolds Rd

WEDNESDAY
9:00-10:30 AM ~ All Levels
The Gatehouse - 190 Reynolds Rd
6:30- 8:00 PM ~ All Levels
The Core Inn - 3rd floor, Ganges

THURSDAY
4:30-6:00 PM ~ All Levels
SSC of Yoga - 355 Blackburn Rd

FRIDAY
9:00 - 10:30 AM ~ All Levels
SSC of Yoga -
355 Blackburn Road

WWW.DOROTHYOGA.COM

EDUCATION SECTION B

COMING EVENTS

The Family of
MEL SUMNER
invite his many friends to a farewell gathering for him
Sunday, March 21
2:30 - 4:30 pm
at the
Seniors Services Centre,
379 Lower Ganges Road
After 35 years on S.S.I. Mel is moving to be with family in Vernon, B.C.
Come to wish him well

New shipment in for spring!
Metal gates, outdoor benches, hand carved garden stone, wood sculptures, slate pots and many more unusual finds.
Discover Indonesia at
AI's Asian Treasures and Imports
10 am - 4:30 pm
Tuesday - Sunday
250.732.3696
#7 9360 Smiley Rd., Chemainus (just off Henry Rd. & Trans Can. Hwy.)

JONATHAN FIELD
Horsemanship Clinic
Level 2: Unity
Fri 19th-21st March
Auditors (spectators) welcome
\$25 per day or \$60 for 3 days
Lunch available on site
Blennerhasset Equestrian
988 North End Road
Salt Spring Island
250-537-2089

LADY MINTO Thrift Shop
Silent Auction. Unique Ethnic items and Jewellery. 15 March to Noon Saturday 27.

COMING EVENTS

BEACON Community SERVICES
PUBLIC FORUM
"We Have Never Died Like This"
With Katherine Murray
March 30, 2010
9-7 p.m.
Lion's Club Hall
A discussion of new approaches to palliative care.
Sponsored by Bob Akerman Memorial Funds as a gift to the community. No fee. Donation can be made to Bessie Dane Foundation.
For more information call Beacon Community Services at 537-9895.

20% EXTRA OFF
all SALE ITEMS
30% OFF
All in-stock Art Supplies till March 31st.

Salt Spring Books
250-537-2812

SS PAINTERS Guild Spring Show and Silent Auction. April 16th-29th at ArtSpring.

Community Theatre presents
Who's Under Where?
Written by:
Marcia Kash and Doug Hughes
Directed by:
Steve Coopman
MAHON HALL
Friday, March 26
8PM
Saturday, March 27
2PM & 8PM
Tickets: \$15.00 available at Salt Spring Books and at the door
by arrangement w/Samuel French inc.®

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP
"The Purpose of Life" Kimberly Lineger finds answers to this question. Sunday March 21, 11am at S.S. Seniors' Centre.
www.saltspringunitarian.com

INFORMATION

ATTENTION RESIDENTIAL
School survivors and day school students! Confused about the independent assessment process (IAP)? Is the government not answering your questions? Not sure if you qualify? Need help? We've helped over 3000 survivors across Canada with their claims. Call now! 1-888-918-9336.

WHAT'S ON
PAGE A16

COMING EVENTS

William Wowchuk



On February 22, I lost my beloved husband, Bill, after his brave struggle with cancer. He was a much loved brother, brother-in-law, uncle, and friend. Bill was born on August 14, 1936, in Dauphin, Manitoba, the second youngest of eight, to William and Christina. They came from Ukraine in 1925; this heritage was always important to him. His first memories were of farm life. In 1941, the family moved to Hamilton, Ontario. In 1945, they came to Victoria where the older siblings stayed after the family returned to Hamilton in 1950. In 1954, Bill joined the army (RCEME) where he trained and worked as a gun mechanic, often on tanks, which interested him for the rest of his life. He was a proud Canadian and enjoyed the army, especially two years in Germany, and the opportunity to train in sports - he was very good at track and field.

In 1960, Bill left the military, returned to Victoria, and completed high school while working a night job. He always loved learning, so he carried on to the University of Victoria, where we met. After our marriage in 1968, we moved to Kingston, where Bill completed an MSc at Queen's University on a scholarship. In 1971, we returned to visit the family farm on Prevost Island and stayed for seven years. This was a happy time for us, living in a small log cabin by the sea. Bill worked very hard on the farm and tackled any job - he was thorough in everything he did, always achieving the best he could. He was like a son to our father, Hubert. Then followed six years in Port Alberni where Bill became the production manager of a large salmon farm; this was a pioneering time in aquaculture to which he was pleased to contribute. In 1984, we again returned to Prevost; Bill loved the farm,

the land, and the animals, with which he was patient and caring. He made beautiful fences of expertly split cedar posts, kept machinery running, and could solve many problems through innovation. He cared lovingly for our late mother, Jean. Bill had many interests: history, languages, science, world events, music, and bird watching; he always looked forward to learning new things. He was kind, generous, fair and just, a vital and welcoming person who was always ready to help others and to share his knowledge. Bill was an exceptional man and we were blessed with many happy years. He will forever live in our hearts.

Predeceased by brothers Nicholas, Steven, and Lloyd, sister Lena Dorosh, three nieces and a nephew, and sister-in-law Maureen de Burgh, Bill is survived by his dear wife Sheila, brother Michael, sisters Ann (Jim) Fortune, Jean (John) Abernathy, sisters-in-law Barbara and Susan de Burgh, nieces and nephews and their families, and many friends.

I would like to thank our family and the many friends who have helped me get through the past two months. Thank you also to David, Mark, Paul, Ben, Harold, Diana, Brad, Garth, Mike, Lew, Lori and Katie for all they have done on Prevost.

A memorial service will be held at All Saints By the Sea, Ganges, Salt Spring Island at 2 pm March 21 followed by a reception. If desired, donations in Bill's memory may be made to: The William Wowchuk Memorial Scholarship, Department of Biology, University of Victoria (http://web.uvic.ca/givingtouviv/givenow/online_login.php or phone 250-472-4210 Uvic Development Office). This graduate scholarship honours Bill's lifetime interest in cell biology.

Island Comfort Quilts Quilting Bee

Sunday 28 March 2010
9:00-4:30
Farmers' Institute Hall

Volunteers Needed
Quilters for making quilt tops
Sewers for making bags
Helpers to pin, tie, iron etc.
Helpers for setup
Sat 28 Mar 4:30-5:30
Helpers for takedown
Sun 29 Mar 4:30-5:30

Phone: Marguerite Lee 250 537 5302
Or email: islandcomfortquilts@shaw.ca

Saltspring Cooperative Preschool

Is now accepting enrollment for 3 and 5 year olds for the 2010-2011 school year. Come and find out about our new schedule, and be there for our fabulous basket raffle draw.

Please join us at our
Open House

Saturday March 27th 10:00 - 12:00

For more information
please contact Clare at
538-8416

saltspringpreschool@gmail.com

JOIN US TONIGHT for ST. PATRICK'S DAY



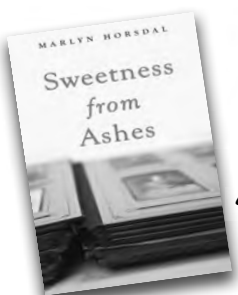
All Day Specials...

Pitchers of Draft\$12
Irish Stew & Soda Bread.....\$9.95
Local Lamb Burgers\$11.95

250.537.4700

ARBOUR HOUSE HOTEL
and organic farm

Gulf Coast MATERIALS
will be off-loading the gravel barge
Wednesday, March 24, 2010
THANK YOU FOR THE ISLAND'S SUPPORT



Salt Spring Books
invites you to the launch of
Salt Springer Marlyn Horsdal's
debut novel
"Sweetness from Ashes"

with Guest authors
Margaret Thomson and Ann Eriksson
reading from their books



Sunday, March 21 • 1-3 pm at ArtSpring
Refreshments served
Call 537-2812 for info



DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRAVEL

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

HELP WANTED

INFORMATION

INFORMATION

INFORMATION

GETAWAYS

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

HELP WANTED



WE WANT YOU!
For auditions call
250.537.1091

Your gift to the **Heart and Stroke Foundation** will help support life saving research and education in heart disease and stroke.

To donate In Memory or In Honour:
www.heartandstroke.bc.ca
Toll-Free: 1-888-754-5274

Mail to:
401-495 Dunsmuir St.
Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9

PARC GRANTS-IN-AID
Applications for Grants-In-Aid to assist with parks and recreation related projects, which directly provide additional recreation facilities, equipment, services or programs, are considered twice each year- in the spring and in the fall. Grants are usually awarded on a one-time basis, but under certain circumstances may be applied to ongoing programs. The deadline for the current applications is Wednesday, March 31, 2010. Application forms are available on our website www.crd.bc.ca/ssiparc or at the PARC office. Call 537-4448 or email parc@saltspring.com .

Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation (PARC) is preparing a LEISURE BROCHURE for distribution this spring. The brochure will contain information about leisure activities available on the island throughout the year, including sports activities, recreational courses, trail information, festivals, events and last but not least, contact information for the many clubs, guilds, individuals and businesses that provide a recreational activity, course or event.

If you and/or your organization has not already been contacted by PARC, please call us at 250-537-4448, by March 25, to make sure your information is included.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY

Islands Trust wishes to engage the services of a Consultant to research, design and plan a Salt Spring Island Community Affordable Housing Strategy. The work will be conducted in partnership with community agencies that are working to resolve barriers to housing. Request for Proposal documents may be obtained from Islands Trust Salt Spring Local Planning Office, 500 Lower Ganges Road, Telephone 250-537-9144. Proposals will be accepted up until March 26, 2009. For further information, contact Justine Starke at 250-538-5603.

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.

PERSONALS

DATING SERVICE. Long-Term/Short-Term Relationships, FREE CALLS.1-877-297-9883. Exchange voice messages, voice mailboxes.1-888-534-6984. Live adult casual conversations-1on1, 1-866-311-9640. Meet on chat-lines. Local Single Ladies.1-877-804-5381. (18+).

LOST AND FOUND

PRINCESS BARBIE here, I am lost! (Blonde you know.) I was wearing my favourite evening gown of lavender tulle over white, but not, unfortunately, my shoes or my tiara, when I was picked up in Moby's parking lot. Please call 250-653-9888 to contact the person that found me. I really want to go home.Love, Barbie!

Who reads us?
88% of Islanders read the Driftwood each week.
-Cambase survey

LOST AND FOUND

LONG BEACH - Ucluelet - Deluxe waterfront cabin, sleeps 6, BBQ, Spring special, 2 nights \$239, 3 nights \$299. Call Rick 604-306-0891

PARKSVILLE - RENT our beachside family condo for your summer getaway in the heart of Vancouver Island's Oceanside vacation district. To book now visit www.rathrevor-beachgetaway.ca.

TIME SHARE

SELL/RENT Your Time Shares For Cash! Our Guaranteed Services Will Sell/Rent Your Unused Timeshare for Cash! Over \$78 Million Dollars Offered in 2009!
www.selltimeshare.com 1-866-708-3690.

TRAVEL

YOU NEED A Vacation! Save money on your next vacation www.traveluniversally.com Call Toll Free 1-(877)903-8887. Also visit: www.travelhot.com Hottest travel deals with every click. CST 2098628-40.

BCjobnetwork

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ARE YOU Ready to choose... how much you earn? When you want to work? Who you work with? Where you work? We train you online. Go to: www.liveyourdreamtoo.com.

***CAREER DISTURBED?** Learn to operate a Mini-Office Outlet from home. Free online training, flexible hours, great income. www.123BeFree.com

NEW HEALTH & Wealth Referral Program. Earn Thousands of Dollars. Get Healthy & Wealthy At The Same Time. Free Sign-up - Free Website - No Selling. <http://www.CBHealthandWealth.com>

SWEET SOMETHINGS Gallery is for sale. Call Amber at 250-931-0106 or 250-537-0106 for more info.

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION Is rated #2 for at-home jobs. Learn from home. Work from home! Start your online training today. Contact CanScribe at: 1-800-466-1535, www.canscribe.com, info@canscribe.com.

TRAIN TO be a Medical Lab Assistant. The Healthcare industry needs YOU! MTI Community College www.mticc.com, 604-310-2684. LOVE YOUR JOB!

LOST AND FOUND

SKIP IS MISSING!
Gray Tabby
Last seen Mar. 6 on Quebec Dr. He's a handsome and loveable fellow and very much needed at home on Maliview.

Please call if seen or found - 537-0675

INFORMATION

INFORMATION

GLSRA
GULF ISLANDS SENIORS RESIDENCE ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

The Gulf Islands Seniors Residence will be holding its' Annual General Meeting on Saturday, March 20th at 9:30 am at Meadowbrook Seniors' Residence, 121 Atkins Road, Salt Spring Island. All members and those who may be interested in becoming members are urged to attend.

Connecting your giving to island needs

Each year your community foundation distributes over \$100,000 in grants to our island's charitable organizations. Please send your donation to SSIF, Box 244, Ganges PO, SSI, BC V8K 2V2 or donate through the Foundation's website.

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

UNIQUE Business Opportunities

Operate your own electric bike rental company. 100% turnkey operation. Rapid return on investment. **No franchise fees!!** See us at: www.electric-bike-rentals.com

DRIVERS/COURIER/ TRUCKING

CAN-AM WEST Carriers Inc. Experienced Class 1 Flat deck drivers To operate in Canada and USA. As a Can-Am West Carriers driver you can expect: Bi monthly direct deposit, Safety bonus, Paid driver orientation, Company benefit plan, Regular home time. If you are interested in joining the Can-Am West team, you will need to provide: A neat and clean appearance, Current driver abstract, Current criminal history search, Ability to pass a drug test and driver medical exam. Please Call Ron Janco at 1-866-857-1375 to arrange an interview. Email: rjanco@canamwest.com Fax: 1-800-530-6507.

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

WORD OF THE WEEK
'Nuppence'
a slang term for no money

One to one tutoring for adults. You pay nuppence.
Phone: 537 9717
www.saltspringliteracy.org

LOOKING FOR well organized person, who enjoys working with the public, for a part time position with Sears, Salt Spring Island. Hours are 10-3, Wed, Thurs., Fri., Sat. If you are interested please come in to Sears at 128 Lower-Ganges Rd anytime Mon.-Thurs. with resume and references available.

TRAIN TO be a Medical Lab Assistant. The Healthcare industry needs YOU! MTI Community College www.mticc.com, 604-310-2684. LOVE YOUR JOB!

HELP WANTED

TRAIN TO be an Apartment/Condominium Manager from home. Jobs registered across Canada! Thousands of grads working. Government registered. 30 years of success. Information: www.RMTI.ca or 1-800-665-8339, 604-681-5456.

HELP WANTED

2010 YUKON Job fair April 29th, 2010. Where job seekers & employers meet face-to-face. Construction, mining & retail companies will be there. Info www.yuwin.ca or 867-393-3874.

AUNTIE PESTO'S is now accepting resumes for servers and dishwashers. Please apply to Box 17 c/o Driftwood Publishing Ltd., 328 Lower Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2V3.

BRANDED GROWER Required, bedding plant retail greenhouse, 25 years, same location outside thriving south Alberta city. Seeking weekly delivery of fruit & vegetables for year round sales. Box 1824, Brooks, AB, T1R 1C6.

CONCRETE MANAGER: Knelsen Sand & Gravel Ltd. A well established and rapidly growing company requires an Area Concrete Manager for the Cold Lake region. See website: www.knelsen.com and send resume to: bernardw@knelsen.com or fax 780-928-3656.

EXPERIENCED GARDENER wanted, 3 - 4 days a week. Beginning Mar. 24/10. Horticultural certification an asset. Must be highly self-motivated. Must have valid drivers licence and be able to drive stickshift. Please send resume listing experience & wage requirements to: PO Box 664, SSI, BC, V8K 2W3.

bcclassified.com

HELP WANTED

BEACON Community SERVICES

Beacon Community Services is interested in receiving applications for Casual Community Health Workers (CHW's) to provide home support in the community.

Qualifications:

- Community Health Worker/Resident Care Attendant Certificate, or equivalent qualification
- Or, extensive experience in the areas of providing personal care, medication administration, assistance with mobilization, care of clients and cognitive impairment

Reliable car is required

Please state your days and times of availability: minimum of one block of time on week-ends (mornings and/or evenings)

Please submit resumes to bbutler@beaconcs.ca or mail to: Beacon Community Services, #2-137 Crofton Road, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2R8

Thank you to all applicants for your interest. Only those invited to attend an interview will be contacted.

SUMMER DAY CAMP LEADERS
Salt Spring Island

Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation is looking for innovative and enthusiastic leaders to create a fantastic experience for participants of its 2010 Camp Colossal summer daycamp program. Camp Colossal is a 44 day, Monday to Friday program, that takes place in July and August with a focus on local outdoor activities and crafts for children in the 5 to 12 age group. The Camp offers a number of off-island day trips to venues such as the Shaw Discovery Centre and the Chemainus Theatre.

This is a bargaining unit position (CUPE Local 1989). Camp Leaders will be employees of the Capital Regional District (CRD) and are paid every two weeks at a rate of \$12.67/\$14.11 per hour plus 12% in lieu of benefits (\$14.19/\$15.80 per hour). First Aid Certification, a Class "4" B.C. Drivers Licence and a clean driving record are mandatory. Lifeguard Certification is an asset.

Reply in writing, on or before March 31, 2010 including a resume and references, to:

Camp Colossal
Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission
145 Vesuvius Bay Road
Salt Spring Island BC V8K 1K3
Email: parc@saltspring.com

HARBOUR HOUSE HOTEL
Now hiring experienced Part/Full time front of house staff. Please apply in person with resume and references. Ask for Paul Stewart.
121 Upper Ganges Rd.
250-537-4700

JOIN US for a rewarding career providing disability support to a female adult. Experience with communication, behaviour, employment training and life skills is preferred, training can be provided. Valid drivers license required. Please submit covering letter and resume to GIFTS, 152 McPhillips

LAVISH IS Hiring! Independent fashion consultants for Canada's newest & hottest home party company. Looking for ladies who love fashion, business, socializing & having fun! 1-877-537-2272; info@lavishonline.com.

NEED FOOD DEMONSTRATOR
Part time
Are you:
Fun
Enthusiastic
An experienced cook
Loves meeting people
Quick learner
Enjoying educating customers
Getting excited about food
Enjoying planning
Preparing food
Flexible

If you like making ordinary food into extraordinary food!
Please fill out an application & leave it with Sarah Smith at Country Grocer.

Now Hiring
For all positions for our restaurant, bar, hotel and cold beer and wine store.
Apply with resume stating experience and references to **Box 16**
c/o Driftwood Publishing
328 Lower Ganges Rd.
Salt Spring Island, BC
V8K 2X8

ROCK SALT restaurant is gearing up for spring. We are hiring baristas, servers and dishwashers. Apply by email manager@rocksaltrestaurant.com or apply in person -ask for Jane.

WORK AVAILABLE with small Property Maintenance Co. for upcoming grass mowing season; preference given to persons with experience in mowing, trimming, light gardening and some heavy lifting. Phone 250-537-5191.

TRADES, TECHNICAL

CARPENTERS/REMODELERS \$25+/hour. Canada's leading home repair and remodeling company is seeking carpenters, remodelers, skilled tradespeople (M/F) in Vancouver, Victoria, Okanagan Valley. Apply Toll-Free 1-800-884-2639 or www.handyman-connection.ca.

WORK WANTED

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

FOR ALL your lawn care needs. Mowing, Weed eating. Call The Handyman at 250-537-7636.

FOR ALL your odd-jobs, both in and around your house- Phone The Handyman at 250-537-7636

FRAMING CREW available, call Ron 250-537-8885.

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

NEED HELP in your garden? Weeding, planting and more! Phone 250-931-1008

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DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

BCjobnetwork

WORK WANTED

OWNER OPERATOR Tiger Cat 870 Tiller Buncher for hire. Experienced in all types of logging, steep ground hydro line etc. Phone 250-962-5679 or 250-614-3055 or email rjobson@shaw.ca

RESPONSIBLE RELIABLE HARD-WORKING Labourer for gardening, handyman and general labour jobs. \$18/hr. References 250-537-1556

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HEALTH PRODUCTS

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HELP WANTED

Island Natural Growers Growing Up Organic Coordinator

This is a new part-time contract position (est. 50 hours per month to December 2010, & perhaps ongoing).

The coordinator will organize and coordinate the distribution and delivery of local produce and other products from Salt Spring Island farms to Salt Spring Island institutional, restaurant and grocery food buyers.

The successful applicant will have: excellent organizational skills; working knowledge of Excel and email; demonstrated ability to work independently and reliably; an interest in agriculture and local food production. The coordinator must have own vehicle for SSI deliveries. Familiarity with Salt Spring market garden farmers and food businesses is an asset.

For more information please contact Patricia Reichert at 537-4282 or dogwoodlane@telus.net



Heritage Place FOR SENIORS

Heritage Place, which provides residential accommodation along with a service package on a rental basis for independent seniors, is interviewing for a General Manager. Heritage Place is not a care facility. The GM will work closely with residents, resident applicants, and oversee a staff consisting of 6 FTE plus three contractors (gardening, maintenance, bookkeeping). Responsible for all facets of the operation and reporting to the Board of Directors, the successful individual will have:

- management experience, preferably in this industry
 - excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills
 - excellent computer skills
 - ability to plan and monitor the financials of a medium sized business
 - familiarity with government regulations related to the business
 - entrepreneurial attitude
 - marketing acumen
- Salary consistent with industry standards and scope of responsibility. Please provide a full resume to Box 18, The Driftwood.

PROFESSIONAL/ MANAGEMENT

PROFESSIONAL/ MANAGEMENT

Island Women Against Violence (IWAV) is seeking an Executive Director

IWAV is a non-profit society providing services throughout the Southern Gulf Islands to women and their children affected by violence and abuse.

The Executive Director is responsible for the management and administration of a shelter, 24 hour help line, out-reach services, counselling programs and a community based thrift store. Responsibilities include service delivery, staff supervision, program development and oversight; and, fiscal management and accountability.

Qualifications include a Masters Degree in Social Work / Human Services or an equivalent combination of training, experience and education.

For more information and to view a complete job description, please visit: www.iwav.org

Applications will be accepted until March 26, 2010 by mail only to:

IWAV Search Committee
#2 Corbett Road,
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1T2

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FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Avoid Bankruptcy, Stops Creditor Calls. Much Lower Payments at 0% Interest. We work for YOU, not your creditors.
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DIAL-A-LAW OFFERS general information on a variety of topics on law in BC. 604-687-4680 (Lower Mainland) or 1.800.565.5297 (Outside LM); www.dialalaw.org (audio available).

Lawyer Referral Service matches people with legal concerns to a lawyer in their area. Participating lawyers offer a 30 minute consultation for \$25 plus tax. Regular fees follow once both parties agree to proceed with services. 604-687-3221 (Lower Mainland) or 1.800.663.1919 (Outside LM).

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

ACCOUNTING/TAX/ BOOKKEEPING

ACCOUNTABILITY BOOK-KEEPING Complete bookkeeping for small business. Payroll, GST/PST, WCB. 250-516-6122.

JENNIFER'S BOOKKEEPING and tax Services has a new phone # 250-537-4433. Bring a friend and save \$5 each on your 2009 tax return.

CLEANING SERVICES

SPRING CLEANING. move out, new construction & Reno clean up. Residential spaces available. Call Genevieve 250-538-8427.

COMPUTER SERVICES

CALL BOB McIvor for troubleshooting, software & networking support. We do house calls. 537-2827 or (cell) 538-7017. Please go & back-up your important data now!

RON WEISNER, Computer Tech. is not available until end of May. Please contact: Bob McGivov. 250-537-2827.

SOLAR WEB HOSTING - want to be greener? Solar is cleaner! www.irdophore.com 250-537-2627.

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Photos are available for purchase @ our on-line photostore
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FAX 250-746-0177
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CONTRACTORS

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

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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
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Love Hauling!

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WHAT'S ON PAGE A16

CONTRACTORS

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

MISC SERVICES

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For Vacant Island Residences & Seasonal Homes. Short term or long term vacancy. Property inspections & maintenance. Offering personalized service for your peace of mind!
Vipond's Property Management
250-537-2484 or 250-537-3043.

Read it off-island on-line.
gulfislandsaqua.com

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

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 250-537-1200, or Community Services at 250-537-9971 for information on materials accepted for recycling.

TELEPHONE SERVICES

CHEAP TELEPHONE Reconnect! Paying too much? Switch, save money, and keep your number! First month only \$24.95 + connection fee. Phone Factory Reconnect 1-877-336-2274; www.phonefactory.ca.

bcclassified.com

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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"
Deadline 10 am Tuesday for Wednesday paper, 4 pm Wednesday for Friday paper.
Merchandise ads with items totalling less than \$200 receive a 50% discount with your Residents Card.

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Naturally Grown SS Lamb
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Available Year Round
Also available: wool socks, comforters, knitting wool, pillows, and sheepskin rugs.
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Serving Saltspring for 28 years
Cut, split & delivered
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Standing timber and logs wanted
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FUEL/FIREWOOD

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MARCO 250.537.6170

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GUARANTEED CORD
Cut, Split & delivered
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ISLAND FIREWOOD 1-888-wood-101 / 1-888-966-3101. Seasoned, dry, split fir firewood delivered to your residence.

FURNITURE

LOVE SEAT, very comfortable, off-white, nearly new. \$75.00 Phone (250) 537-2971.

GARAGE SALES

FABULOUS FLEAMARKET DATE HAS CHANGED
Sat. Mar. 20, 10am to 2pm at Fulford Hall. Table rental 8ft. \$20, 4ft. \$10. Delicious homemade food available. Books 250-537-5482.

FUND RAISER Garage Sale!! Local family leaving island to pursue Missionary work for a year! Massive Sale to raise funds! Clothing, furniture lamps, kids stuff, Mate's bed, mattress, chairs Sat. Mar 27th 8am-3pm @ Comm. Gospel Chapel (147 Vesuvius Bay rd)

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

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE Sale tools, clothes, old coins, etc. Bring the family for a Sunday stroll at Ruckle Park and stop by our sale on your way! End of McLennan Dr. (former Everlasting Summer site) 10am-3pm Sunday Mar 21.

EDUCATION SECTION B

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

A FREE Telephone service - Get Your First Month Free. Bad Credit, Don't Sweat It. No Deposits. No Credit Checks. Call Freedom Phone Lines Today Toll-Free 1-866-884-7464.

AT LAST! An iron filter that works. IronEater! Fully patented Canada/U.S.A. Removes iron, hardness, sulfur, smell, manganese from well water. Since 1957. Phone 1-800-BIG IRON; www.bigirondrilling.com.

DECORATIVE STONE Panels "EasyROCK" - The Beauty of stone without the mason: Easy Installation: Light Weight: R-4.5 Value: Built Green: A-1 Fire rating: 604-248-2062: www.jmcomprock.com.

ESPRESSO MACHINE. Cimballi Junior, single group commercial. Chrome, 3 years old, gently used & commercial grinder, both \$2400. Call 250-537-9625 or 653-4227.

FABRIC SALE! Quilters Crafter's Home Sewers... Cottons, knits, batiks, draperies, upholsteries \$1-\$10/metre. lots of Free Stuff! Fri. & Sat., March 19-20, 10-3 or by appt. 353 West Eagle Dr. 250-537-5654

****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! 1-866-287-1348.

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from \$310
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HOT TUB for sale, 8 person, new cover, new LED surround pinpoint lighting, inside/outside. New Aware ultrasonic stereo system, 50 jets, 2 jet pumps and 1 circ pump, 3 dig. top side controls. \$3800, 1 year warranty. 250-538-8244.

HOT TUB (SPA) COVERS. Best price. Best quality. All shapes & colours available. 1-866-652-6837
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MALE SIZE Enlargement. FDA Medical Vacuum Pumps. Gain 1-3 permanently. Testosterone, Viagra, Cialis. Free Brochures. (619)294-7777 www.drjoekaplan.com (discounts available).

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Luxury King Sets
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VANITY TOP with taps & drain, 3pc shower door, fax, HP printer, 27" Toshiba TV w/built in DVD/VHS. 537-1802

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

FERRAND UPRIGHT piano for sale, excellent condition. 250-653-4004.

Who reads us?
88% of Islanders read the Driftwood each week.
-Cambase survey

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

TREE SERVICES

Land & Sea tree service

- Demolition & Hauling
- Felling & Bucking Trees
- Clearing & Thinning Land
- Brush & Windfall Clean up
- Broom Pulling

537-7536 Gabriel

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RENEW YOUR view. Professional & experienced. Call Genevieve 250-538-8427.

PETS

PETS

NEEDS LOVING home. Affectionate 10-yr young Siamese spayed female. 250-537-5092

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POULTRY

POULTRY SWAP MEET Sat. March 20, 10am till noon at Fulford Hall. Buy, sell or trade poultry related products. Chicks, coops. No Dogs. 250-931-5179.

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

FUTURE STEEL BUILDINGS Durable, Dependable, Pre-engineered, All-Steel Structures. Custom-made to suit your needs and requirements. Factory-Direct affordable prices. Call 1-800-668-5111 ext. 170 for free brochure.

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SIDNEY 4 bedroom house with suite. Open house Mar 13 & 14 2-4 PM. 2150 Lannon Way \$550,000 Ph: 654-0150

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Damaged House? Pretty House? Moving? Divorcing? Estate Sale? **We will Buy your House Quick Cash & Private.** Mortgage Too High and House won't sell? Can't make payments? **We will Lease Your House, Make your Payments and Buy it Later!**

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HOMES FOR RENT

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RESIDENTIAL LOT For sale in Valemount B.C. Dimensions 65.5' x 131'. Sewer & water at property. Excellent recreational opportunity. Asking 42,000.00 obo. Contact Kelly 780-984-7061 or kelly@wsionline.ca

OTHER AREAS

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3 BRM 2 bath available March 1st. \$1550 + utilities. Call 250-508-6453.

LAKEVIEW 3 BR, 1 1/2 bath, Apt. W/D, adult oriented, NS, NP quiet. \$1175/mo. incl. utils. Year-round 250-537-9517, Don or Non

HOMES FOR RENT

RENTALS

HOMES FOR RENT

PRETTY 2 BDRM. open plan, ocean view, elec. & wood heat. NS, no dogs, \$1100 + util. 250-537-1968.

TOWNHOUSE, 2 bed, garage, in town, NS, NP, \$975/mo. Avail Apr 1. 250-653-2354 after 5pm.

RV PADS

RV SITE available in quiet neighbourhood. Long term, water and hydro incl. \$400 per month. 250-537-8969.

SEASONAL ACCOMMODATION

TOFINO- SALTSRING Island Family owned, cozy waterfront condo. Sleeps 4-6, walk to town. Details at www.tofinobeachhomes.com. Go to 'reserve now', go to 'select your property', go to 'eagles nest'. (250)725-2570 for info or reservations.

TOWNHOUSES

2 BR, both with ensuite, gas stove/FP, W/D, use of pool & exercise room. Small pet okay, N/S, Ref's. Apr. 1. \$1350/mo. + util's. 250-537-4319.

WANTED TO RENT

LONG TIME resident seeks 2 bdrm accommodation, reasonable rent, for April 1. Employed female, has excellent refs. Long term. Leave msg. for Claudia 250-537-2588.

WORKING PROFESSIONAL Salt Spring resident seeks 1 or 2 bdrm long term rental close to town for June 1. References avail. 250-537-8357

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1963 Sunbeam
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Beautiful, original Victoria car, NO rust, new paint, carpets, windshield. 51000 miles, #'s matching car, too much too list. collector plates. Trohy winner @ ABFM & Filberg Shows. \$16,500 obo 250-338-6134

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1992 GEO Metro, transmission sluggish. Runs OK, New battery \$350 obo. 250-537-1044.

1996 LINCOLN Town car 275,000kms., new brakes, new battery, a/c, C/D, 2 snows, reg. maintenance w/records, tinted window \$750.00 250-537-8431

Do you have something to say about a story or letter? Comment on-line @ gulflanddriftwood.com

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

TRUCKS & VANS

1988 TOYOTA Landcruiser, 4 dr, 6cyl., gas, 341k. Great engine, \$3000. 250-537-0636.

1989 MITSUBISHI Delica 4x4, pw, pdk, sunroof, 2 tone, air conditioning only 78,000 km. \$5750. 250-538-0287.

1997 CHEV 3/4 ton, reg. cab., long box, 5 spd, 4x4, 350 V8, box liner, canopy, good cond. \$6500. 250-537-4428.

Who reads us?

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

RENTALS

HOME FOR RENTS

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OUTBOARDS
Yamaha • Suzuki
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from 2 HP to 350 HP
Four strokes New & Used
Great Selection Great Prices
Over 40 years in Victoria

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SIMPLY SALT SPRING

BASIC FOODSAFE. Monday March 29 from 8:30am to 4:30pm, \$70. Harbour House Hotel. Call Sheri 537-1883 to register.

FREE: MAPLE syrup making demonstration and tasting from Salt Spring big leaf maple trees. Sun. Mar. 21, 10am-noon. Harbour House Organic Farm. Come through the farm gate at the top of the harbour House parking lot. Families welcome. No dogs please, as we have scaredy goats!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION



WHO IS THAT LOVELY BABY?
J _ S _ _ _ ?
Is he really 60?

RENTALS

HOME FOR RENT

3 BR HOUSE Fulford Valley on Bus route, no cats, 1200/mo, 250653-9147 lv. msg.

HOMES FOR RENT

ISLAND EXPLORER
Property Management Ltd. & Real Estate Services

Cozy Bachelor Suite in Vesuvius, 300 sq.ft., bright and newly renovated, separate entrance, quiet, N/S/, N/P, includes hydro and water, suits single person only, avail. immed. **\$600**

3 Bedroom Vesuvius Home, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, large fenced yard, walk to beach, N/S, N/P, avail. immed. to July 31 **\$1500**

Large Waterfront Estate, Perfect for quiet couple, indoor pool, private dock, N/S, N/P, avail. immed., long term. **\$2650**



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1-800-800-9492

Island Explorer is a fully licensed, bonded management company under the laws of the B.C. Govt.

This Week's

Horoscope
by Michael O'Connor
www.sunstaraastrology.com
sunstaraastrology@gmail.com

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

This is a time of beginnings for you in more ways than one. Pressures to exercise greater responsibility are pushing you to make more sober and integral choices. Your focus will be sharp yet you will want to try things out, if you can, before you commit. It is time to play the old game in a new way. Fortunately, you are in a sporting mood and there's a fresh spring in your step making it more like a stride.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

A fresh start on relationship fronts is gaining a lot of your time and energy. You are in the mood to break with convention somehow and explore new prospects. You may feel more sober, serious and determined than usual to call the shots. This is a time of decision and you must be the one to take the lead. Summon the courage to communicate honestly and clearly.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)

The time has come to prepare for the growing season. This includes planning and selecting the seeds you will sow. You are also in the mood to expand and to increase your reach and scope. Alterations and renovations are probable. This may require new knowledge, skills, techniques and strategies. New teachers, mentors and guides will play important roles in your life soon. Be on the look out for them.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

These are complicated times for everyone and not least of all you. Clearing the old to make way for the new feels inspiring. How long this will take is the other consideration. Balancing the slow disintegration of old beliefs and values with a dynamic and independent assertion is important. Look at it as taping over an old recording instead of taking the time to erase it first.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)

Spring is here and you are in the mood to have more fun with friends new and old. With your energy levels running high you will make your moves soon. Communications and invitations will begin to flow like the spring melt. You are at some form of foundational level so concentrate. Increasing your scope and exposure to new people and ideas will open new doors and inspire you to realize dreams.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

An adventurous and exciting cycle is about to begin for you. If you don't already feel ignited you stand to very soon. If you have been waiting for your opening, this might just be it. New love interests are likely. A feeling of necessity may be at least as high as inspiration. Creating a more stable foundation is part of your motivation. Be receptive to messengers stimulating new perspectives.

Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)

Big changes are brewing. Everyone is feeling the waves, but few as much as you. Despite the pressure and stress you are likely experiencing, you also have reason to feel excited. After long periods of delay you are finally on a march again. Your mood is pragmatic and strategic. Reaching out to key players is extra likely. It is time to assemble the team.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Taking new initiatives on the home front is a central focus now. You may be in the market for real estate. Whether you are buying or selling or simply focusing on your current home, your sights on set on beauty and investments. Creating a new look inside and out is a priority. This may simply include spring cleaning and fresh paint. Go for a fresh, clean start.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23)

The weight of winter is lifting quickly now. The inspiration to take some bold new initiatives is finally here. Stimulating a healthier flow, in all respects, is your main ambition. The process of securing a more reliable base will continue. It is important that you make extra efforts to activate a realistic and promising momentum over the next few weeks.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19)

Many new and perhaps unexpected ideas and/or communications are coming your way. Certain key players have entered the game in your life and they have some important things to say. This may lead you to reconsider your current direction. Curiosity at least will lead you to take a closer look. At worst, indecision is running high. Life is a game; play along by opening to new possibilities.

Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 22)

You scope of contacts is expanding. To match this growth you are challenged to do your homework, whatever this means to you. Dissolving old foundations and replacing them with new ones will require your full concentration. Fortunately, your focus to do so is getting sharper. You could achieve a lot in the next week or two. Concentrate to succeed!

Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You are about to shift into low gear to climb a steeper hill. It is extra important that you concentrate your focus now. This includes knowing what you need and want. Take the time to outline a strategy rather than let ideas tumble around in your head. Be willing to take risks now. Fortunately, your energy levels are running higher these days and you are ready to play hard.



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EDUCATION WEEK 2010

AN UPDATE FROM SCHOOL DISTRICT 64



INSIDE THIS SPECIAL ISSUE:

NEWS AND INFORMATION ON SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS FROM

- Salt Spring Island
- Pender Islands
- Saturna Island
- Mayne Island
- Galiano Island



EDUCATION WEEK

GULF ISLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GISS YEAR BOOK CLASS

Above and at right, students and teachers at work at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Fact File GISS

- Facility built in 1994
- 600 students
- Grades 9 to 12
- International students from everywhere
- Active PAC and School Planning Council
- Full complement of academic programs
- Extensive fine arts programs, including GISPA
- Partnership in Trades programs with Camosun College
- Secondary School Apprenticeship programs
- Strong applied skills programs
- All major athletic programs
- Student leadership courses & opportunities
- Many extra-curricular functions and events
- French and Spanish, including French Immersion
- Distributed Learning for independent learners
- Phoenix Program for a different way and place to learn
- Excellent adult education program
- Strong sense of environmental and human sustainability
- High achieving, socially responsible students



Mentors, apprentices, students, teachers grow together at GISS

GISS is on the small side, as high schools go, and therein lies its strength.

With about 600 students and 40 staff working side by side every day, the opportunities to know people well and the necessity to be involved with many different people and projects creates a culture of diversity and support that can only happen when you're small.

And when you combine that with the passion people bring to their work at this place, you have a school that is rich with diversity and a place that has something for everyone.

Our district has been learning for a while now about the idea of a cognitive apprenticeship — skilled mentors teaching their apprentices.

GISS has a balance of youth and experience teaching in our classrooms, and the mentors are not always as expected.

Teachers at every stage of their careers are actively learning from each other and, especially, from their students.

Our performing arts programs are

a perfect example. It is not unusual to see a group of dancers, musicians or actors working intently together creating, learning, practising and performing without an adult in sight.

Master students mentor, tutor and teach each other so they can collectively create an unforgettable performance. And the teachers come away knowing that students need frequent opportunities to learn from and with each other.

We have an increasing number of students engaging in community apprenticeships — in carpentry, cooking, metal work, horticulture and more.

Students are choosing to take a semester outside the regular classroom to learn about their passion with a skilled community mentor — a step toward a college trades program.

The greatest benefit is likely the fact that these students return to the classroom with purpose and skills that only result from an authentic learning experience.

And the teachers come away knowing that students need a wide variety of ways to learn.

It is inspiring to see teachers modeling the authentic cooperation that they ask of their students.

More and more our staff are engaged in team teaching, sharing tried technologies and innovations, inter-curricular planning and inter-disciplined programming.

With a common goal of excellence, our staff actively support each other, learn from each other and create new and interesting ways to encourage students to find their passion and take away all that they can from their years at this school.

So, small is amazing. All 640 of us know each other well, support each other, embrace learning and work hard on our relationships.

Mentors and apprentices, students and teachers all grow together. And this can really only happen when you're on the small side, as high schools go.



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Young students in SD 64's Strong Start program.

Early learning in district 64

SD 64 is pleased to have Early Learning programs for children from 0 to five years old on all of our Gulf Islands.

We have Strong Start Centres that we call ELF (Early Learning for Families) or Morning Stars (on Galiano) at many of our schools.

In partnership with Salt Spring Community services and Mayne Island Early Childhood Society we have Parent Child Mother Goose programs, and book and toy libraries currently running at two schools.

The Coalition for Children and Families of the Gulf Islands (of which SD64 is a member) has been working to bring all those

who work with young children together to form a cohesive picture of what happens for young Gulf Islands families.

Workshops for early childhood educators and others working with young children as well as workshops for parents have been part of this initiative.

Other projects include a brochure of services for families and a calendar of activities for preschoolers.

Strong Start Centres are programs for very young children and their parents, grandparents or caregivers to attend together.

Early Childhood Educators design these programs to

include songs, stories, art activities and lots of playtime.

Some programs include elementary and middle school volunteers, secondary school work experience students and adults working on their ECE certification.

Check with your local school to find hours of operation.

Our program facilitators are Janice Shields (Fulford), Janet Hoag (Salt Spring Elementary), Janisse Browning (Galiano), Tina Farmilo (Mayne), Trish Hoffman (Pender) and Hetty Willemeumier (Saturna). If you have a child under five years old, please come and join in the fun.

EDUCATION WEEK

SATURNA ISLAND SCHOOL
Adventures on SSIBY MICHELLE SPENCER
SATURNA TEACHER

The weather has become brighter and so have the spirits of the students of Saturna Island School. For a few weeks in February, students, along with a few enthusiastic parent volunteers, have been visiting Salt Spring Island to enjoy swimming lessons at the new pool.

Taking the water taxi in the morning is still a new and thrilling experience for some of us. We join the Pender Island students for the trip through the islands, pointing out birds and chatting about the day, just as the sun begins to peek over the islands. The morning before swimming provides a perfect platform for exploring the Salt Spring community and participating in various activities.

Canadian customs officers gave us a warm welcome as they screened our bags and scanned our clothing upon arrival to the dock. This tour of the CATSA security bus parked at the coast guard office was an informative and exciting start to the day, followed by a question and answer period with a few enthusiastic local police officers.

During our time, we have expanded our understanding of maple tapping at the Harbour House farm, looked for interesting objects on the GPS systems on the coast guard boats, learned about genetically modified food from Dan Jason at Salt Spring Seeds, and tasted interesting fruits and cheeses at Thrifty Foods.

We have also been lucky enough to work with local potter Leann Norgard, who inspired us to play openly

with clay and understand the process of throwing, firing and glazing. Students created several unique pieces from mugs to masks, with a few added penguins and mini-spoons in between. Not to worry, the disc golf course has not been overlooked; we have taken advantage of the warmer weather to do a few rounds of disc golf, while still finding the time to play forest games and mapping challenges in the beautiful park environment.

After a morning of activities and walking around the town, we are ready for a swim in the pool and another swimming lesson from the skilled lifeguards. At the same time we looked forward to visiting the fire station and the Salt Spring Cheese Company on future trips. A sincere thank you to the Salt Spring community and to all those who have helped make these trips exciting and successful!



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEEC.

Saturna Island school kids enjoy one of many outings.

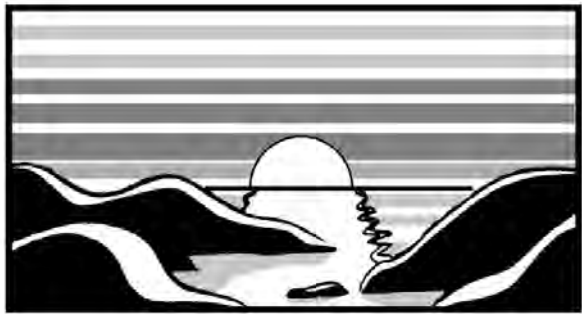
Fact File Saturna Island School

- Principal educator: Steve Dunsmuir
- Elementary teacher: Michelle Spencer
- Secretary/ custodian: Laura Dunsmuir
- Located in the Lyall Creek valley, short walk from the beach and Gulf Islands National Park
- A multi-age learning community of grades 1 to 12
- 50 per cent of students Saturna residents, 50 per cent Salt Spring Island
- Incredible 1 to 7 teacher to student ratio

- SEEC is featured in a national documentary "Evolving Education: Learning in the 21st Century" (Check us out on YouTube @ CCL: Engaging Education Creating Community)
- Eco-Adventure day and overnight programs for visiting classes
- Very active and supportive Parent Advisory Committee, Saturna Ecological Education Society and island community
- Visits to other district schools for cul-

tural events and connections

- Annual Christmas Concert an important seasonal tradition
- Salmon enhancement and Streamkeeper programs on Lyall Creek
- Currently developing a sustainable learning and living centre at Haggis Farm that will provide residences for visiting students and rustic camping for Eco-Adventure groups
- Website: www.seec64.ca



School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
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Early Learning in SD64

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EDUCATION WEEK

SALT SPRING ISLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTOS BY JOHN CAMERON

Above, youngsters read intently; below right, students take part in the shop program

Striving for success at SS middle school

At Salt Spring Island Middle School, we serve all students in grades 6 through 8 from Salt Spring Island, as well as any students who choose to make the journey across the water from the other islands in our district or from Vancouver Island.

These are formative years for our students: we acknowledge that the learning interests, skills, self-concept and values they will hold as adults will largely be formed during their journey through adolescence.

Our school goals this year are to improve student achievement in Literacy and Language, Mathematics and Social Responsibility. This year some of the strategies we have implemented to actively address these goals are the reduction of class size for our Grade 6/7 Math classes, and offering small group learning assistance support to reading groups at all grade and ability levels.

In addition, we started the year off with our second annual Social Responsibility Week where students were assigned to small groups with representation from each grade and from both our English and

Late French Immersion Programs. Throughout the year we are revisiting this concept with activities designed to refocus on contributing to the classroom and school community, solving problems in peaceful ways, valuing diversity and defending human rights, and exercising democratic rights and responsibilities.

We encourage parents and the community at large to become involved in our school. From the pool of talent, passions, and expertise in the community there are a great many things that can be contributed to augment education for our students. We have been fortunate to welcome a variety of local artists into our building this year to work with students and teachers in our expanded exploratory program. In addition, local authors have been volunteering their time to meet with students in a series of writing workshops, and an environmental club is in its early stages.

The theme of this year's education week is "Student Success" and at SIMS we celebrate every student's success and strive to help each student excel.

Fact File Salt Spring Island Middle School

- Curriculum and programming based on how learning works best for adolescents. We are actively adding to our educational offerings, including an expanded Exploratory Program and opportunities for constructivist learning and ecological education.

- An active sports program that focuses on skill development, fun, and friendly competition. Music instruction that includes band and choral options. We encourage all students to take part!

- Parents who are actively involved in our

school community, including a strong and active PAC, and those who volunteer as coaches, mentors, tutors, guest speakers, workshop facilitators, gardeners, carpenters, drivers, fundraisers, field trip coordinators, school store volunteers, "Safe Arrival" phoners and much more!

- Special events include a PAC-sponsored Talent Night and Student Showcase on Saturday, April 24.

- You can also check us out online! simsschool.sd64.bc.ca



French programs in offered SD 64

School District 64 offers French Language programs from Grade 5 to 12 and students can opt to follow the traditional French Second Language classes or to join the Late French Immersion program which starts in grade 6.

French Second Language program

Students in Grade 5 receive French instruction generally from their classroom teacher and the focus is on basic vocabulary and structures.

Instruction at the Middle School and GISS is provided by French language specialists and, while focusing mainly on conversational French, the program does include some reading and writing of short texts.

Teachers use a communicative approach using up to date resources.

As a pilot project in 2009-2010, students and teachers in Grade 5 classrooms on Salt Spring have benefited from the expertise of a specialist trainer in the AIM method, a new language acquisition program based on integrating gestures and drama in the French program.

We hope to be able to adopt this approach for all of our French Second Language classes at the elementary levels in the near future.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

French Immersion students work on a PowerPoint project.

Late French Immersion Program in School District 64

For over 25 years now, SD 64 has offered a rich and very successful French Immersion program starting in Grade 6 and expanding all the way to Grade 12.

Much of what has been recently learned about language acquisition has inspired the Immersion model: we acquire language through active immersion experiences. In French Immersion, French is used in the classroom for communication by teachers and students in a variety of contexts and subject matters.

The goal is to develop a high level of oral fluency and liter-

acy, encompassing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

The program offers a higher percentage of classes in French in the beginning and this percentage decreases as the students reach high school.

Except for the French classes per se, the curriculum content is the same as in the regular English program but the instructional language is French and students complete all assignments and activities in French. Resource, reference, and library materials are provided in French as much as possible.

Students who successfully complete the whole program from grades 6-12 and the French Immersion Provincial

Exam are awarded a BC Bilingual Dogwood.

Intensive French Immersion Pilot Project

This year, SD 64 is piloting a new delivery model for the Senior component of its French Immersion program with a group of Grade 11 students.

The goal is to involve students in an intensive semester of French during the second semester of their Grade 11 year rather than having their last courses spread over three semesters. This will allow students to really focus on the French language and offer more flexibility for curriculum integration and field trips. During this intensive semester, the students will complete their last three French Immersion required courses and will also be involved in an Independent Directed Studies project based on an area of personal interest. Some of these projects will also involve connecting with the community. Students will also be traveling to Ottawa for a week of full immersion while participating in Youth Forum Canada, a project partly funded by Canadian Heritage.

We hope that this approach will allow our students to reach yet an even higher level of proficiency in French while freeing their schedule up for their graduation year.

A student's perspective

As a program, French Immersion has consistently offered and delivered a well-rounded education that has, and will continue to, prepare me for a world full of francophones. As an experience, however, it's given me so much more.

It's been six years since I was signed up for Immersion by my parents, along with a group of rowdy, hormonal 11-year-olds like myself who had as little knowledge of the language as I did — that is, none.

It was scary, it was strange. I thought I'd never be able to understand any of my lessons, and I was nervous around so many new people.

However, it didn't take long to settle in: all of the students were in the same boat that I was in.

Now, as I near the end of my French Immersion odyssey, I am pleased to say that I understand all of my lessons, and what's more, have a strong connection with all of my classmates.

There's nothing like bonding over a common goal, and we've been striving towards ours together for six years.

We moved through middle and high school with a chain of incredible teachers that enriched our understanding of the language through support and amazing, eye-opening trips: a two-week exchange with a class from Quebec; a weekend spent at Bamfield marine biology centre; a visit to the French sites at the 2010 Olympics.

It certainly hasn't been an easy ride, but it is without a doubt one of the most fun that I've ever had.

DANIELLE TOPAZ
GRADE 12 FRENCH IMMERSION
GISS

EDUCATION WEEK

MAYNE ISLAND SCHOOL



PHOTO BY ANITA MCCAMLEY

Students at a performing arts event at Mayne Island school.

Programs for all ages and needs

Mayne Elementary and Junior Secondary is a dynamic school currently serving 38 students in grades K-8. Our students are divided into two distinct classrooms (K-3 and 4-8).

Given our small size, we are able to offer individualized instruction to meet the needs of our varied student learners. We also have several adult learners enrolled in independent learning programs aimed at meeting high school graduation requirements. In addition to providing programs for students in K-8 and adult learners, we provide Strong Start and a Mother Goose program for younger children and their parents.

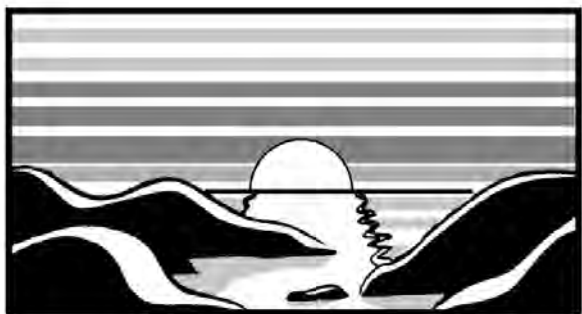
While we are a small school, we have an active and varied curriculum. In addition to the standard subjects of Math, Science, Social Studies and Language Arts, our teaching is enhanced by programs that include quilting, woodworking, information technology, and French-as-a-Second Language. Our school also participates in environmental education days to explore and learn about the diversity of our local environment. The philosophy that guides our teaching reflects constructive learning principles — notably that students learn best when engaged in meaningful, hands-on academic challenges that are undertaken both independently and within purposeful social interactions.

Serving our student body is an experienced staff of six full and part-time teachers. In addition to classroom teachers at the primary and intermediate levels, we have a special education teacher and a counsellor as part of our staff.

As we are a community school, the talents and contributions of community members are welcomed and encouraged. We frequently have guest speakers presenting to students, have parents collaborating with teachers on various projects, and after-school programs that enrich students' learning.

Fact File Mayne Elementary and Junior Secondary School

- A small rural school with a current enrollment of 38 students in K-8
- Offers a varied curriculum that includes traditional academic subjects plus quilting, visual arts and woodworking
- Experienced staff facilitates learning that is inquiry-based and student-centred
- Encourages the active participation of parents and volunteer community members



School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
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Aboriginal Education

The GISS Aboriginal student group, led by Solomon Reece, sponsored Aboriginal Day. Their new First Nations 12 class has been successful, led by teacher Yarrow Sheehan. Students participated in button blanket making and carving projects. Currently GISS has embarked on an ambitious project - the carving of a welcome pole for the school grounds. Students will work on the six foot pole, with Saanich carver, Chris Pauls.



All these activities support the recognition of the Gulf Islands' long Aboriginal history. Their impact can be seen in this comment by a GISS student, made after a visit by Kuper Island carver, Richard Charlie,

"You brought a class of teenage students together in silence, and that is almost impossible to do. You had adults who had never had a chance to touch on the subject of residential schools think true and hard to the point they had tears in their eyes. It was an amazing thing to see and feel."

Stella Weinert is the district's Aboriginal Education Coordinator. Parents of children of Aboriginal ancestry are welcome to join the Aboriginal Ed Advisory committee. Contact sweinert@sd64.bc.ca for more information.

Victor Reece has his audience of elementary students spellbound as he tells a story, holding up one of his carved yellow cedar masks. Victor is a Tsimshian master carver and storyteller who now lives on Pender Island. He has been invited to share his stories by the district's Aboriginal Education program. A popular visitor, he's worked in most district schools, from Salt Spring to the Outer Islands. What exactly is Aboriginal education?



All school districts in BC are funded by the Ministry of Education to provide Aboriginal programming. Districts develop Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreements with a committee of district and Aboriginal community members. Our EA's goals are to promote Aboriginal students academic excellence, provide a feeling of belonging for them, and develop an understanding and appreciation for Aboriginal history and culture among all students.

Initiatives to support this goal include individual student support, such as tutoring, provision of teacher resources and pro-d to support curriculum; and funding of cultural visitors.

A small district, with 119 students of Aboriginal ancestry, we've been busy. Visitors have enriched many school programs. This year we've hosted Dene writer, Richard Van Camp, multi-media artist Sharon Jinkerson Brass, local elder, Jim Spenser, Saanich native plant experts Earl Claxton Jr. and JB Williams, and Kuper Island elder, Florence James.

Galiano School has a close connection with Kuper Island and its Penelekt students annually sponsor an Outer Islands Sports Day, inviting students from Kuper, Mayne and Saturna Islands.

SIMS sponsored an Aboriginal themed Clubs Day with a variety of workshops presented from carving to bannock making.

EDUCATION WEEK

FERNWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Students at Fernwood Elementary School share the reading experience.

PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Fact File

Fernwood Elementary School

Fernwood School is located on the north end of the island. It was opened in 1979 and extended in 1990.

We have 117 students in five classrooms, supported by very experienced staff, including classroom teachers, education assistants, teacher librarian, library clerk, custodian, support services teacher, principal, school clerical officer, two bus drivers and parent volunteers.

School Goals

1. To have all students feel they are making progress in numeracy.
2. To rebuild a positive culture in the school and school community.

We are proud of :

- Firebird student leadership for all grade 5 students
- Annual Christmas concert
- Annual Water Walk
- Fun Fair in May
- Daily PE
- Grade 4 and 5 sports teams
- Choir
- Monthly Family Group meetings
- Our Parents Advisory Council
- Community ties with Parent and Child Mother Goose
- Community ties with our community gardens initiative

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Fernwood School 'is awesome'

BY ANIKA VON ALLMEN
GRADE 5 STUDENT

I have been at Fernwood Elementary for a year and a half, and I would have to say it is the best school I have attended.

I really like how the leadership group is all the Grade 5s. We call ourselves the Firebirds and we help out on the playground and in the office during the lunch hour.

We also do special events like helping with pizza and hot dog days and we help raise money for UNICEF. The Firebirds also organize popcorn sales for our foster child in Africa.

We put on special Spirit Days for each term. This winter we did "Jingle Bells for Jasmin," and raised money to help the Wilson family. We also help out with our annual Water Walk in May, where we walk to St. Mary's Lake with empty milk jugs, fill them up and walk back to school.

We do this to show ourselves how hard it is in third world countries for children our age who are doing this every day. Over the past three years, we have raised enough money to provide ten villages in India with clean water wells.

The Firebirds are only one of the great things about Fernwood. All of the students can take part in musical performances like choir with Oona McOuat... and



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Enthusiasm matters!

Family Groups.

When we are in are Family Groups, everyone gets a chance to talk about the topic of discussion like Remembrance Day, decorating the school for the Christmas concert, and solving school-wide problems.

We have a garden and a greenhouse, which is open to the Fernwood community as well as the classes, and we also compost and recycle.

We have really good teachers who help us with practically everything we need help with, and they even make math fun!

Most of the students love sports. We have a grade 4 and 5 mixed volleyball team and a girls basketball and a boys basketball team, and all the students love to cheer at our home games.

We have a Spring House League with indoor soccer and hockey, and it ends with a big tournament. We have a track and field meet, fun day and daily PE.

We can't forget about the PAC. They are an awesome group of parents that help out and organize hot lunches, Fernwood Family Swim nights and the big Fun Fair in May. That's not all we have in May. We also have a community picnic and open house to show how great our school is.

That's Fernwood for you, the way I see it.

of course our awesome Christmas concerts. About once a month, we mix up all the grades from 1-5, and we call them our

Where learning connects the child to the world! K – GRADE 6

Salt Spring Centre School

"my school"

is a big bridge that connects us!

- Gia, age 9

Empowering curiosity, confidence, creativity and community.
355B Blackburn Rd. | 250.537.9130 | saltspringcentreschool.ca



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

A Fernwood Elementary School student concentrates on his work.

EDUCATION WEEK

PENDER ISLANDS SCHOOL



Creative programs, community support

Pender Islands School offers students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 diverse learning opportunities. Innovative programming, focused on the individual learner's needs and complemented by excellent Student Support Services (including English as a second language and counselling programs), helps promote students' and academic and socio-emotional success.

Our Strong Start early learning program offers no-cost, early learning services for adults and their young children aged birth to five. While children have access to high-quality learning environments and benefit from social interactions, the adults who accompany them learn new ways to support learning, both in the program and at home.

Our multi-age/multi-grade classrooms allow students to learn at their own grade levels, and to review and extend their learning by exposure to programming at lower and higher grade levels.

As well, they promote relationships between older and younger students, which we value and encourage. The inclusion of international students from grade 4 levels and up provides all students with daily opportunities to broaden their cultural understandings.

Dedicated to providing secondary students with effective and engaging individualized learning opportunities, our Secondary Learning Centre (SLC) offers programs involving different combinations of direct instruction and distance learning.

Computer-based technologies figure prominently and, here, students explore video production and digital editing using state-of-the-art computers. Our SLC also offers evening

tutorial sessions to Pender's high-school students on Monday evenings.

Our home-based "Spring Leaves" students pursue individualized programs developed cooperatively by their parents and teacher, who assists students with their learning through tutoring, helps families access school-based and other programs and resources, and works collaboratively with parents to plan for and assess student progress.

Because we believe it more important to 'put things right' between and amongst all affected parties, rather than by simply identifying and punishing 'wrong-doers', our approach to school discipline is a 'restorative' one.

Students are well-supported by the community which either contributes to our academic programs, or delivers a broad slate of community-led, after-school programs.

Our middle years music program has recently expanded to include keyboarding instruction, a wind band and beginning guitar. Most of the instruments we're using have been provided by the community through Pender's Ptarmigan Music and Theatre Society.

After-school programs currently include basketball, choir and guitar. This year, most of our students attended the 2010 Winter Games, as a result of a sustained, six-year community fundraising effort and we extend thanks to all for helping to create life-long memories for our students.

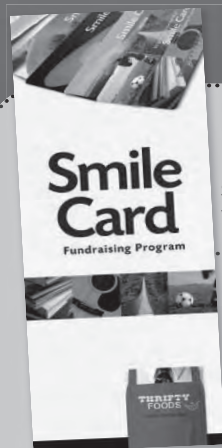
A modern, well-equipped facility, a caring and supportive staff and community, a great setting and wonderful young people make this a great place to learn and work.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PENDER ISLANDS SCHOOL

At top, students from Pender Islands School take their classroom out into the spring weather; at left, youths travel to Vancouver during the Olympics.

Proudly supporting Saltspring Island Schools through the Smile Card Fundraising Program.



Simple Steps to Success:

Submit an application form with a covering letter.



Be approved by Thrifty Foods and receive a series of Fundraising Smile Cards. Distribute cards to members of your group.



Group members "load" the cards with a cash amount at the till and use the cards to buy their groceries as usual.



Each time the Smile Cards are "loaded," Thrifty Foods automatically donates 5% to your group's Smile Card Account!

Fact File Pender Islands School

- Modern, spacious facility with well-maintained playgrounds in a rural wooded setting
- 137 students
- 8.0 FTE teachers, plus support staff
- A very supportive Parent Advisory Council and school community
- Daily school bus serving both this school and GISS
- Member of UVic school-based weather station network
- Two state-of-the-art computer labs; a 1:4 computer to student ratio

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Pick up an application form today in-store or at thriftyfoods.com

EDUCATION WEEK

SALT SPRING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Salt Spring Elementary kids: Guardians of Ganges Creek



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Children enjoy the play equipment at SSE.

BY MADELINE WOODLEY AND JASPAR IRWIN, ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENTS IN STELLA WEINERT AND MARIE MULLEN'S GRADE 4-5 CLASS

*Whistling wind,
Whispering ferns,
A leaf falls in the water*

This haiku was written as part of our class' year-long water theme, which has focused on Ganges Creek. Our study takes us out to the creek weekly. We've worked closely with Cate McEwen, an environmental educator, and with many commentators. We'd like to tell you about our project.

From mountain top to ocean

In October on a cold and misty day our class hiked from the head-

waters of Ganges Creek to the estuary downtown. We started at the swamps of Mt. Belcher that hold the source of our little creek.

The creek led us through many challenging obstacles, including a very steep cliff-like hill.

We followed the creek through Mouat Park, past ArtSpring and Barb's and ended up at the estuary. The walk was important for us to get to know the creek. Later we made our own maps of the creek with help from geographer, Briony Penn.

Learning about water

In class we have been doing experiments to learn more about water. We've learned about cohesion, water tension, adhesion and the water cycle. We brainstormed questions about water and found their answers. We also mapped our own home water systems, and found our watersheds on a map of Salt Spring.

We go water monitoring monthly. In small groups we visit different places on the creek. We test pH, transparency, temperature, water speed, water depth and width and record our

data. Our favourite part is cork races for water speed. We cheer the corks on!

Helping salmon

We met Kathy Reimer from Salmon Enhancement and she told us how and where we could help. We poured gravel into the creek to make hiding places for the salmon and pulled blackberry bushes out to clear the creek up. The creek needs to be clean because our class and others are releasing salmon there.

Plants, trees and bugs

We also studied the plants and trees in the riparian zone. Some common ones are red alder, Douglas fir, red cedar, salmon berry and ocean spray. J.B. Williams and Earl Claxton, who are T'saout, taught us about the Aboriginal use of these plants. One day Cate brought in lots of water bugs to look at. We drew both plants and bugs.

The history

Did you know that Aboriginal people have lived here for over 5,000 years? We have seen the evidence! First Nations have middens in Mouat Park. Florence James, an elder from Kuper Island, told us how they loved it here, with all

the food, water and cedars.

We also visited Richard Murakami. He told us about the 10-pound salmon that used to spawn in the creek. Did you know the creek was 10 times bigger in the 1950s? Mr. Murakami's favourite thing to do when he was a kid was to watch the fish.

Water fun, water projects

For fun, we have built some amazing fairy houses and forts in the woods.

After all our learning, we are working on two large projects. With the help of Cate and parent volunteers, we are making a model of the Ganges Creek watershed. We're also making signs for an interpretive walk along the creek. We will share with the community on Earth Day. We hope to see you there.

Although we've had backaches, bruises and wet feet, we have learned a lot through this water study. We call ourselves The Waterdrops: Guardians of Ganges Creek. Harrison speaks for us when he says: "I feel good about what we've done with the creek. I think that what we have done will change the creek in the future for the fish."

Fact File Salt Spring Elementary

- 150 students in Kindergarten through Grade 5
- Located in a beautiful historic building with high ceilings, wide hallways and bright classrooms
- Dedicated and creative staff
- An excellent student leadership program, Salt Spring Spirits
- Annual Reading Blitz in February
- Weekly whole school meetings to share and celebrate what is happening in our school
- Music education program taught by a music specialist
- Parents and community members actively involved in school programs
- Very active and supportive Parents Advisory Council
- Home to the original Strong Start ELF (Early Learning for Families) centre for children up to the age of five and their parents or caregivers

FULFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

At Fulford— building a sense of community

At Fulford Elementary, we strive to create an atmosphere where everyone feels that they belong and everyone experiences success. Here are some of the ways we create this culture:

• **Whole School Meetings:** Each week the whole school gathers together in our skylight room.

As a community, we discuss issues, celebrate birthdays, recognize friendly deeds and share our learning. Each class takes a turn presenting something to the whole school.

• **Explorations:** This year we have held several whole school exploration sessions. Parents and staff members host workshops and students select which session they will attend.

This provides an opportunity for an adult to work with a small group of students on a project of common interest. Some of the explorations we have offered this year include: theatre, woodworking, mask making, circus skills, ceramics, photography, baking and nature studies.

• **Christmas Crafts and Carols Night:** One evening each December, families and staff gather together to make crafts and sing along to our favourite carols.

• **Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Gift Exchange:** This is another winter tradition.

Families donate gently used items and then students "shop" for items for each member of their

family. This ensures that everyone has a gift to give. All extra items are donated to Santa's workshop.

• **Nature Activities:** We know that it is important for students to feel connected to nature, so we strive to provide opportunities for students to get outside as often as possible.

This year, every child planted a bulb around the school and we can't wait for them to bloom in the spring. Small groups of students work in our greenhouse under the direction of a teacher and parent volunteer. Our school forest is a very popular playtime destination and is the perfect "textbook" for science studies. Every June, our school community celebrates the year with a family picnic at Drummond Park.

• **Spring Showcase:** This year we expanded our talent show to include students who may not feel comfortable on stage. Students had the opportunity to display artwork, photos, writing selections, Lego constructions and projects. Student performances included gymnastics, dance, drama, songs, jokes and instrumental pieces.

These are just a few examples of how we create a positive school environment.

Our community is committed to supporting everyone, and we work hard to maintain healthy, happy relationships. Our school is a special place, and we marvel at that every day.



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Youngster at Fulford Elementary School during the Olympics.

Fact File Fulford Elementary

- Five multi-age classes for 116 students
- Excellent student support services are provided by one teacher and five education assistants
- All students receive music instruction three times a week from a qualified music teacher
- Active school choir open to all students
- Delightful anthology of student writing published each June
- Excellent, extensive library is always open
- Older classes "buddy" with younger classes
- We encourage exploration and social responsibility
- Daily physical activity
- Safe, respectful atmosphere
- Excellent teaching staff and amazing students
- Strong Start program for babies, preschoolers and their parents

EDUCATION WEEK

GALIANO COMMUNITY SCHOOL



PHOTO BY CHELSEA MOHAN

Students in the kindergarten to Grade 3 class at Galiano Community school.

Motto: compassion, respect and safety

Galiano Community School is a small rural school and we believe that being small has some big advantages.

The organization of our school naturally promotes the use of varied and adaptive instructional methods including: individualized instruction, peer tutoring, cooperative learning, cross-age grouping and community involvement. Our small class sizes allow teachers to give their students more individual attention and to be more aware of their talents and needs. As a staff we are united in the belief that compassion, respect and safety are essential factors which engage, support and sustain students in their learning process.

Our school delivers a variety of programs. We offer an early learning program called Morning Stars, which is geared to pre-school aged children and their caregivers. We also offer primary (Kindergarten to Grade 3) and intermediate (Grade 4 to Grade 8) programs. Secondary students (Grade 9 to Grade 12) can work towards their graduation certificate in our secondary learning centre. Through our District Learner Partnership Program we support home school students and their families with their education programs. Finally, the Galiano Activity Centre Society extends learning opportunities by offering a variety of community education courses.

Beyond being a rural school, we are also a community school. The

involvement of our parents, relatives and friends takes us to a level of richness that makes wonderful things possible. One example of this richness is our involvement with the Galiano Club's Food Forever Project. The Food Forever Project endeavors to bring senior citizens and school-age children together to learn more about local, wild foods, to cook with local foods and to generate a seasonal cook book for the Galiano community. Together, with the Galiano Food Program, we are in the process of working towards the construction of a community greenhouse.

Another example is our ongoing involvement with the Galiano Conservancy Association. The GSA provides our students with place-based learning opportunities focusing on ecology, environmental sustainability and conservation.

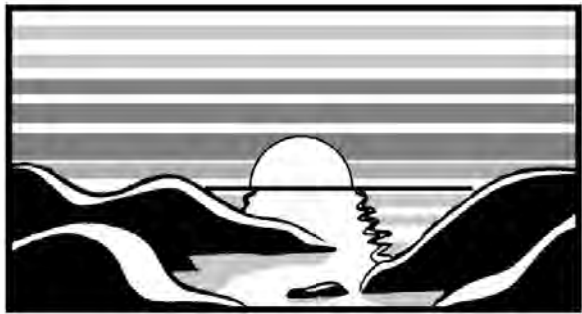
Our Parent Advisory Council continues to support our students and have made it possible for our primary students to receive swimming lessons and for our intermediate students to attend the YMCA/YWCA Camp Thunderbird. Our PAC is also integral to our Christmas concert productions and our annual Sports Day event.

Our physical education and arts programs are also generously supported the Maberley Trust.

We are a little school in the heart of a rural community that cares. We celebrate that.

Fact File Galiano Community School

- 65 students in four divisions (primary, intermediate and secondary and DLP)
- Kindergarten to Grade 12, adult and early learning programs
- Student-centred learning environments with a strong emphasis on developing individualized learning programs
- Strong focus on literacy and numeracy
- Learning assistance in all classes
- Exceptional visual arts, music and cooking program
- After-school sports for all students
- Conservation and recycling programs
- Many evening and weekend community programs
- Active Parent Advisory Council



School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
www.sd64.bc.ca

District Curriculum Coordinators

Curriculum coordinators bring information about current and innovative practices to district teachers. School District 64 has three coordinators - each representing different levels: elementary, middle years, and secondary. They support teachers and subsequently, students, by sponsoring workshops, supplying resources, networking and overseeing the mentorship programme.

Coordinators organize well-attended workshops and other learning opportunities for their educational community. The topics are based on district and school goals, as well as input from teachers. For instance, this year topics have included the new math curriculum, assessment and differentiated instruction. Internationally-renowned experts such as Faye Brownlie, Ray Appel and Kathleen Gregory have all given workshops here since September.

Workshops often inspire our teachers to pursue on-going professional reading. Coordinators provide many of the most current books for teachers, which are housed in one of three resource centres. They also gather collections of learning materials for students. Two examples are Literacy Circle novels and Math Playground.

Another aspect of the coordinator's role is networking, both within School District 64 and beyond. As part of the district advisory group, Edlinks, they help to support innovative programming. Through connections to groups like IslandNet, Island Literacy and Island Numeracy, they are able to pass on information about leading-edge educational thought and practice to Gulf Island educators.



District teachers can also benefit through the mentorship programme. This is based on the idea of shared expertise. Included are individual mentorships, group coaching, and sessions that support on-going professional growth.

Our district believes in a shared leadership model, an approach praised by the Provincial Assessment Team in our last district review. Of particular note was the important role filled by the curriculum coordinators. Many-layered support for teachers is essential because ultimately, what we are all striving for is success for all of our students.



EDUCATION WEEK

PHOENIX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Phoenix Elementary School students exhibit lots of enthusiasm in the classroom.



PHOTOS BY JOHN CAMERON

Above, Phoenix student gives a presentation; below, student on the zipline.

Individuals with a love of learning

Phoenix School is a small, holistic school inspired by its natural setting, with a deep sense of family, community and society. We believe that all students possess natural intelligence and curiosity, as well as a desire to belong to a harmonious community.

Learning should be a process of discovery that will enhance the child's physical, artistic, social, and emotional growth. We welcome the resulting evolution that comes from the input and actions of families and staff.

The Phoenix community celebrates diverse paths of learning. Phoenix School follows a multi-age teaching philosophy in its two multiage classrooms: Kindergarten to Grade 3 and Grades 4 to 8. A multiage philosophy includes a focus on students' individual progress through a developmentally appropriate curriculum.

In keeping with the Phoenix Elementary Community goal to attempt to individualize learning for children, while covering the ministry's curriculum.

Our goals for staff are to help students reach their full potential through the development of intellect, intuition, compassion, humour and self-confidence and by developing and using meaningful Individual Learning Plans. We strongly encourage the use of music, movement and art, especially in the primary class.

Our teachers welcome, meet and plan with parents on a regular basis. Our goals for parents are to participate in the development and review of their children. We love when parents actively support the class and school community. This can be done in many ways, such as volunteering time in the classroom, being on the PAC executive, attending PAC meetings, coaching sports teams, fundraising, organizing special events and themes, and supporting classroom activities.

Another thing that plays a significant role in our school are our Exploration programs. Exploration leaders are parents, community members, staff or students who have a passion for the subject and can communicate in a positive way to the students.

The Explorations Program is one of the cornerstones of Phoenix School. It is founded on the belief that we want our students to have the opportunity to learn new skills and develop new areas of interest from a mentor who is passionate about the subject. Explorations cover a wide range of topics that include all the creative arts, mathematics, sciences, language arts, social studies, sports, practical arts, etc.

Our ultimate goal is to develop and inspire individuals with healthy attitudes, quality skills and a commitment to lifelong learning.



It takes many hands and many hearts to keep our schools working for our kids and our communities.

We're the bus drivers, special needs assistants, clerical staff, custodians, maintenance and computer support staff who work with students on a daily basis.

Getting students to school and keeping their schools clean, safe and ship shape is what we are here to do and we're proud to do it. But we also get involved with extra curricular activities from sports teams and drama to dry grad.

And of course, many of us are proud parents of students who attend school on the Gulf Islands.



CUPE Local 788 Gulf Island Schools Support public education.



Fact

File

Phoenix Elementary School

- Two multiage classrooms: Kindergarten to Grade 3 and Grades 4 - 8
- Individualized learning for children
- Give the students the chance to take on a leadership role
- We encourage social responsibility as well as cultivating relationships with residents
- Many programs, lots consisting of hands-on learning
- Fine arts programs (art, music, drama)
- Field trips
- Variety of sports
- Explorations programs: Origami, willow weaving, cooking, clay work, cob creations, lantern making, woodwork, painting, computers and knitting.

EDUCATION WEEK

SALT SPRING CENTRE SCHOOL

SS Centre School has the only full-day kindergarten on SSI



PHOTOS COURTESY SALT SPRING CENTRE SCHOOL

Above and above right, students at the Centre School take part in various types of learning.

The Salt Spring Centre School is excited to be offering a full-day kindergarten (FDK) program beginning in September 2010. Since FDK is phasing in this year, the Centre School will also offer a half-day program for this next year only.

As the whole province moves to FDK in all the schools the following year, parents and educators are adjusting to the reality, and questions do arise. To answer some of the common ones, I asked Gale Robinson, our kindergarten teacher, what she thinks of FDK.

"I am really excited about FDK. It will provide a more relaxed, less hurried environment for the children as well as more time for individualized instruction."

How will the change in schedule affect your program?

"It will give the children more time to explore their interests and spend time involved in learning activities. Right now my students don't want to leave at lunchtime. The afternoons will also give us time to do more art and music, storytelling and outside play."

What do you say to parents who worry that their child will be pushed when he/she is not ready?

"We don't push the children, in any case. If anything, the full day will have the opposite effect, by allowing children to develop on their time and terms, not according to the clock."

Research studies confirm that attendance in full-day kindergarten results in academic



and social benefits for students, at least in the primary grades (Cryan et al., 1992; Karweit, 1992). "Full-day kindergarten allows children and teachers time to explore topics in depth; reduces the ratio of transition time to class time; provides for greater continuity of day-to-day activities; and provides an environment that favours a child-centred, developmentally appropriate approach."

"Of course, the length of the school day is only one dimension of the kindergarten experience. Other important issues include the nature of the kindergarten curriculum and the qual-

ity of teaching." (Rothenberg, 1995)

Robinson's classroom is set up based on Montessori's principles, including offering choice to the child, movement, hands-on learning material, and individualized instruction.

With over 15 years of experience teaching primary children, Robinson is confident in identifying and servicing the needs of her students.

We invite you to come see for yourself.

Phone to make an appointment for a tour, or come any Tuesday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. Phone 250-537-9130.

Fact File Salt Spring Centre School

- Motto: Where Learning Connects the Child to the World
- Serving island families since 1983
- Located at 355 Blackburn Road, on 70 acres of field, forest, ponds and organic gardens
- Current enrolment 45 students, pre-kindergarten through Grade 6
- Small class sizes of 15 (12 in Kindergarten), multi-age groupings, focus on individualized instruction
- Staff of six teachers, plus enrichment specialists, and administration

- Five-day school week
- Beyond B.C. curriculum, plus enrichments classes in French, music, art, theatre and horticulture for the whole school
- Special programs: Leadership program for Grade 5-6 class, leading to a middle school program, with focus on project learning, development of leadership skills in variety of areas, and communication skills
- Full-day kindergarten offered for 2010-2011 school year, in a Montessori-inspired learning environment, with a half-day option as well

2010 JUNIOR GOLF
at the
SALT SPRING ISLAND GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

• Junior memberships: \$151.20
A great program for boys and girls up to 18 years old.

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Now accepting registrations for 2010 R.C.G.A. Future Links golf lesson academy. *Limited enrolment. Call soon!*

For more info
250-537-2121



GET INTO GOLF TODAY!

Home learning option available in SD 64

Learning Design Partners is a small home-based program situated within the Phoenix school community on Salt Spring Island.

Our teaching staff and program, in true island spirit, focus on community, nature and the arts.

Our program supports and encourages diverse learning paths, flexible programming, strong relationships, multi-age groupings and connections.

We foster a child-centred and collaborative approach to learning, and strive to empower our students with mastery and an enthusiasm for life-long learning.

More information is available at:
<http://saltspringldp.wordpress.com/>

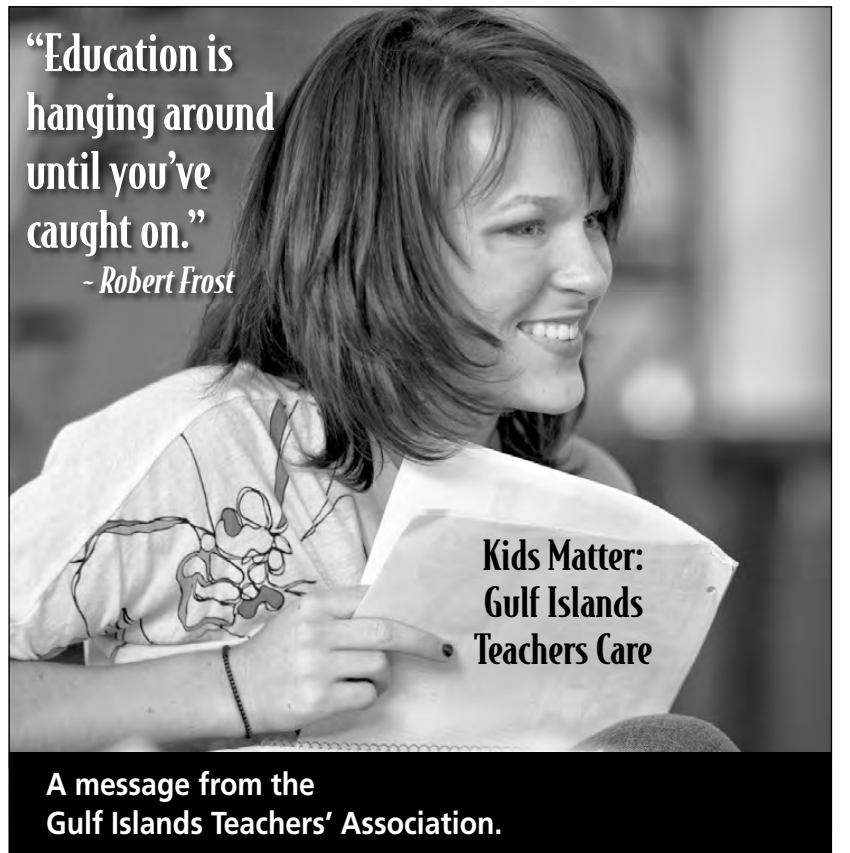


The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.

~B.B. King

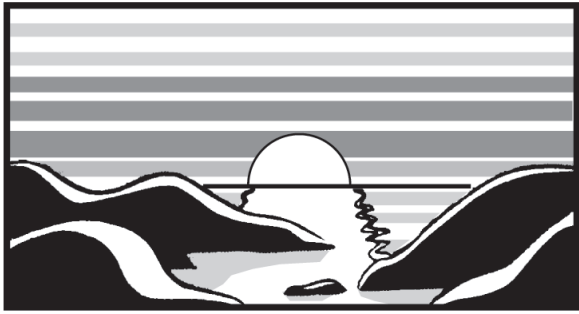
Driftwood
GULF ISLANDS
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960

"Education is hanging around until you've caught on."
- Robert Frost



Kids Matter: Gulf Islands Teachers Care

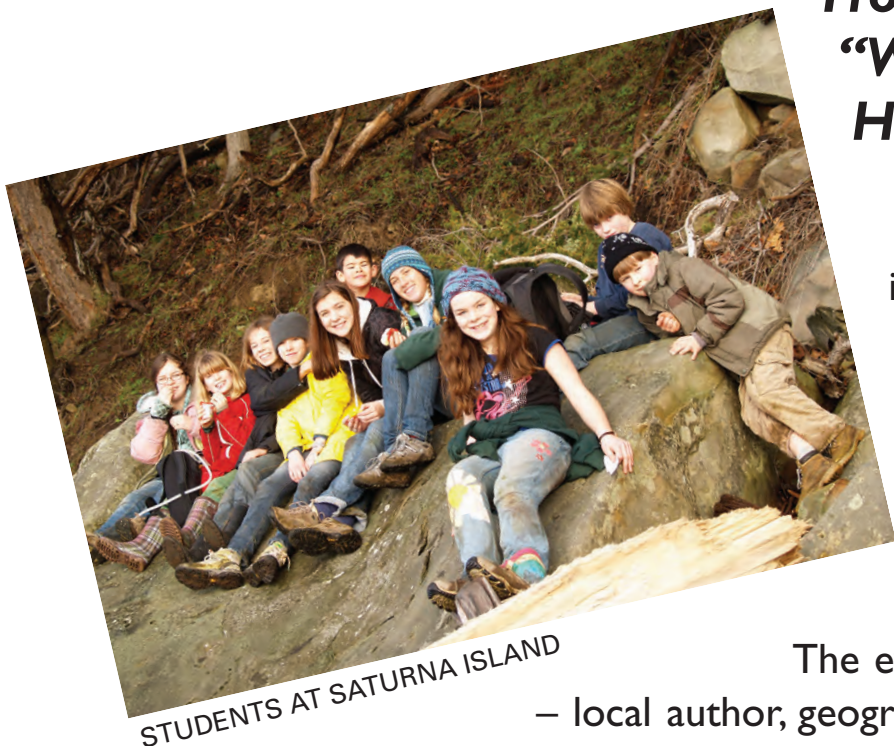
A message from the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association.



School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
www.sd64.bc.ca

Gulf Islands Education Retreat and Conference

From Blue Sky to Green Earth: The “What” and “How” of Education for Human Sustainability



STUDENTS AT SATURNA ISLAND

On March 2 and 3, the school district hosted an important event. The purpose was to involve a broad cross-section of community members from throughout the islands in a discussion regarding our education system. What does it look like? What can it look like? Upon what principles would we base any proposed changes?

The evening of the 2nd saw the context set by Briony Penn – local author, geographer, environmentalist and parent – and John Abbott, the founder of the 21st Century Learning Initiative (21learn.org). They talked about the “what” and the “how” of education, the urgency of the need to make changes to address pressing global challenges, and the thinking and research that has already been done that could offer us some points of reference along an as-yet-uncreated roadmap.

The day of the 3rd was a combination of Open Space forum and World Café dialogue, allowing the agenda to be set by the participants and creating a structure that fostered open and equal sharing of viewpoints. It started with only two provocative questions,

“How would an education system be designed so that it works for the individual, the family, the community and the planet?”

“What should children and youth be learning to think about and learning to do?”



“DRACULA” - GISS

The rest of the day unfolded organically and powerfully. While the focus of the conference was on systemic improvement, it was made clear by several participants that it is precisely because of the existing strengths and values of this school district and these communities that we were able to have this dialogue at all.



The products from this dialogue will be in the forms of summarized value statements and draft action plan elements, all of which will be shared with participants and also publicly. Thanks to all of you who were able to participate and to contribute to the rich and honest conversations that took place

here on those days. The district hopes to engage even more people as we formulate plans and continue to bring our shared values into action.