

50th
Anniversary
1960 - 2010



Green Edition
Growing more food
and other features. **PAGES B1-5**

Sound check
Valdy turns up the
folk club sound. **PAGE B7**



Driftwood

Wednesday, February 24, 2010 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 50TH YEAR — ISSUE 8 **\$1.25** (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

CELEBRATION: Carrying in flags at last weekend's Girl Guides of Canada 100th birthday celebration were, clockwise from top left, Emily Annis, Hannah Grant, Grace Schure and Emma MacRae. See story and second photo on Page B13.

BC FERRIES

Ferry group raises price caps

Riders on course for April 1 fare hikes

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The province's New Democrat ferry critic accuses the provincial government of jeopardizing coastal communities due to its failure to manage rising ferry fares.

"What we've seen are skyrocketing fares and [the BC Liberals] not working within the promise it made to support ferry-dependent communities," said Gary Coons, an NDP MLA representing the North Coast riding. "This is devastating tourism, small business and having a huge impact."

Coons' remarks follow the BC Ferries Commission decision to raise the price cap for fares on routes serving Salt Spring, the southern Gulf Islands and other "minor routes" by nearly six per cent.

The price cap increase reflects the maximum amount BC Ferries can increase fares between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011.

The cap does not necessarily reflect how much fares will increase in the coming operating period, although BC Ferries commissioner Martin Crilly said customers can expect increases "to be pretty darned close." That turned out to be the case when BC Ferries announced the resulting increases for April 1 on Tuesday.

Travellers not using Expe-

FARES continued on A2

RAINBOW ROAD POOL

Annual report celebrates pool's success

Operator warns of challenges ahead

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The owner and operator of Recreation Excellence used Monday evening's Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to congratulate commissioners and island swimmers on making a splash during the pool's first 21 months.

While the Rainbow Road Pool has thrown Tom Watson's company some challenges, Salt Spring's creative array of programs and a large uptake from community groups helped usage numbers exceed all expectations.

Surrey-based Recreation Excellence is contracted by PARC to handle the day-to-day management, staffing and programming at the Rainbow Road Pool.

The company operates seven aquatic facilities and arenas throughout B.C. and Alberta.

Watson was on the island to address commissioners in conjunction with the release of the pool's annual report.

Despite the good news, Watson said attendance at swimming facilities has traditionally dropped by up to 50 per cent during the second and third years of operation.

He said lap pools historically offer the lowest level of cost recovery when it comes to aquatic facilities.

While the average lap pool recovers between 24 and 26 per cent of its costs, he said, Salt Spring so far comes in at around the 29 to 30 per cent mark. The highest recovery Watson said

he'd ever seen in his 30 years in the business was 33 per cent.

The PARC commissioners' discussion focused on the need to find a data collection system that could tell them exactly how many individual Salt Springers use the pool on a regular basis.

Current data reveals how many people visit the pool each day.

The distinction is needed to establish what percentage of the community is being served by the pool, said commissioner Stan Shapiro,

"I'm a data person and I would like to see more accurate numbers," he said.

Knowing what percentage of islanders use the pool, he said, would help justify the roughly

POOL continued on A2

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TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT
	m ft		m ft
FEB 24 03:25	3.2 10.5	21:51	0.6 2.0
WE 07:32	3.0 9.8	28 SU 05:15	3.4 11.2
10:34	3.1 10.2	10:46	2.1 6.9
19:21	0.5 1.6	16:07	3.0 9.8
		22:34	0.8 2.6
FEB 25 03:57	3.3 10.8	MAR 01 05:38	3.4 11.2
TH 08:38	2.9 9.5	11:31	1.7 5.6
12:06	3.1 10.2	17:21	3.0 9.8
20:16	0.5 1.6	23:16	1.2 3.9
FEB 26 04:26	3.3 10.8	02 TU 06:02	3.4 11.2
FR 09:22	2.7 8.9	12:17	1.3 4.3
13:31	3.1 10.2	18:33	2.9 9.5
21:06	0.5 1.6	23:59	1.6 5.2
FEB 27 04:51	3.3 10.8		
SA 10:03	2.4 7.9		
14:51	3.1 10.2		

NEWSBEAT

Cost of ferry travel up again on April 1

FARES

continued from A1

Experience Card discounts will see the foot passenger costs rise from \$9.45 to \$10 (return) on the Fulford-Swartz Bay and Vesuvius-Crofton runs, and from \$9.80 to \$10.40 between the southern Gulf Islands and Swartz Bay, for example. Vehicle fares rise by \$1.60 (to \$29.60) on the Salt Spring routes, and by \$1.95 to \$32.95 for the other Gulf Islands.

Price caps were set at 2.68 per cent for BC Ferries' three major routes and 5.68 per cent for all other routes.

The Ferry Commission establishes the price cap by plugging the current Consumer Price Index into a pre-determined formula, Crilly said. Although this year's CPI is negative, he added, the price cap increased because of the ferry company's projected capital expenses and the provincial government's failure to increase its annual transportation subsidy.

"That leaves passengers paying their share of the increase and making up the government's share," Crilly said.

Coons is calling on the province to follow up on recommendations presented in last year's audit by the province's Comptroller General.

Among those recommendations is that the province increase its transportation subsidy to BC Ferries as a way to "sustain the ferry system on a sound financial footing."

"The report indicated that the Coastal Ferry Act, along with the Commission, has been structured to have no mandate to protect the public interest nor the people of B.C. who depend on the ferry system," he said. "It said that there is insufficient transparency in accounting and a reliance by the Ferry Commission on 'unverified figures' supplied to it by BC Ferries."

Route	TARIFF	Passengers		Vehicles	
		31-Mar-10	01-Apr-10	31-Mar-10	01-Apr-10
1	TSAWWASSEN - SWARTZ BAY (One Way)	\$13.50	\$14.00	\$45.00	\$46.75
2	DEPARTURE BAY - HORSESHOE BAY (One Way)	\$13.50	\$14.00	\$45.00	\$46.75
30	TSAWWASSEN - DUKE POINT (One Way)	\$13.50	\$14.00	\$45.00	\$46.75
3	HORSESHOE BAY - LANGDALE (Return)	\$11.85	\$12.85	\$39.90	\$43.20
4	SWARTZ BAY - FULFORD HARBOUR (Return)	\$9.45	\$10.00	\$28.00	\$29.60
5	SWARTZ BAY - GULF ISLANDS (Return)	\$9.80	\$10.40	\$31.00	\$32.95
5A	INTER-GULF ISLANDS	\$4.90	\$5.20	\$10.70	\$11.35
6	CROFTON - VESUVIUS BAY (Return)	\$9.45	\$10.00	\$28.00	\$29.60
7	EARL'S COVE - SALTERY BAY (Return)	\$11.85	\$12.55	\$39.90	\$42.15
8	HORSESHOE BAY - SNUG COVE (Return)	\$9.20	\$9.75	\$26.40	\$27.90
9	GULF ISLANDS - TSAWWASSEN (One Way) Regular Season	\$7.60	\$8.05	\$30.70	\$32.45
9	GULF ISLANDS - TSAWWASSEN (One Way) Off Peak Season	\$7.60	\$8.05	\$20.25	\$21.40
9.1	TSAWWASSEN - GULF ISLANDS (One Way) Regular Season	\$14.85	\$15.70	\$55.15	\$58.30
9.1	TSAWWASSEN - GULF ISLANDS (One Way) Off Peak Season	\$14.85	\$15.70	\$47.60	\$50.30
12	MILL BAY - BRENTWOOD BAY (One Way)	\$6.00	\$6.35	\$14.00	\$14.80
13	LANGDALE - KEATS ISLAND - GAMBIER ISLAND (One Way)	\$5.70	\$6.10		
17	POWELL RIVER - LITTLE RIVER (One Way)	\$11.80	\$12.50	\$37.50	\$39.65
18	POWELL RIVER - TEXADA ISLAND (Return)	\$8.60	\$9.10	\$20.50	\$21.65
19	NANAIMO HARBOUR - GABRIOLA ISLAND (Return)	\$8.60	\$9.10	\$20.50	\$21.65
20	CHEMAINUS - THETIS ISLAND - KUPER ISLAND (Return)	\$8.60	\$9.10	\$20.50	\$21.65
21	BUCKLEY BAY - DENMAN ISLAND (Return)	\$7.90	\$8.35	\$18.50	\$19.55
22	DENMAN ISLAND - HORNBY ISLAND (Return)	\$7.90	\$8.35	\$18.50	\$19.55
23	CAMPBELL RIVER - QUADRA ISLAND (Return)	\$7.90	\$8.35	\$18.50	\$19.55
24	QUADRA ISLAND - CORTES ISLAND (Return)	\$9.20	\$9.75	\$21.50	\$22.75
25	PORT McNEILL - ALERT BAY - SOINTULA (Return)	\$9.20	\$9.75	\$21.50	\$22.75
26	SKIDEGATE - ALLIFORD BAY (Return)	\$7.90	\$8.35	\$18.50	\$19.55

Coons called the anticipated fare hikes a "final nail in the coffin" for many businesses and tourism dependent entities who must also contend with a 5.11 cent/litre gas tax and soon-to-be seven per cent HST.

"The days of a day-trip to the islands are not possible for very many people anymore," he said.

In related ferry news, the Islands Trust has written a letter to the province that calls for greater consultation with Gulf Islands residents and groups during the province's upcoming BC Ferries governance review process.

The BC Liberals announced it will take

a "fresh look" at BC Ferries during its 2010 throne speech in early February.

The Trust's Feb. 9 letter from Trust Council chair Sheila Malcolmson specifically asks that the company strive to incorporate more input from Ferry Advisory Committee chairs.

The letter notes that some communities within the Trust's jurisdiction have encountered fare hikes of up to 120 per cent over the past five years.

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

PARC looks at Rainbow Rd. pool numbers

POOL

continued from A1

\$750,000 in PARC funds allocated to the pool this fiscal year.

Darlene Steele, alternate director for the Capital Regional District, said she believes it makes little difference whether 3,000 people use the pool once a month or if 300 people use the pool 10 times per month.

"That's what it means to live in a well-rounded community and that's what the pool is all about," she said.

Steve Peterson, the former PARC chair

and the current head of PARC's Pool Advisory Group, also asked in a detailed Feb. 12 letter how the local pool's revenue streams and expenses stack up against other facilities on a percentage basis.

"I think RecEx is providing reasonable service, but are we getting value?" he asked. "What might other operators charge? Does RecEx provide and promote a range of activities in a manner equal to or greater than other pool operators? . . . Is our utility bill in line? Insurance?"

Pool attendance for January 2010 was 2,990. That's among the highest monthly attendance figures recorded since the

pool opened its doors to the public in May 2008.

The most popular sessions are the Everyone Welcome swims held throughout the week and the Lap and Leisure session held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Pool attendance figures tend to drop over the summer months as swimmers head for the island's lakes and beaches. The annual report shows that the number of students registered for lessons during the summer helps offset the lower than average number of visits.



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Newsbeat

Heads up!

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ISLAND HISTORY

Salt Spring's library: looking back — and ahead

Library association's 50th anniversary marked on Feb. 22

BY GRACE BYRNE AND STAN SHAPIRO

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Though it had begun operating a few months earlier, the Salt Spring Island Public Library Association was officially incorporated by the Registrar of Companies of the Province of British Columbia on Feb. 22, 1960.

The initial efforts of a dedicated band of Salt Spring Island volunteers laid the foundation for today's, and tomorrow's, public library.

There are now more than 6,000 card holders and over 50,000 books and videos in our library's collection. Over 130,000 items circulated in 2009 and more than 100,000 site visits were made to a library that also had thousands of electronic visitors as well.

Our library is a going concern and, fortunately, a concern that will soon be going into a new building. But while the library board looks ahead to that new building and to the improved service it will make possible, it nevertheless seems appropriate that we mark our fiftieth anniversary by familiarizing our community with early efforts to provide library service.

It didn't all start in the late 1950s. A visit to the Salt Spring Archives, the historical heart and soul of our community, revealed the following. The September 1898 issue of the Salt Spring Parish and Home reported that "a lending library has been quietly set on foot." The "depository" was at the post office and there were originally 60 books in the collection though more would be welcomed. The library was free to all but those who kept their two books out for more than 14 days would be subject to a five cent a week fine.

In the early 1930s, an actress named Mrs. A.J. Smith opened a pay lending library upstairs in Mouat's Store. This little library was open several days a week and provided its services at minimal cost. Later, a group of islanders organized a book-lending facility that circulated a collection of books among its members. One of the first books from this collection is in the Salt Spring Archives, appropriately located in the basement of the current library building.

The start of today's library began when a group of Salt Spring women met in March 1958 to discuss the formation of a library as a centennial project, celebrating the formation of the colony of British Columbia in 1858.

The project was joined with another popular project, the creation of a museum for the island. Eventually, the museum project suffered a series of setbacks and was cancelled. However, a determined group of women, led by Mary Hawkins, worked on the library plan.

Twenty months later the library had its official grand



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Library volunteers and patrons were happy to share some birthday cake at an open house celebration on Monday.

opening with the Superintendent of the B.C. Library Commission in attendance.

The new library was located in a back room of Mouat's Store. It opened with 1,300 books and a war chest of \$7.68. In a public meeting in 1960, the Centennial Committee voted to hand over the remainder of the Centennial Fund, a sum of \$1,103, to the newly created Salt Spring Island Public Library Association.

By 1963, the library had acquired more than 5,000 books and had an annual circulation of 7,000.

This success meant that the library had to find more space. An affordable site was found on McPhillips Avenue,

where the association purchased the property and boat-building workshop of Charles Leggatt for \$2,300. After renovation, Mrs. W.A.C. Bennett — the B.C. premier's wife — officially opened the new library in February 1964. And that's how it all began.

For over 50 years our community has been exceedingly well served by a library staffed primarily by volunteers.

As we now look forward to the next half century, it seems only appropriate that we recognize our debt both to those whose early efforts laid the library ground work for all that was, and is, to follow and to subsequent generations of library volunteers who have also contributed so much.

News briefs

Work prompts closures

The Parks and Recreation Commission advises hikers that work on the Channel Ridge property will mean the temporary closure of between five and 10 per cent of the area's trail network.

PARC manager Kees Ruurs could not specify when work on the north-end real estate development is set to proceed, but added that discussions with developers indicate trail closures will

come into effect within the coming year.

"These trails will be closed on a temporary or somewhat longer temporary basis," he said.

In addition to the village site, Ruurs said, trails passing through proposed drainage fields and sewer areas will be off limits for reasons of safety.

He said the working relationship with Channel Ridge representatives has been positive. Plans to create alternate routes are being developed.

With more than 20 kilometres of marked paths, the

Channel Ridge area comprises the island's largest PARC-administered trail network.

Ruurs said signage will be installed at trailheads and major junctions to inform users of any closures over the next several months.

PARC looks at court action

Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission is ready to take a swing at repairing the aging tennis courts at Portlock Park and the Fulford Valley.

Filling in the cracked sur-

faces of the four courts at Portlock Park is a "short-term solution" expected to cost nearly \$10,000, said PARC manager Kees Ruurs.

Work to resurface the Fulford Valley tennis facility behind the Fulford fire hall, he added, could cost anywhere between \$65,000 and \$75,000.

Speaking at Monday's monthly PARC meeting, Ruurs said the preliminary budget quotes are intended to give commissioners a sense of what lies ahead.

"We can expect a full report by the next meeting, at which point I hope a deci-

sion can be made based on more information," he said.

Islander finds 'golden ticket'

A special treat for the kids turned into an opportunity to win an ounce of gold for a Salt Spring grandmother.

Ila-Mae Dickson could hardly believe her luck when she discovered that one of the three chocolate bars she purchased for her kids contained one of six entries to win an ounce of gold valued at \$1,165.

Dickson said her children are welcome to the choco-

late, but she may have to think about what to do if she wins the grand prize at the Driftwood's golden anniversary celebration on March 26.

Six of the 2,000 chocolate bars produced by Salt Spring's Harlan's Chocolates offer a chance to win the grand prize.

Dickson's entry ticket included a \$25 gift certificate for groceries at Country Grocer.

The "Gold Bar" event is co-sponsored by the Driftwood, Pharmasave, Harlan's Chocolates and Country Grocer.



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NEWSBEAT

OLYMPIC GAMES

Wearing volunteer colours with pride

Olympic volunteers level in the experience

BY SUSAN LUNDY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

At least one Salt Spring Island woman volunteering at the 2010 Winter Olympic Games says she is already missing her job after working her last shift in Whistler on Monday.

"I think I am beginning to suffer separation anxiety," said Wendy Herbert, a "team lead driver" with the Whistler Transportation Fleet. "There [have been] so many memorable moments."

While she "expected to meet some interesting people," she said, that "expectation [was] an understatement."

"I'll never forget talking with the red-bearded skeleton coach of Canadian gold medalist John Montgomery, who said he was pleased [the athlete] had shaved his beard between winning the event and the medal presentation. Now, the coach could walk in Whistler without being mistaken for Mr. Montgomery!"

Some other "memorable" moments and people included a "Tajikistan coach, who folded a pin from his country into my hand, clasped both of them and bowed in thanks for our volunteer work... the chaplain for Austrian teams who blessed us all on a beautiful Sunday afternoon... [and] the mother of the Icelandic downhill skier who was so proud of her son's courage and determination despite his failure to complete the race."

She says people have been thankful of volunteers: "the parents of a Polish competitor told us that the Polish team [is] delighted with the ease of transportation."

She added: "I am proud to be a blue-clad volunteer (or 'Smurf' as we have been nicknamed) and I can hardly wait for my shifts with the Paralympics."

"... there are spontaneous outbursts of dancing, cheering, singing of O Canada, as well as cowbells and air horns filling every potential silence."

EMMA RIMMER
Olympic volunteer

Fellow volunteer Marnie Keith-Murray, also described the positive reaction to her "Smurf" uniform, even away from Olympic venues.

She had a few days off from her role as a host at the Olympic Family Hotel and took her grandson skiing at Mount Washington.

"I wore my blue Smurf jacket and got lovely reactions from fellow skiers. A couple

asked me if I was an Olympian... I thought that was a real compliment, but obviously their eyesight was gone!"

She added: "Even though the volunteer uniform is well recognized in Vancouver and Whistler, it was not so well-known away from the Olympics. When told what it was, people thanked me for volunteering and being such a good Canadian! It all felt good. I was proud to be wearing the Olympic volunteer blue."

Emma Rimmer — a Salt Spring UBC student who is volunteering as a host in the Athletes Village as well as taking part in both the opening and closing ceremonies — also had a few days off this week and took the opportunity to get out and experience the "insanity that is downtown Vancouver right now."

"It's so crazy being down there and seeing everyone so excited," she said. "When people see our volunteer accreditation, they want to know all about what we're doing, and visitors — even from just out of province — are really eager to let us know how much they love Vancouver and Canada."

In the streets, she added, "there are spontaneous outbursts of dancing, cheering, singing of O Canada, as well as cowbells and air horns filling every potential silence."

Rimmer has started rehearsing for the closing ceremonies, and said: "There are so many talented performers... It's looking to be much more exciting than I was anticipating and I encourage everyone to watch if they can."

Also a performer at the Olympics, 16-year-old Wesley Hardisty said his highlight last week was fiddling with the B.C. All Star Fiddlers and Daniel Lapp at B.C. Place Stadium.

He said the 30-minute show included over 300 people, an enormous stage set and dozens of technical staff swarming around them for the many rehearsals.

"The show was awesome, with the roar of the huge crowd and high energy of all the performers," he said. "Afterwards we watched the medal ceremony from the reserved area and saw some of Nelly Furtado's show. It was an amazing day!"

For Ellie Langford Parks, one of Hardisty's foster parents, the Talking Stick Festival Opening Gala was a major highlight.

"This six-hour gala showcased aboriginal talent from around the world and had traditional and contemporary song, dance, music, poetry and spoken word performances," she said.

"It was exquisite and moving. Plus they had great food... I loved the cinnamon bannock."

Parks also touched on a common theme among people visiting the various Olympic venues.

"Another highlight," she said, "was the intensity and happy vibe of the large crowds on the downtown streets. It was joyful to see the unabashed pride, feel the sense of community and join in spontaneous singing of the national anthem. I'm proud and grateful to be a Canadian."

SALT SPRING ISLAND TRANSIT SYSTEM Riders Guide

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 28, 2009 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

2 Fulford Harbour

Monday - Saturday

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

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.

3 Vesuvius

Monday - Saturday

	(A)	(F)	(G)	(G)	(F)	(A)
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Lv. Portlock Park	Ar. Vesuvius	Lv. Vesuvius	Lv. Portlock Park	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	
M-F 6:30	6:37	6:45	6:57	7:03	7:10	
8:30	8:37	8:45	8:57	9:03	9:10	
12:10	12:17	12:25	12:40	12:46	12:53	
3:30	3:37	3:45	3:57	4:03	4:10	
4:30	4:37	4:45	4:57	5:03	5:10	
6:05c	6:19	6:25c	-	-	-	

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.

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

5 Fernwood

Monday - Saturday

	(A)	(M)	(A)
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Ar./Lv. Fernwood Dock	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	
10:30	10:43	11:00	
2:30	2:43	3:00	
6:05c	6:38	6:53	

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

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

4 Long Harbour

Monday - Saturday

	(A)	(L)	(A)
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Ar./Lv. Long Harbour	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	
M-F 1:15	1:25	1:35	
SAT 1:50	2:00	2:10	
M-S 3:00	3:10	3:20	

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.

SAT Trip operates Saturday only.

M-S Trip operates Monday to Saturday.

1 Ganges Local

Monday - Saturday

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

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

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www.gulfislands.net

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Harbour House
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Thrifty's
TJ Beans
Transitions
Uptown Pizza
Uniglobe
Vesuvius Store
Vesuvius Ferry on Board
Vesuvius Ferry Terminal

Yes Men Fix the World ready to set the to

BY PHE GOULD
PHOTO BY PHE GOULD

GRANDMOTHERS: They were an eclectic bunch, the ladies gathered around a large table and afternoon at the Salt Spring Inn.

Funds raised to date have supported Grandmothers' International (for example — book transportation, medical care, adequate housing and nutrition for a dignified burial).

Patricia Brown
Grand-oh-oh. An outstanding painter, she finds time to be a volunteer.

"Our children, like all children, deserve a future. We will raise children for the grave." — African grandmothers

Nona Keel
Grand-oh-oh. Visionary artist, activist, a former U.S. Marine, and an environmentalist who moved to Salt Spring in 1974.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Bursary targets mature students

Club gives island women a 'second chance'

The Salt Spring chapter of the Canadian Federation of University Women has broadened its philanthropic scope by offering the all new "Second Chance Bursary."

"We realize that not everyone may have been interested in, or had the opportunity, or have been able to pursue their schooling when they left secondary school," states a press release from the local CFUW.

"This year we have established a new bursary to help precisely those women who didn't have a chance before."

This \$1,000 bursary is open to individuals who have been out of secondary school for five or more years. The funds can be used for university or any accredited post-secondary program leading to a career in a candidate's chosen field.

The bursary is one of three scholarships made available to island women by Salt Spring's CFUW. The other prizes are given to Gulf Islands Secondary School graduates on an annual basis.

The Second Chance Bursary is offered to southern Gulf Islands residents.

Application forms and a full list of criteria are available in an envelope marked CFUW Bursary with application forms at Apple Photo.

The 2010 application deadline is March 31. The CFUW is a voluntary, non-profit, self-funded, non-partisan, non-governmental organization of close to 10,000 graduate women, students and associate members in 112 clubs across Canada.

The group seeks to improve access to education for women, for peace, justice, human rights and to support programs that improve the environment.

NEWSBEAT



SIGN OF THE SEASON: Genevieve Lightfoot picks one of the beautiful hellebore plants at Fraser's Thimble Farms' Helleborganza event held at the nursery over the weekend. In-demand plants originating from breeders around the world were brought to the island.

WATER QUALITY

Speaker lauds opportunities created by future RAR bylaw

Provincial legislation could protect island's water

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A guest speaker at last week's Water Preservation Society AGM believes provincial regulations geared to protect fish habitat may be one of the best tools available to preserve Salt Spring's freshwater resources.

"There is an exciting opportunity within the next year or two to improve protection of our drinking water lakes," said Maxine Leichter, a former WPS director, during Thursday's meeting.

The Islands Trust will implement the province's Riparian Area Regulations (RAR) when it reviews Salt Spring's development permit areas and land use bylaws later this year.

RAR is designed to protect vegetation within at least 30 metres of a "stream, river, creek, pond, lake, or a connected ditch, spring or wetland, if it provides fish habitat or provides nutrients to fish habitat."

RAR means any removal of plants, disturbance of soil, construction of roads, docks and buildings within the designated buffer must be assessed by a Qualified Environmental Professional.

The rules would apply to residential, commercial and industrial lands.

Properties zoned agricultural are exempt from the RAR standard.

Local governments across the province, Leichter added, have the power to implement stricter RAR conditions if they so chose.

Preventing the disturbance and the clearing of vegetation within

riparian areas, she said, has been proven to significantly decrease the levels of phosphorus entering the island's drinking-water sources.

Elevated phosphorus levels can lead to the occurrence of algal blooms and potentially toxic cyanobacteria outbreaks.

"It's very interesting that a law that was passed to protect fish also protects our lakes and streams," Leichter said. "By protecting the fish, we are also protecting ourselves from these nasty cyanobacteria."

Many of the nearly 20 participants at the meeting stressed the need to educate more people about what has the potential to become a very controversial aspect of the LUB and DPA-review process.

"I'm in favour of some stronger regulations because that's what it will take," Leichter said. "What we're doing now isn't working because we are doing more land clearing and more phosphorus is entering our lakes."

One WPS member suggested the Islands Trust be encouraged to hire a professional biologist who could offer planners a better understanding of QEP reports.

In other WPS news, volunteers are needed for spring activities, fund-raising efforts, newsletter articles and promotional events.

The society honoured retiring board member Tom Wright for his years of hard work and dedication to the group. Vice-president Rick Laing announced he would be stepping down from his position as a result of an off-island work commitment.

For more information on how to get involved, contact the WPS at ssi-wps@hotmail.com.

EARTHQUAKE

Small shaker hits early Sat.

Islander feels earth shake

A 2.9 magnitude earthquake off the southern coast of Vancouver Island was strong enough to leave an impression on at least one Salt Spring resident in the wee hours of Saturday morning.

"It sounded like a tree falling down and the window rattled," said Dan Dickmeyer of Roland Road.

The federal government's Earthquakes Canada website reports that the earthquake took place 17 kilometres southeast of Victoria at 2 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20.

The site received more than 1,000 submissions about the tremor from people living in the greater Victoria area and Washington State.

John Cassidy, a seismologist and research scientist at Sidney's Pacific Geosciences Centre, said the quake took place 46 kilometres below the earth's surface and lasted only a few seconds.

He said the tiny earthquake is among some 400 to 500 quakes that strike the region each year.

"It doesn't really mean anything in terms of what we might expect to happen, but it is a chance to remind people that we do live in a region prone to earthquakes," he said. Cassidy encourages people to report suspected earthquakes on the Earth Sciences section of the Natural Resources Canada homepage.

"... it is a [reminder] that we do live in a region prone to earthquakes."

JOHN CASSIDY
Seismologist

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NOTICE OF NOMINATION SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ELECTION OF TRUSTEES



Notice is hereby given to the owners of land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that nominations for trustee (2 positions) will be received between **9:00 A.M. Tuesday March 2nd, 2010 and 4:00 P.M. Friday March 12th, 2010**

During which period the nomination documents shall only be received during the office hours of Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. at the Ganges Fire Hall or arrangements may be made to file nomination documents by phoning Thomas Moore at (250) 472-0059.

The two (2) Trustee positions are for a three year term commencing at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held on April, 19th, 2010 and terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 2013.

The Election to be held on Monday, **April 19th, 2010** at the **Ganges Fire Hall** from **11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.** in the Training Room. An **Advance Voting** opportunity will be held in the Training Room on Saturday, **April 10th, 2010** between the hours of **11:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M.** Candidates shall be nominated by two duly qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District. Nomination forms may be obtained at the Fire Hall or from Thomas F. Moore. Returning Officer (250) 472-0059.

Those persons eligible to vote at this election will have the following qualifications:

1. Be a Canadian Citizen
2. Be eighteen years of age or older
3. Be a resident in the Province of British Columbia for at least six months prior to this election
4. Be an owner of land within the boundaries of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
5. One vote is also allowed for each board or corporation that owns land within the Fire Protection District. The Board or Corporation must designate one person in writing to act as an authorized agent to vote on its behalf.

If more than one person is registered on title as owner of land then those owners may vote providing they meet the qualifications set out above. No persons may vote more than once with the exception that they may vote as an authorized agent and personally if they own land on a personal basis.

Dated at Ganges, B.C.
this 22nd day of February 2010

Thomas F. Moore
Returning Officer

NEWSBEAT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

IN MEMORY: The sun shone on a group of people who gathered at Drummond Park Saturday afternoon for a potluck in memory of Dave Barnard, who died on his boat during a storm in January.

RECYCLING

Off-limits signs rankle recycler

Liability fears curb recycling efforts

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

For years, Paul de Roo has salvaged discarded wood and metal from the transfer station on Blackburn Road.

The south-end farmer uses the materials to create greenhouses, tables and a variety of other farm-yard accessories.

"A lot of it is really beautiful wood," he said.

De Roo's supply of raw material was cut off in late January when he discovered signs at the transfer station that informed him the bins of metal and piles of wood are now off limits to customers.

According to a transfer station spokesperson, "no admittance" signs were put up following advice received from the province's Workers' Compensation Board after a visitor fell into a bin and sustained minor injuries.

Given the slippery surfaces, exposed nails and prevalence of sharp edges at the transfer station, the company has taken a "pro-active approach" to prevent future incidents and injuries, said office manager Kelly Krok.

De Roo understands the position faced by the transfer station's owner and management, but the decision to limit access represents a much deeper societal problem, a culture in which fears of liability and lawsuits have gotten out of control, he said.

"As with many things nowadays, bureaucrats feel the need to protect us from any risk," de Roo told the Driftwood. "Liability seems to be the theme these days.

"For goodness sake, let me take responsibility for my own actions."

He acknowledged the danger and added that people need to be careful when collecting materials from the site.

"I kept my eyes open," he said.

De Roo said he would support the transfer station's decision to have people sign a waiver or pay a nominal entrance fee if that meant access to the site could be reopened. Krok could not provide information about whether a solution is forthcoming or if the wood piles and bins of metal will stay off limits for the long term.

Transfer station owner John Ellacott was out of town and could not respond to an interview request.



Islands Trust

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE Proposed Bylaw No. 433

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will hold a public hearing concerning **Proposed Bylaw No. 433**, for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained therein. At the public hearing, all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaw shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions.

DATE: Wednesday, March 3, 2010

LOCATION: Hart Bradley Hall (Lions Club), 103 Bonnet Avenue, Ganges

TIME: 7:00 PM

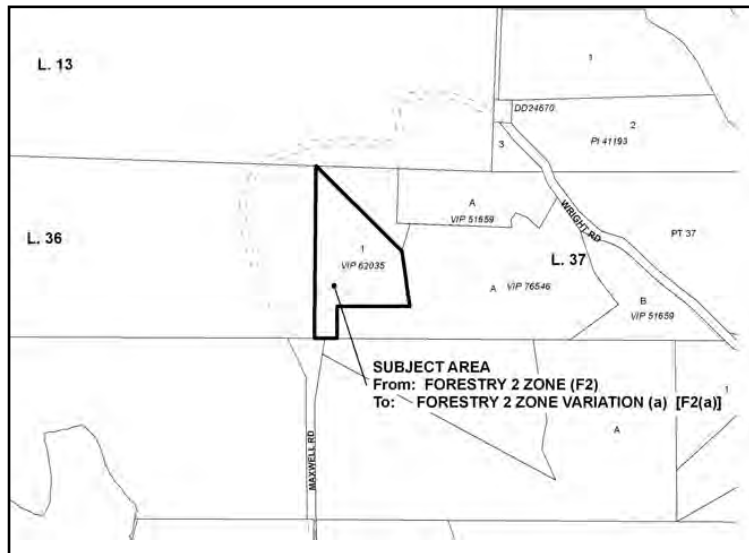
1. Proposed Bylaw No. 433, cited as "Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 1, 2008".

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 433 is to amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw No. 355 as follows:

1. By adding a new Forestry 2 Zone Variation (a) – F2(a) that will permit a second dwelling unit, not to exceed 1200 square feet (111.48 square metres) in floor area.

2. By changing the zoning classification of a portion of Lot 1, District Lot 37, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan VIP62035, except that part in Plan VIP76546, from Forestry 2 Zone (F2) to Forestry 2 Zone Variation (a) – F2(a), as shown on the following plan:

Subject Property - Proposed Bylaw No. 433



Copies of the proposed bylaw, and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee, may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, commencing Monday, February 15, 2010 and up to and including Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 4:30 PM. Proposed Bylaw No. 433 may also be viewed on the Islands Trust website at: www.islandstrust.bc.ca

Enquiries regarding the proposed bylaw may be directed to Planner Justine Starke at (250) 538-5603 or to the Islands Trust at (250) 537-9144. For Toll Free access, request a transfer to the Islands Trust via Enquiry BC: in Vancouver at (604) 660-2421, and elsewhere in BC at 1-800-663-7867. Written submissions may be delivered as follows:

1. By mail to the Islands Trust at 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8; by Fax to (250) 537-9116; or online at the Islands Trust website via the following URL: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/lc/ss/meetings.cfm> by completing the **Public Hearing, Wednesday, March 3, 2010 Submission Form** before 4:30 PM on Tuesday, March 2, 2010.
2. To the **Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing.**

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

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

Pauline Brazier
Deputy Secretary

COURT DOCKET

Impaired drivers plead guilty in Ganges court

Minimum \$1,000 fines applied

Judge Adrian Brooks issued a one-year driving suspension and a \$1,000 fine to a young Salt Spring man who pleaded guilty to driving while impaired.

According to a Crown summary heard in Ganges Provincial Court on Feb. 10, police stopped Tyler Byron at a roadblock at 1:20 a.m. on Aug. 20, 2009.

Police detected a smell of alcohol on Byron's breath and located several bottles of beer in the vehicle despite the fact that Byron told officers he had not been drinking that night.

He provided two blood-alcohol readings of 0.140.

Also in Ganges court, Nigel Cameron received a one-year driving prohibition and a \$1,000 fine after he pleaded guilty to an impaired driving charge from Nov. 30, 2009.

Police stopped Cameron's vehicle after it was observed crossing over the centre line while making a right turn.

RCMP located two bottles of brandy in the vehicle. Cameron provided blood-alcohol readings of 0.150 and 0.140.

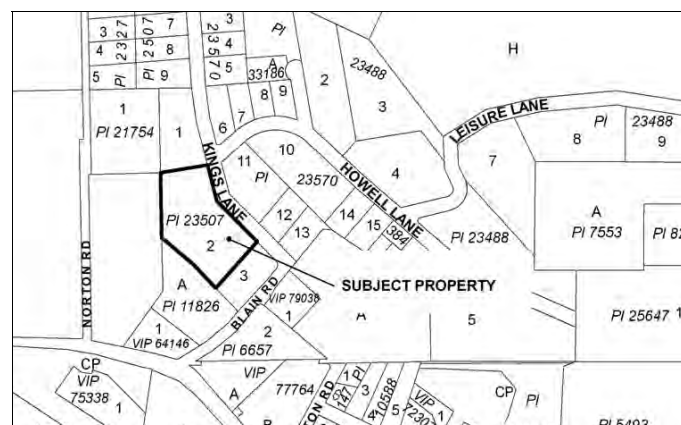


Islands Trust

NOTICE SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE TEMPORARY COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USE PERMIT SS-TUP-2009.2

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider a Resolution to issue a Temporary Commercial Use Permit pursuant to Section 921 of the Local Government Act for Lot 2, Section 4, Range 3 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan 23507. The purpose of the Permit is to allow the use of medical office services for more than 2 medical practitioners for a period of two years.

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



The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider the proposed Permit at a meeting on Thursday, March 4, 2010 commencing at 10:30 AM, at ArtSpring, Jackson Avenue, Ganges. Please refer to the posted agenda available on the Islands Trust Website at the beginning of that week for an indication of where this application is to be placed on the agenda. Copies of the proposed permit, and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee, may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding Statutory Holidays, commencing Monday, February 15, 2010 and continuing up to and including 4:30 PM on Monday, March 1, 2010. Enquiries or written submissions concerning the proposed permit may be directed to the Islands Trust at:

1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8
Tel: (250) 537-9144 or Fax: (250) 537-9116
Planner, Jasmine Jawanda, at (250) 538-5608
Email to: ssinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca
Website: www.islandstrust.bc.ca

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

Pauline Brazier,
Deputy Secretary

NEWSBEAT



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

THIS TANK'S TANKED: John Quesnel, owner of Salt Spring Metal Recycling, removes an old metal water tank from the Capital Regional District's Cedar Lane Water District property.

ISLANDS TRUST

Conserving land in Trust area can lead to lower property tax

North Pender and Galiano properties latest to use NAPTEP

With property tax bills on the horizon later this spring, the Islands Trust is reminding Trust area property owners about the Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program.

Described in Trust press material as "a unique program for a unique place," NAPTEP is the only program in British Columbia offering landowners an annual property tax exemption on land protected by conservation covenants.

In 2009, two island couples joined the program, bringing the total amount of land protected by NAPTEP to 60 hectares. Dr. David and June Collins donated the Westbourne NAPTEP covenant on Galiano Island. The new covenant protects maturing forest overlooking Montague Harbour.

"The 65 per cent exemption on our property taxes was what originally enticed us to apply to the program," said David, standing among the trees of the Collins' heritage orchard. "But the unexpected bonus was learning how we could serve as stewards of our land. We now leave decaying trees and branches to make homes for the animals that share this land with us. Resisting the urge to 'tidy up' allows us to enjoy the diversity of life that appears at our doorstep."

Joining the Collinses were Sara and Richard Steil of North Pender Island.

"With Shelby, their canine companion leading the way, Sara and Richard have explored every nook and cranny of the property many times, and have grown to cherish its natural features since they moved to the Penders 15 years ago," states a Trust press release.

The destruction of natural environments is a concern to Sara and Richard.

"Many of the natural areas we enjoyed when we lived on the lower mainland used to look like the Penders do today — beautifully natural," said Sara. "I've had to watch as the communities we loved were developed ruthlessly. That type of destruction breaks my heart."

Learning from that experience, the Steils have cared for their property's natural habitat and enlisted the help of the Islands Trust Fund to ensure permanent protection with a conservation covenant. The Steils' NAPTEP covenant protects a forest filled with grand fir, western red cedar and wild strawberry, as well as a portion of a wetland that spans several neighbouring properties and hosts amphibians and visiting great blue herons. The covenant ensures that the land will remain in its natural state regardless of who owns the property next.

In the Gulf Islands, natural area conservation goals can't be met without landowners like the Steils and Collins. With only 22 per cent of the land base owned by the Crown, the future ecological health of the Gulf Islands relies primarily on private landowners. Landowners who register a NAPTEP conservation covenant on their land continue to own and enjoy the property and ensure it remains natural for the future, while receiving an annual 65 per cent property tax exemption on the protected land.

To learn more about NAPTEP, contact the Islands Trust Fund at 250-405-5186 (Victoria) or toll free through Enquiry BC at 1-800-663-7867, (604-660-2421 in Vancouver), or visit <http://islandstrustfund.bc.ca/naptepcfm>.

BC FERRIES

Ferries prepare for Olympic end

Preplan to avoid disappointment

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The crowded ferries and multiple-sailing waits that plagued BC Ferries' major routes on the weekend failed to register much of an impact on travel to and from Salt Spring Island.

Islanders who travelled to the Lower Mainland via Swartz Bay, however, faced busier-than usual February conditions as crowds flocked to glimpse some of the action at the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games.

Deborah Marshall, a BC Ferries spokesperson, said 600 walk-on passengers were left behind on Saturday morning's 9 a.m. sailing between Swartz Bay and Tsawwassen. On Sunday evening, passengers returning to Vancouver Island faced two-sailing waits.

Marshall said foot-passenger traffic over the weekend was up by 32 per cent compared with the same weekend last year.

One stranded group of travellers chartered a Salt Spring Air flight from Pat Bay to make it into Vancouver on Saturday morning.

Philip Reece, co-owner of Salt Spring Air, said ticket sales for flights to Vancouver have been steady since things began to pick up on Friday, Feb. 19.

Though extra seats are available on most flights, he asks potential flyers to call ahead to guarantee a spot. Reece said his next goal is to get more people visiting Vancouver to fly over to

Salt Spring Island as the Olympics wind down.

The best bet for Salt Springers trying to reach the Lower Mainland by boat, Marshall said, is to try and connect with the 7 a.m. Swartz Bay-Tsawwassen ferry.

"It seems like most people are targeting the 9 a.m. sailing," she said.

Passenger traffic on the Queen of Nanaimo between Long Harbour-Tsawwassen route was unchanged from 2009 levels, making it an attractive alternative to the Swartz Bay bottleneck.

"It's business as usual at Long Harbour," Marshall said.

Vehicle traffic during the Olympics is 10 per cent lower than it was during the same time period in 2009 on all BC Ferries routes travelling through the southern Gulf Islands.

"It's seems people are getting the message to leave their cars at home and use public transit," she said.

Marshall said the company has additional sailings in place to accommodate another round of crowds as the Olympics wrap up this weekend.

She said a 20 per cent drop in ferry use during the first weekend of the Olympics complicated the scheduling process.

"It's hard to predict," she said. "We were down the first weekend, but the nice weather brought people out [last weekend]. It's hard to say what will happen this weekend."

BC Ferries has the staff and ships on hand to provide the flexibility of extra sailings should the need arise, Marshall said.

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Heritage Place for Seniors, Salt Spring Island, was awarded the BCSLA
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Heritage Place has suites available. For information or an appointment
to view, please call the Heritage Place office at 250-537-8340.

Opinion



GOLD - Photo Essay, Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island / GOLD - Special Publication, AQUA - Gulf Islands Living
 GOLD - Feature Photo Award, Under 25,000, Derrick Lundy / GOLD - Ad Design Award, Under 25,000, "Pegasus Gallery"
 GOLD - Ad Design Award, Under 25,000, Collaborative "Cardino's" / SILVER - Best All-Round Newspaper, Category C
2009 BC and Yukon Community Newspapers Association Awards
 GOLD - Best All-Round Newspaper, 4,000-6,499 circ.
 GOLD - Best Editorial Page, 4,000-6,499 circ. / GOLD - Best Front Page, 4,000-6,499 circ.
 SILVER - Best Local Cartoon, Circ up to 9,999, Dennis Parker
 SILVER - Best Ad Design, 4,000-12,499 circ. "Pegasus Gallery"
 BRONZE - Best Special Section, Circ. 4,000 - 12,999, AQUA
 BRONZE - Best Feature Photo, Circ. 4,000 - 12,999, Derrick Lundy
2009 Canadian Community Newspaper Association Award



EDITORIAL

Doing our best

If anyone with inexplicable Olympics fever thought they were in a minority group, a Canadian Press/Harris Decima poll proves they're not alone.

Seventy-seven per cent of Canadians believe the Olympics are having a unifying effect on the country, a survey released Monday found. And it's the positive feeling about our country and our athletes, regardless of whether or not the medal outcome is meeting previously-set expectations, that seems to be concocting the amazing elixir.

It's hard to not get caught up in the excitement, whether by watching events on TV or online, going to Vancouver to get a sense of what's happening, or talking to friends and family members who have been involved with or visited anything Olympics-related.

Most of the volunteers we've heard from have loved their experiences in Whistler and Vancouver.

THE ISSUE:

Olympic Games assessments

WE SAY:

Positive feelings are justified

There's been an exception, for sure, and allegations of some less-than-adequate working conditions for volunteers unfortunately couldn't be detailed in a proper news story by our Tuesday deadline. (VANOC reps didn't call us back and it wouldn't be responsible of us to print a string of accusations without giving the other side a chance to respond or explain.)

It's not surprising that every situation isn't satisfactory when one considers the magnitude of what's expected and being pulled off at this event.

It's also easy to not be drunk on Olympics euphoria for too long when we know all the bills haven't yet been covered and we're the ones at the front of the payment line. That same poll released Monday also found that more than one in three B.C. residents thought hosting the Winter Games would turn out to be a "bad idea."

Hopefully predictions of economic recovery for B.C. — related in part to the Olympics — will somewhat mitigate those concerns and the provincial government's bottom line, at least.

A Conference Board of Canada report issued Monday predicts B.C. will regain financial strength and be the leader for growth among Canadian provinces in 2010. The CBC forecasts 3.7 per cent growth in part because of an estimated \$770-million economic boost from hosting the Games.

Whatever the numbers say at the end of the day — whether they're in polls, budget deficits or medal totals — most Canadians will likely believe we did our best as hosts and participants, and did it all with class — something to truly be proud of.



Caring for ourselves and the planet

BY DAVID SUZUKI WITH FAISAL MOOLA

Ecosystems come in all shapes and sizes, often without distinct boundaries. And what happens in one ecosystem affects other ecosystems.

We can even consider the human body as an ecosystem, or perhaps more correctly as a number of interrelated ecosystems. According to a recent article in the scientific journal Nature, "The human body is one of the most important ecological study sites of the coming decade."

The article's author, David A. Relman, chief of infectious diseases at Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System in California, writes: "Humans depend on the microbial communities that colonize them for a surprising suite of benefits. These include: extracting energy from food, educating the immune system and protection from pathogens. Yet, despite the recent attention to this indigenous microbiota, we are relatively ignorant of what our 'extended self' comprises or how it works."

If we didn't have microbes, which are mainly bacteria, living in and on us, we wouldn't be able to digest our food or breathe properly, and we'd be more vulnerable to numerous types of disease and infection. Scientists estimate that our bodies contain 10 times as many bacteria as human cells, numbering around 100 trillion, and that the human gut alone contains 500 to 1,000 species of bacteria.

The microbes that help our body function properly are referred to as "normal flora" or "microbiota". But, like all ecosystems, our body's ecosystems can be disrupted. If we pollute our bodies, either intentionally or unintentionally, the normal flora can become overwhelmed to the point that they don't function as well as they should. Sometimes this may result simply in a case of upset stomach or indigestion, but often, especially if the pollution is ongoing, it can result in serious disease and death.

What we expose our bodies and the microbes within them to can also have unintended consequences. Although antibiotics have offered a lot of benefits to human health, we're now seeing

VIEWPOINT

that decades of their use, often as "growth promoters" in feed for chickens, hogs, and cows, is leading to new illnesses and infections as sometimes-harmful bacteria evolve to be resistant to

antibiotics and to our own microbial defences.

The more we learn about the microbial communities in our own bodies, the more we see that a balance must be maintained, for our own sake and for the sake of our human communities. According to New York microbiology professor Martin J. Blaser, "evolution has selected for those microbial populations that maintain and increase the fitness of both individual hosts and the group as a whole."

If we want our own bodies to be healthy, we must ensure that we have access to wholesome food, clean water, and good air.

This is really no different than what happens in all ecosystems. If we put too much garbage and pollution into the air, water, or ground, we upset the balance created by all the organisms and natural cycles in the environment. Our planet itself has a lot of similarities to the human body. Water circulates around and through the Earth in a complex hydrological cycle, regulating temperature and keeping plants and animals alive, just as blood circulates through our bodies. The natural organisms of the Earth's ecosystems, like the microbes in our bodies, also offer numerous services that we rely on to survive and be healthy.

And for both the human body and the Earth, carbon is an essential element. Carbon is the second most abundant element in the human body, after oxygen, and it also cycles through the Earth, its inhabitants, and its atmosphere. Normally, carbon is absorbed from the atmosphere through photosynthesis and is put back through respiration and decay. But when we upset the balance by cutting down too many of the plants or trees that absorb the carbon and by burning fuels that put too much carbon back into the atmosphere, we put the Earth's health, and thus the health of all of us, at risk.

We must learn to treat the Earth as we would treat ourselves. After all, we are part of nature, and if we don't look after its health, we aren't looking after our own health.

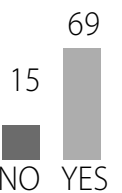
THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Would you pay more for expanded bus service? 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:

Do you support the legalization of SSI suites and cottages?



Driftwood

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IslandVoices

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:
"As with many things nowadays, bureaucrats feel the need to protect us from any risk."

SALT SPRING RESIDENT PAUL DE ROO

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: How have the 2010 Olympics affected your life?

AMY WALKER

They have not affected me at all except that my kids want cable TV even more than they did before.


NATASHA BAWLF

I live in Vancouver. It's brought in a lot of revenue, they've upgraded the highways and the Translink and RAV lines are way better.


KATE WALKER

I live in Vancouver. It's a really neat energy to be around, but I'm disappointed in how we've handled it and how much debt we're going to be in.


TRENE KAYE

I've really liked how Canada has come together and it's made me proud to be Canadian.


MATTHIAS BAUER

I've just avoided them. I'll go there when it's over.

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.**

Freedom of choice

I take great issue with your provocative headline to Shilo Zylbergold's Feb. 10 Viewpoint piece — "Let's put tutored students first."

This isn't about putting anyone first. It's about freedom of choice for us to educate our children the way that we, not the teachers' union, see as best.

Education has three stakeholders: children first and foremost, and parents, and teachers/administrators. By my book, teachers and administrators do not, or should not, have a monopoly in dictating how our kids get schooled, whatever Gulf Islands Teachers'

Association president John Nicolson may try to insist on.

I completely agree with Shilo Zylbergold. This is absurd! We should see school doors "opening," not closing to people who want to advance the education of our youngsters.

By the restriction GITA is intent on imposing, Nicolson and his sympathizers will have us all back in the caves in two generations under the excuse of "equality for all," that equality being the lowest common denominator.

If there are teachers in there who share my views, and those of Shilo, and who have the courage to speak out against this nonsense, let's hear it please! Parents,

get involved here . . . Here's to the continual betterment of the education of one's own children! And if this means getting rid of teachers who fail to subscribe to a "children-first" principle, the sooner the better!

ROSS KING,
BEDDIS ROAD

High standards

Having read Shilo Zylbergold's Viewpoint a couple of weeks ago, I am at a loss to see what harm he is supposed to be doing, and why the teachers' unions feel the need to bar him and all tutors from working while on school property.

With a four-day school week in place, a large num-

ber of concerned families have turned to fee-paying schools off-island. Is that not a form of "monetary discrimination?" So why ban the more affordable option of a weekly tutoring session?

Allowing tutors to teach in tutorial sessions at GISS makes perfect sense from transport, location and educational perspectives. If a student is with a private tutor during a tutorial session, it allows the teacher of that session to devote more time to other students, providing a better education for all. The issue is not just about providing an education for everyone, but about providing a high standard of education for everyone. So, if students are happy,

teachers are happy, parents are happy and it costs the district no money, what's the problem?

RICHARD STEEL,
ISLE VIEW DRIVE

Housing crisis

The recently released Islands Trust Housing Needs Assessment tells a story that, while particular to Salt Spring Island, holds true throughout the federal Saanich-Gulf Islands riding.

Housing prices are sky high. Young couples and families search in vain for affordable accommodation, either to rent or to buy. The decision, taken under previous federal Liberal governments, to withdraw the federal role in social housing was unwise and has

led to increased pressure on accommodations and homelessness. Affordable housing is needed across Canada for low- to middle-income Canadians.

To confront this crisis, we need better land use planning, more co-operative housing, a wider range of options and flexibility in local decision-making, such as has been recommended by the Islands Trust report. We also need the federal government to resume its previous role in helping to ensure every Canadian's right to safe and healthy shelter.

ELIZABETH E. MAY,
LEADER,
GREEN PARTY OF CANADA

MORE LETTERS continued on A10

Proudly Canadian, despite the medal count and incessant whinging

"With glowing hearts, we see thee rise . . ." Well, 'rise' might not be quite the right lyric. Only three out of four of the giant whatever-they-were managed to ascend out of the floor of BC Place at the 2010 Olympic opening ceremonies. Some say the equipment malfunction was God's way of saluting the young Georgian luger who lost his life in a training run. Others say it just wouldn't be Canada without such an awkward moment. Our 2010 Olympics will forever be known as the "Lake Flaccid" Olympics, referencing back to the 1980 Winter Games in New York state.

One thing was certain. No matter how great the opening ceremony was, there were bound to be Canadians from coast to coast bitching and whining about not getting their fair share of the spotlight . . . which only swerves to spotlight our own national hand wrenching, butt-clenching, low self-esteem. It starts from the top down.

Prior to the opening ceremonies, our very own Prime Minister Stephen Harper gave a little speech to the B.C. Legislature, first apologizing for past wrongs Canada has done in the name of patriotism, followed up by exhorting all Canadians to show "an uncharacteristic outburst of patriotism and pride."

Mr. Harper's own Minister of Canadian Heritage (a troubling, vaguely Orwellian moniker in itself) James Moore found a few willing microphones to whinge about the absence of French content in the opening ceremonies. Huh? If I recall, the lion's share of announcements were first read in French, followed by the English translation, not the other way around. And pardon me for pointing this out, but there are

are less than 1.5 per cent French-speaking British Columbians in this hosting province.

Hot on the heels of this minister's French-kissing Quebec were the Asian-Canadian contingent, who province-wide make up almost 17 per cent of the population, and a whopping 30 per cent in greater Vancouver. Again, perhaps legitimately, this group was beating their collective breasts for more spotlight time in the closing ceremonies. If you didn't hear about this story, not to worry. I dug the story out of the Star Tribune. That's in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Apparently the papers on the west coast don't want to air our Chinese dirty laundry.

And who can forget the legions of First Nations on the main floor of the Pacific Coliseum, many wandering about scratching their heads as if they had got off a tour bus at the wrong stop. Not 500 meters outside the Coliseum, another group of First Nations were also performing, this time with placards reading "No Olympics on Stolen Land!" Oh, Canada.

All this adds to the national crisis of confidence, given even more legs by the Canadian press. A cursory glance at my favourite national newspaper, the Globe and Mail, finds ample evidence. In two recent editions, I started highlighting the negative pall hovering over most Olympic stories. Readers are treated to catch phrases like "not much to brag about" or "unfocused, uncertain, still unassembled." This is the way Globe correspondent Roy MacGregor


Peter Vincent

HEAD TO HEAD

described the Canadian hockey team . . . after winning. Ech.

And just take a look at the CTV extravaganza, anchored by the less-than-charismatic Brian Williams, fidgeting around with his papers, adjusting his glasses, with nasally commentaries of vanquished Canadian athletes, followed up by our mummified national treasure Lloyd Robertson. The two of them look like morticians at a Vegas convention. Could the CTV execs not find anyone with an actual pulse? I find myself drifting over to the NBC coverage just to keep myself from nodding off.

This national self-loathing is underpinned by much of the citizenry. Vancouver Islander Dean Pirozzini was quoted in the New York Times declaring that "we always said there should be a fourth medal . . . aluminum. We'd clean up in that." His wife Holly chirped up that "We should get four (medals) for the curling team . . . and how many on the hockey team? We should get those too."

The government is partially to blame for dashed expectations. They threw down the gauntlet by unabashedly barking to the world that we will "Own the Podium," anteing up \$110 million. So much for Canadian athletes having fun. Gold medal hopeful Melissa Hollingsworth broke down in tears at her fifth-place finish in skeleton.

"I feel like I let my whole country down," she said.

Note to Dr. Roger Jackson, the mastermind behind the irrationally exuberant Own the Podium campaign: don't write a

cheque you can't cash.

We likely were a little optimistic. In sports and in virtually everything else, Canadians live in the shadow of the richest, most powerful nation on the planet. Our entire population is less than that of California. The U.S. has 10 times the talent pool to draw from. They have nurtured and developed an Olympic infrastructure for decades. Even in this recession, they have money, both private and governmental.

American snowboarder Shaun White constructed a private Olympic snowboard course in the back country of the Colorado Rockies. It was so remote, he had to be choppered into the complex. The estimated tab for this dream course was \$500,000, paid for by Red Bull. Pull back the camera to the typical Canadian "carded" athlete, living in a basement suite eating tuna out of the can. As our heritage minister would say, "C'est la difference."

I am an unabashedly proud Canadian, regardless of medal count, regardless of French content, Afghanistan or residential schools. Every nation has an imperfect track record. Deal with it. To quote the now-famous Canadian spoken-word poet Shane Koyczan:

"and some say what defines us is something as simple as please and thank you and as for you're welcome well, we say that too but we are more."
Yes we are.

republicofsaltspring@mac.com

OPINION

MORE LETTERS

continued from A9

An apology

There is nothing more peaceful than the Howell Lane-Leisure Lane valley. The quiet pursuits of each house and the day-to-day rhythm of the place is a blessing to all who enjoy residence in the area.

The ferry traffic comes up the road from Long Harbour, the float planes come and go on their regular schedule and the occasional helicopter travels to and from the hospital.

These are normal, expected events. Even the noise of the helicopter can be heard coming at a distance.

Last Friday morning I looked out the window and thought to myself, "Well, the wind is right, seems a fine day to get rid of that burn pile." And so off I went outside, with my wife saying to me, "Be careful, dear."

How do wives always know when their husbands are about to do something stupid? I think it must be like Dave and Morley, about whom Stuart McLean tells stories. Is it a sixth sense that Morley has . . . a trait obviously shared by my long-suffering wife? The years are telling me that there is an unwritten rule that all husbands should listen to their wives and do as they are told!

This letter is an apology to all those in the Howell Lane, Leisure Lane area and beyond who were understandably startled by a loud bang on Friday morning. The fire-starting process did not go as planned and the resulting bang was not purposeful or intentional at all. Please know that my wife has already said all that needs to

be said. I guess you might say I blew it!

The gentlemen at the fire hall will fill you all in on how to properly light a burn pile. I will be following their instructions in the future.

I sincerely apologize to anyone who was startled or frightened.

CLIFF PLUMPTON,
GANGES

Covenant procedure improved

Land protection on Salt Spring has been given an important new boost. Our locally elected land-use regulatory body (the Local Trust Committee) has established a new policy that will better protect our island's natural environment.

Occasionally, the LTC accepts conservation covenants (a legal promise by a property owner to protect a portion of their land). The covenant goes on title and binds all future owners of the land to uphold its conditions. It is important that covenants be followed since they are usually given in return for a financially valuable benefit granted (such as a transfer of densities), by the public — through our elected officials — to the property owner. However, covenants were sometimes violated. When the public complained, they were sometimes told that there was no way to enforce covenants.

An enforceable covenant requires at least three components. First, there must be a record of the condition of the land when the covenant is established so it can be determined over time if the land is being protected. Second, there must be annual monitoring to confirm the land is being

protected as promised. Third, the covenant must include negative consequences to the owner should he or she fail to uphold the conditions in the covenant. Such provisions are standard for covenants held by land conservancies and by the Islands Trust Fund (a separate entity from our LTC).

In the past, the LTC accepted covenants without all of these features. The LTC did not consistently monitor its conservation covenants, which was very disheartening to folks working to protect our island's natural environment.

However, the LTC has now corrected this by requiring that conservation covenants accepted by the LTC include all three features described above. Last year, several new covenants were established under these new procedures. Hooray for Christine, George and Sheila for taking an important step forward for the Islands Trust "preserve and protect" mandate and a brighter future for land protection on Salt Spring!

MAXINE LEICHTER,
SALT SPRING

Talented chefs

Over the past several years I have worked with GISS students to provide lunches and snacks at the annual film festival at GISS.

In my day job as teaching assistant to chef Al Irving with the level-one chef training program at the high school, I am fortunate to work with many talented budding chefs. Many of our students do indeed go on to become chefs, working hard to get there, and can travel the world with their chosen profession. Only those who have put in the long hours of training required, passed rigorous examinations to earn their Red Seal certification and years of working in

the industry can earn the title of "chef."

Out of respect to the talented chefs I have had the pleasure of working with over the years, both chef Al and the chefs at Hastings House, I would like to set the record straight and state that although I love to cook, I am not a chef.

I can, however, say that the GISS students will be doing a great job this weekend, once again providing tasty lunches to hungry filmgoers at the festival, using as many local ingredients as possible, as they do every day at lunch at GISS.

MILLY SINCLAIR,
FOREST HILL PLACE

Funds make huge impact

Lesotho's AIDS crisis is not a headline-grabbing story. The earthquake and its aftermath in Haiti are far more dramatic, though the consequences of AIDS in southern Africa are no less devastating.

Those who had a chance to attend the Journey to Brightest Africa event at Mahon Hall last weekend learned of the work Gary McNutt and I have been doing in Lesotho over the past five years. Their community-to-community bridging work has helped a small, grassroots community develop into a thriving community centre with a primary school, orphanage, health clinic, library and high school. This week the two Salt Spring Islanders head off to southern Africa for a return visit in what has become an annual journey.

The search for the kind of long-term, consistent and reliable assistance for frontlines projects like the Phelisanong group in Lesotho

goes on quietly, all year round, but makes a huge impact on hundreds of lives.

It was a sunny weekend on Salt Spring, and many people may have seen the word "fundraiser" and, considering their recent contributions towards Haiti, decided to stay home. While there will be another opportunity to see the Now and Then film that screened, this is a crucial moment: McNutt and Palframan leave Friday, and offer a rare opportunity to get funds directly to the people who need them most in Africa.

Anyone who saw the film witnessed how Salt Spring donor dollars have built this community of disabled, orphaned, and HIV positive people. The impact our community's generosity has had is truly amazing. Children who were crippled with hunger are now running around on soccer fields, abandoned children are part of a community of love and care, and people who had been dying alone of HIV/AIDS have found meaningful employment and access to life-saving treatment. It is a rare wonder to get to see, over time, what can be accomplished by our little island. In Lesotho, one little village is a living testament to our community's compassion.

More is needed: this year we need \$9,500 for food security programs, and are looking to raise \$20,000 to build and furnish new residence buildings for orphans and disabled kids.

Please help Community to Community by making a donation to their account at Island Savings, or call 250-930-4279 to find out how to make a tax-deductible donation today.

ANDREA PALFRAMAN,
COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY,
SALT SPRING

Thank You SALT SPRING ISLAND Thank You

Many, many individuals, groups, schools, churches and businesses gave generously to the SHELTERBOX campaign organized by the SSI Rotary Club since the Haiti earthquake disaster on January 13, 2010.

\$25,000 has been donated locally and 25 Shelter Boxes funded.

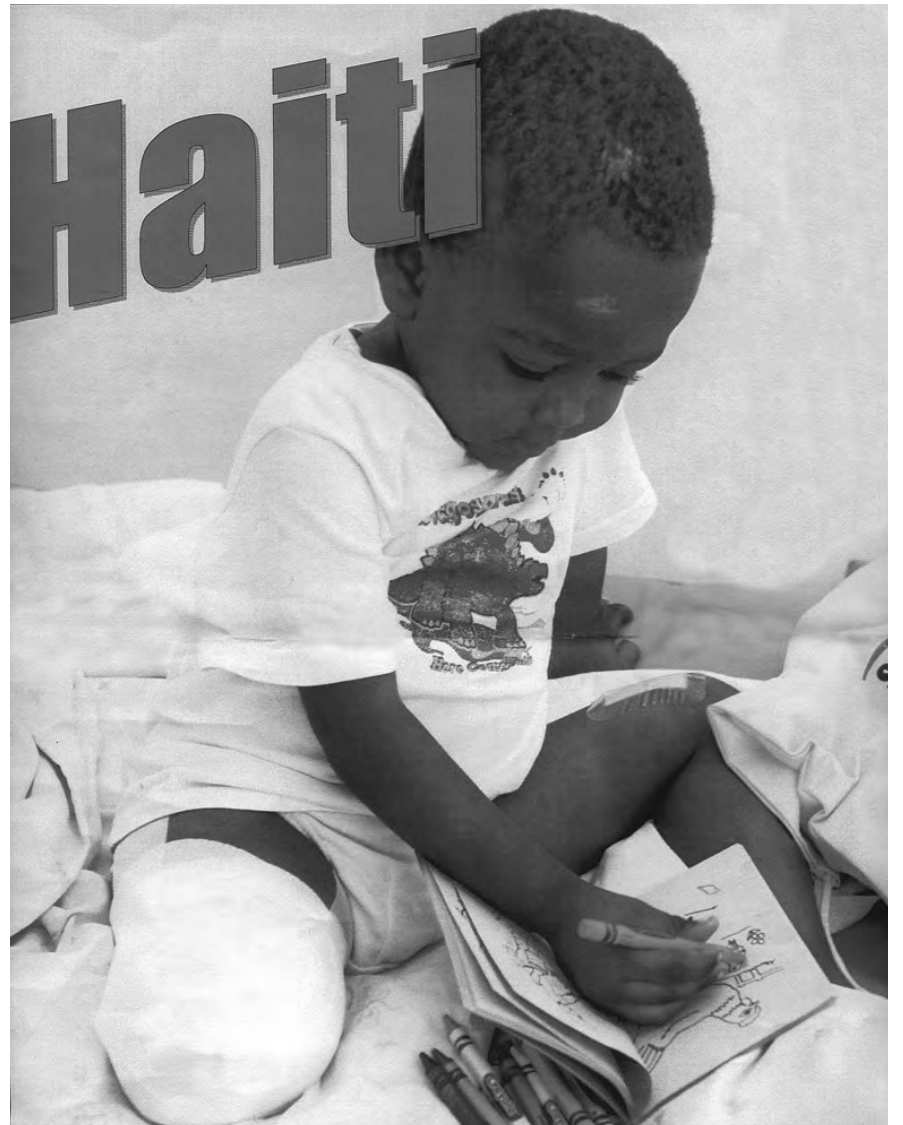
Every \$1,000 collected provides a shelter tent and such necessities needed for cooking, water purification and protection from the rain and mosquitoes for a family of ten.

This is an amazing and generous response from the hearts of Salt Spring residents to this particular disaster and Shelterbox Canada recognizes our efforts.



Shelterbox, a world-wide, club-to-club Rotary project provides humanitarian aid wherever and whenever a disaster occurs. Donations for Shelterboxes are always needed.

www.shelterbox.ca



Thank You SALT SPRING ISLAND Thank You

OPINION



PHOTO BY MAY HENDERSON

BIG RED VISITOR: Booth Canal residents were surprised to see the Canadian Coast Guard Hovercraft Siyay outside their window last Monday as training exercises were conducted at Booth Bay, Maple Bay, Sansum Narrows, Vesuvius Bay and Houston Passage. It was useful to see the tight spots in daylight as opposed to darkness or fog, says the CCG's Dan Bate.

Shift natural fashion
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Violence against women: Salt Spring men speak out

From the Thursday Night Men's Group

INDEPTH

With heavy hearts we want to acknowledge murder victims Jessica Lloyd and Cpl. Marie-France Comeau. What profound grief their families and friends must be suffering.

Nor do we forget the two women, now traumatized, raped by the same man.

The Ontario police charged a commander of Canada's largest air force base last week with murdering two young women and assaulting two others in their homes in the dead of night. Several other cases are being reopened with the colonel as a possible suspect.

We support and challenge one another to be the kind of men we want to be, men our families love and can be proud of.

this magnitude. It's just not done . . . It's an objective process, and obviously, we missed something here" (Globe and Mail, Feb. 11, 2010). The rampant virus of sexism that continues to infiltrate the lives of our young men (and is often internalized by young women) plays a significant factor in that "something" missed.

This highly volatile national case is only the tip of the melting iceberg: 58,486 women sought refuge in one of 473 shelters across Canada between April 1, 2003 and March 31, 2004 (Statistics Canada). Half of Canadian women (51 per cent) have experienced at least one incident of physical or sexual violence since the age of 16.

Every minute of every day, a Canadian woman or child is being sexually assaulted. One to two women are murdered by a current or former partner each week in Canada. Spousal violence makes up the single largest category of convictions involving violent offences in non-specialized adult courts in Canada over the five-year period 1997/98 to 2001/02. Over 90 per cent of offenders were male. Physical and sexual abuse costs Canada over \$4 billion each year" (Canadian Women's Foundation).

Making a Difference

We are a circle of men who meet weekly. As one long-time member recalls, we started as a group of 35 men meeting at Beaver Point Hall in the autumn of 1990, "beating on drums like wild men for about half an hour, then spending the rest of the night debating whether we should have a large group or a bunch of small groups." While men have come and gone, we are now a circle of nine guys, some in our 30s, the rest — older.

Mostly, we talk about the joys and tribulations of our own personal lives. We often discuss and debate the intensity of the times we find ourselves living in. We worry. We laugh a lot. We support and challenge one another to be the kind of men we want to be, men our families love and can be proud of.

In our own humble and sometimes fumbling way, we strive to be the kind of men the world needs.

We dare to care for one another and our community. Occasionally, however, we find ourselves silenced, on the verge of helplessness or hopelessness. Stories of violent acts towards women and children stop us cold.

We are grandfathers, fathers, brothers, sons, uncles, nephews, lovers and friends — and on behalf of our families and community we choose not to remain silent in the face of violence.

While the military has much soul searching to do, as a group of Salt Spring men, we too find ourselves soul searching. We know we must not abdicate our responsibility and dismiss this incident as a temporary smear on our national reputation.

We're writing today because we know uncomfortable stories can be quickly overshadowed and forgotten by the lure of sports and economics.

These women and all women victimized by violence, all people victimized by violence, deserve more than our momentary outrage. Jessica Lloyd and Cpl. Marie-France Comeau deserve much more than a shake of our heads nodding in shame.

What can we do to help prevent such hate-filled crimes? As men, we would like to suggest a few of many things:

- Challenge unhealthy stereotypes in ourselves and in our co-workers and friends ("Hey, that's sexist. I don't appreciate it.")
- Practise self care
- Talk to a friend when you feel down or overwhelmed
- Learn to listen to each other with an open mind and heart
- Seek a counsellor or join a men's anger management course
- Start a weekly men's group
- Learn to ask for help when needed
- Get educated on what's really happening to the women in our lives (visit www.cdnwomen.org)
- Participate in the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (Nov. 25) and mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women on Dec. 6.

There is much courage in speaking up and supporting ourselves, one another and the women and children we love. It is also our responsibility to speak up on behalf of those who no longer have a voice to speak for themselves.

Photos are available for purchase @ our on-line photostore gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Salt Spring Island Community Services
 268 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
 250-537-9971
www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca
COUNSELLING SERVICES ARE FREE

- * **Counselling Services:** Short-term counselling for adults, youth and families.
- * **Alcohol and Drug Program:** Prevention and treatment service is free and confidential.
- * **Family Place:** Stay & Play Drop in Mon. & Thurs. 9-12:30, Tues. 12:00-3:00pm. Rugg Huggers Fri. 10-1. Dad 'N Me Sat. 8:30-10.
- * **Let's Do Brunch:** Tuesday, 9:30am - 12:30pm
- * **Food Bank:** Open Tuesday, 11am - 4pm
- * **The Wall:** Indoor Rock Climbing Gym, open Thurs. & Sun. 6:30-9:30 pm. Information: ahasenfratz@gmail.com or 250-537-8970
- * **Recycle Depot:** Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 250-537-1200.
- * **Seniors Wellness Programs:** Call Sharon Glover at 250-537-4607.
- * **Emergency Mental Health Services:** Available 4pm to midnight at Lady Minto Hospital. Call 250-538-4840
- * **24-hr. Crisis Line:** Toll free: 1-866-386-6323. Caller is connected with the Need Crisis Centre in Victoria.

LOCAL WOMAN WINS GOLD!!!

Linda Geddes, Managing Broker of Macdonald Realty Salt Spring Island extends

Congratulations

to Henri Procter – MLS Gold Award Winner 2009

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What's for Dinner?

MEDITERRANEAN PENNE PASTA

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

Pasta: While many different cultures ate some sort of noodle-like food, composed mostly of grain, the key characteristics of pasta are durum wheat semolina, with a high gluten content. Furthermore, it is made with a technique that allows the resultant dough to be highly malleable, thus resulting in the many different shapes that characterize pasta.



Prepare 4 cups penne pasta as per package instructions. Drain and toss with 2 tablespoons pesto, 1 jar pasta sauce, and 1 chopped red bell pepper. Top pasta with crumbled feta cheese and serve.

Shopping list:

- Penne Pasta
- Pesto (Sundried Tomato)
- 1 jar Pasta Sauce
- 1 Red Bell Pepper
- Feta Cheese

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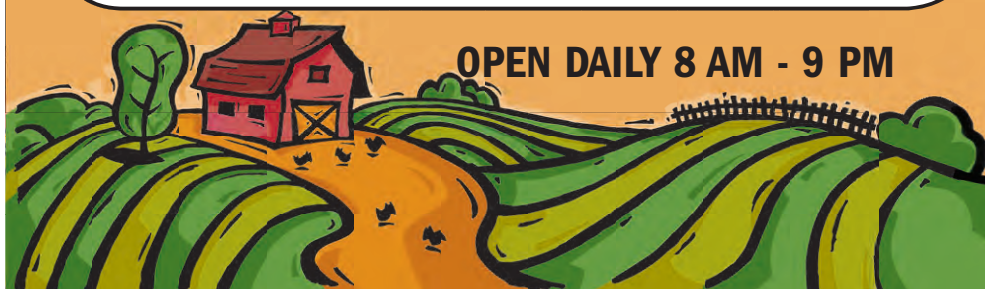
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OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

FIRST BLOOM: Japanese cherry tree blossoms are bursting out all over on the islands. This one was captured in the brilliant sunshine on the weekend.

North Salt Spring Waterworks District constrained in meeting demands for expansion of local water supply

BY MIKE LARMOUR
FIRST OF TWO PARTS

The Salt Spring Official Community Plan is the main governing document for land use on the island. It delineates in broad terms where development might be allowed, subject to a number of conditions being met, including the availability of an adequate supply of water.

Under the OCP, Ganges is identified as the main commercial institutional and residential centre on the island. It makes sense from many points of view to allow residential development in or around Ganges, close to the facilities that we all need in our daily lives.

However, this has put a strain on our water resource. Much of the development that has occurred is serviced by the North Salt Spring Waterworks District. Water consumption within the district has been increasing at an average rate of about almost four million gallons per year. Total annual consumption reached a peak of 180 million gallons per year in 2009.

This water consumption raises the urgent question: What are the constraints on water supply within the North Salt Spring Waterworks District?

Limited Precipitation in Dry Years

A major constraint on water supply is the fact that Salt Spring Island lies in the rain shadow of Vancouver Island, with the result that we are relatively dry compared to other coastal areas. All our water resources, both surface and groundwater, are derived from precipitation that falls on the island, mostly in the form of rain.

Typically, the heaviest precipitation occurs in November, December and January, while the driest months are July, August and September.

INDEPTH

Annual precipitation is quite variable, ranging from 574 mm (22.5 inches) in a one-in-50 dry year to about 1200 mm (47 inches) in a wet year and a mean of 902 mm (35.5 inches). Drought can extend over a period of years, as can wet years.

Thus the inconsistency and unpredictability of annual rainfall is a major constraint on our water supplies.

Limited Storage and Storage Losses

The variability of precipitation emphasizes the importance of storage to more consistently provide water, not only during our dry summers, but also during our dry years or a series of dry years.

However, the island has a very limited natural storage capability, both in its lakes and in the aquifers that provide its groundwater. It has been suggested that groundwater could be used as a water source by the NSSWD (Aqion Report 2003).

In fact, the opposite is true, based on past experience. John Motherwell (P. Eng. and consultant to the district) studied the question of groundwater supply for the district and concluded it was not a viable option.

This contention is borne out by the fact that the district has repeatedly in the past been asked to extend its service area because of failing groundwater supplies. Many wells on the north end of the island are low producing (one or two gallons per minute), and tend to produce even less in dry years.

This essentially means that the NSSWD and the community it serves are dependent on two sources of water, Maxwell Lake and St. Mary Lake. Both lakes are relatively small, with small watersheds.

The lakes have been the

subject of much study over the years — precipitation, temperature, lake surface evaporation, lake levels and water use. Evapotranspiration in the watershed and the runoff factor are key parameters studied. The reports titled Hydrology of Maxwell Lake Water Supply (1995) and Hydrology of St. Mary Lake (1998), both by Roy Hamilton, give us the best information available at the time on the lakes' capabilities to supply water under various conditions.

Two important findings are

Total annual consumption reached a peak of 180 million gallons per year in 2009.

the extent of the annual losses of water from the lake surface through evaporation and the losses in the watershed areas through evapotranspiration and infiltration.

Annual lake evaporation at St. Mary Lake varies between 621 mm (24.5 inches) and 681 (26.8 inches), which equates with a large unseen loss of between 251 million gallons per year and 275 million gallons per year. There is a non-linear relationship between runoff in a wet year and runoff in a dry year.

The annual runoff factor, the ratio of land runoff to precipitation, shows that the percentage of rainfall that actually reaches the lake varies between 56 per cent in a wet year (1983-84) and 29 per cent in a dry year (1987-88). Water budget calculations show that in a very dry year, with a spillway at 40.7 m GSC, the low runoff into St. Mary Lake, and

the evaporative losses from the lake surface, leave only just enough water for current (2008) use and fisheries flows while maintaining the lake level at or above 40.0 m GSC as required under the district's licence.

But the community plan could create a much larger water demand than presently occurs, most of which must come from St. Mary Lake. The estimated demand at build-out is 258,000,000 to 356,000,000 gallons per year.

Economic Constraints to Obtaining More Water

In order to obtain more water under licence from the provincial government, the district must create more storage in the lakes. But raising the lake levels will increasingly impact shoreline landowners who may expect compensation for flooded land or other damage. It may be necessary for the district to survey and obtain a flooding easement around St. Mary Lake, and register it in the land title office. There may or may not be large legal fees.

If large costs are incurred by the district, part of the cost may be borne by capital charges on new development, but most of the financing costs would have to be borne by district ratepayers, who may not benefit much if at all by an increased water supply. This increasing cost may make raising lake levels to obtain large additional water supplies unaffordable, especially in view of other high costs the district faces.

Next week: Environmental and licensing constraints to meeting the current estimated build-out demand for water, and a resulting recommendation.

The writer is the former manager of the NSSWD.

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~ SCHEDULE CHANGE ~

Nickel Bros. will be moving a house from Ganges Harbour on March 3 starting at approximately 3 am. The move route will follow Fulford-Ganges Road to Lower Ganges then onto Park Drive. Concerns may be relayed to Nickel Bros. at 1-866-606-2237.



As a part of The Juicy Amazing Goddess Woman Event, March 5-8, 2010
"The Courage to Shine"
With Three-Time Olympian, Mother, Author and Child Advocate

Silken Laumann



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OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

SOAKING UP THE SUN: Ken Barnes (with Barnie the dog), right, and Barry Hopper enjoy the sunny weather with a little shoreline fishing.

RANTS *and* Roses

Rants

Rants to the people who let their dogs — obviously large ones — shit right in the foot-path on the shoulder of the road in Fulford village. It's disgusting. Clean it up! From "An Angry Walker." M. Horsdal

Horkin' huge rant to the person(s) stealing my son's bird houses from his roadside stand near Fulford. When caught, will it have been worth the embarrassment, court appearance and fine? We're watching! SJW Schmidt

A bunch of smoky, sooty black roses to all the residents in the Fulford Valley who decided to burn slash and yard debris on a beautiful day. I wanted to work outside, but your foul smoke made it difficult because of my asthma. There is an alternative to burning — we would gladly take your slash and chip it for our compost. C. Wagner

Roses

Several wheelbarrows full of hardy heritage roses to all those who contributed to the success of the recent Climate Action Community Workshop, especially our wonderful participants. SSI Climate Change Action Committee.

Roses to Tim and John at Island Star Video for the loan of their popcorn popper for Island Natural Growers' Seedy Saturday film night — it made it feel like the real deal!

A huge shipment of roses, sent from all over British Columbia, for the many Salt Spring library volunteers who so professionally run our inter-library loan service. So far over 50 volumes have been requested from "off Island" for a project on 19th-century Canadian marketing and retailing. None of these books took more than

10 days to arrive and many were here within a week! The B.C. system, unlike the ones in some other provinces, provides easy access to college and university libraries as well as to public libraries. This means, of course, that every circulating library book in B.C. is available to patrons of our local library, patrons who can first search the master provincial catalogue from home and then actually order books online.

A tub of spring flowers to Gary of Polaris Plumbing, to Ron at the CRD and to the Rene Valcourt crew for a week of good service. Thanks, guys. SW

Big bouquet of roses to Paul, Country Grocer and Frankly Scarlet and the bakery for the best cake I've ever had. Pat Coates XOXO

Jean Johnston sends roses to the friends who celebrated her 90th birthday with her on Feb. 16. A special bouquet to Cara Joy Hughes, Lynn Earwaker, Laura Dafoe and Liz Wilson for all their assistance. The cards, the flowers and thoughtfulness were much appreciated. Thank you for a memorable afternoon!

Thank you, Richard and crew, and a host of roses for the quick response and repairs to my wife's Sundance's front brakes. Your action really dispelled her fears. Mike B.

Tons of roses to all the kind people who came to my rescue after falling flat on my face between Pomodoro's and Admirals on Tuesday, Feb. 16, especially the gentleman who brought ice for my face and to Sherry of Pomodoro, who took me to emergency and was so kind. Thankfully, no damage, a few bruises and a thick lip. God bless you all. Vera Payne

To the gang at Irwin Collision: a heartfelt thank-you for exceptional and prompt customer service. A potentially stressful situation turned into a car filled with roses! Ihr seid die besten. Danke schoen. Wolfie L

Twice a year we visit our Salt Spring home and that means car rental time. This week we accidentally locked our one set of car keys in the trunk, a job that proved to be an extreme challenge to Fred Williamson, a most talented and perseverant locksmith. After awhile and with the utmost kindness, Fred suggested that our best option was to contact the car agency at Vancouver International and have a key copy delivered to the island. Quick thinking by June at Salt Spring Air sent pilot St. Clair McColl on a mission to retrieve the treasured key from YVR prior to his flight back from Richmond. Total elapsed time from lockdown? Three hours! There are not enough roses in the world to express our gratitude to Fred, June and St. Clair. Salt Spring rocks! Hankje and Saul

For all of you who came out for the Revolutionary Songs night, thanks for coming! The music was great and Moby's stage came alive thanks to the skillful organizing of Matt Johnson and Speakeasy MCs John and Matt and, of course the wonderful musicians who rocked the house with world-changing rrrrevolution! A shout out to our sponsors, Jill Louise Campbell Fine Art Gallery, Gulf Islands Brewery, Sweet Somethings Gallery, Thrifty Foods, Hoopnautic Hula, Rainbow Road Trading, Morningside Organic Bakery Cafe and Bookstore, and Island Star Video. Thank-you also to our volunteers and to Moby's staff.

Do you have something to say about a story or letter?
Comment on-line
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OPINION

PARC NEWS

Baker Road trail part of February PARC update

Pool programs also diversified

BY KEES RUJRS
PARC MANAGER

Every public body must first plan and then do things. Here are some examples of PARC Commission planning and doing in which Driftwood readers might be interested.

Strategic Planning Efforts

PARC now has a 10-year Strategic Plan, as suggested by Yates Thorn Consultants, whose strategies we have formally adopted. But what does this actually commit PARC to do to further improve recreational activities on Salt Spring? Our priorities are:

- Partner more effectively with other community organizations;
- Better promote and advertise all of Salt Spring's recreational opportunities;
- Strengthen PARC's role as coordinator for those offering recreational opportunities;
- Develop more trails, especially back-country, and those for biking/walking and — keep your fingers crossed — complete the Ganges boardwalk;
- Increase the number of ocean and lake accesses;
- Develop capacity for more sports and active recreation pursuits;
- Create more recreational opportunities at PARC's Rainbow Road site at a reasonable cost;
- Work within a budget sustainable in both the short and long term.

We can't do this in one year, or even five, but this is our 10-year plan, and we'll try — very hard. We'll even report each month at our meetings on how we're doing.

A new trail

Responses to the community survey, conducted as part of the strategic planning exercise, revealed that "additional trails" were what islanders wanted most of all. Just a few weeks ago PARC staff and volunteers put the final touches on a new trail that runs between Harrison Road and Baker Road. To find the trail, drive to the very end of Harrison Road and park on the left at the 'beach' sign. Contin-

ue another 20 meters down Harrison Road and you will find — just behind the "213" sign — the start of a new trail that takes you to Baker Road.

But remember this trail, like so many others, is partly on private property and runs past such property in other places. So, please, stay on the trail at all times and respect the property and privacy rights of others. When you get to Baker Road, follow it to the left. At the very end of the road is a long staircase that takes you down to the rocky shore of Booth Bay. That location also offers a small parking lot so you could start your hike at that point and walk the trail in reverse.

Pool news

Rainbow Road Pool continues to make its great contribution to recreation and fitness on Salt Spring by offering both special and regular programs.

- Spring Break Lessons. The pool is offering a wide range of lessons starting on March 8. These lessons will take place, Monday through Friday, for the two weeks while the schools are closed. Call soon (250-537-1402) to reserve a spot for your children. They'll enjoy themselves and will be that much safer at the lakes and ocean next summer.

- Masters Swim, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. We now have a nationally certified coach for this program. Walter Gosset comes to us with a wide range of competitive swimming experience. Interested in getting in shape and improving your strokes? Then come out, meet Walt and get in the water!

- Water Polo, Sunday, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. for youth and 5:30 to 7 p.m. for adults. Hans, our coach, is very knowledgeable about the sport of water polo and makes each practice an enjoyable experience. You can have a great workout while having lots of fun.

- Water Fit Classes also offer a great workout. If you are interested, you can attend classes between 8 and 9 a.m. each Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning, between 1 and 2 p.m. those same days, or on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

DISC DUDES: A group of Salt Spring disc golfers gear up for action at a private course.

MORE LETTERS

Praise due for SIMS

When we migrated from Europe, we heard quite bad stories about Salt Spring Island Middle School and were hesitant to send our son to this school.

After an introduction, we both had a good feeling and that quite a few things had changed.

Our son had a major hip operation in October. After a hospital and home recovery he could go back to school.

Actions were taken for the elevator and special assistance was arranged.

We hereby would like to thank Richard Lee, Lisa Halstead, Amos and everybody at SIMS that we may have forgotten who gave Daniel a great feeling to go to school.

On March 2 his other hip will be operated on. It's difficult, but we are feeling so much more comfortable to know that everyone at the school will be there for him again with all the help they can offer.

How blessed we are with this school!

HANS AND HEDWIG KOS,
SALT SPRING

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NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT NOTICE

FLUSHING OF WATERMAINS

FLUSHING OF WATERMAINS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN THE DISTRICT ON TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS - MARCH 2 - APRIL 30, 2010

Short periods of low pressure and discoloration of water can be expected between these dates. Consumers are warned to be on alert for discoloured water, especially before using washing machines, dishwashers and other appliances.

Commercial establishments such as laundromats, restaurants and beauty salons will receive advance warning of flushing in their vicinity if a request for such notification is received by the District. Please contact the NSSWD at 250-537-9902.

In no case can the District accept responsibility for any claims arising out of the use of discoloured water.

Driftwood OWNER'S MANUAL

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Can I pick up the newspaper?

If you would prefer to pick up your newspaper at the Driftwood office, we would love to see you! The newspaper is available for pick-up at our office at about 8:30am on Wednesday mornings.

Can I have the paper suspended or forwarded?

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NEWSBEAT

School zone etiquette: a reminder for drivers



Amy Geddes

YOU ASKED

READ THE BLOG AT WWW.GULFISLANDS.NET/WORDPRESS

Q: My question concerns school zones. I notice that the school zone by the Salt Spring Elementary school is marked with both the student icon and speed limit of 30 km/hr, but when you are in the area of the high school there is only the student icon, no speed limit. Is it still 30? Thanks for clarifying.
— CE, Salt Spring Island

A: As drivers on the Gulf Islands where road signs are few and far between, it never hurts to refresh our knowledge of the rules of the road. An ICBC accident report recently requested by the Driftwood shows speed ranked as the number one factor contributing to single vehicle crashes on Salt Spring between 2004 and 2008. We need to slow down! School zones would be a good place to start.

I drove down Rainbow Road on the weekend to examine the signage. The elementary school's School Zone sign displays a 30 km/h speed limit — this limit is "in effect from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on school days," according to ICBC's RoadSense for Drivers handbook.

On Salt Spring, "school days" means Monday to Thursday, according to driving instructor Lorne Bunyan of Cornerstone Driving School.

The high school's School Zone sign, however, does not display a speed limit and therefore drivers are only required to "reduce speed when children are present."

Bunyan says the high school signage, however, often confuses drivers.

"People believe the speed limit in front of the high school is 30 kilometres, but it's not, it's 50. But



SIGN NEAR HIGH SCHOOL:

School zone — reduce speed when children are present.



SIGN NEAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

School zone — the tab underneath indicates the speed limit and the hours that it is in effect (in this case, the 30 km/h limit is in effect from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on school days).

common sense tells you to slow down."

He advises that if people are on the road or if a soccer game is on, drivers should slow down.

Getting caught speeding in a school zone can equal fines between \$196 and \$483 plus three driver penalty points.

HAITI RELIEF

Donations are needed to send tents to Haiti

Nora Layard organizing local effort

to purchase it.

"We have already raised the funds for one large tent and Capital Tents donated a second smaller tent. Now we need to raise \$1,250 for the second large tent. Plus, we'll need to find plywood for flooring above the mud," said Layard.

With seasonal Haiti rains on their way, two orphanages and a hospital in Haiti desperately need shelter for children and patients.

Salt Spring resident Nora Layard hopes islanders can help.

Relief groups say the need for patient facilities and homes for the newly orphaned children is overwhelming. Buildings that are not yet repaired will leave children sleeping in open courtyards once the rains start, an unthinkable but all too likely possibility.

In response, the Canadian Foundation for the Children of Haiti, a Canadian group that supports the work there, is urgently looking for tents of all sizes to add to a container going to Haiti next week.

Capital Tents, a tent manufacturer in Victoria, has offered a deeply discounted price for a 16-x 20-foot side wall tent and donations are being sought to be able

Sixteen years ago, Layard's friend Judith Armstrong, whom many on Salt Spring may know through Operation Trackshoes, started going to Haiti with medical teams for the orphanages and hospital.

Her stories over the years about the dedication and quality of the Haitian projects and their leaders have inspired confidence that any support will be wisely and immediately used.

People who can help with a donation, a tent, or sheets of exterior grade 5/8" plywood are asked to contact Nora at 250-537-2158 or nora@skippingstonebeach.com.

The foundation's website is www.cfchcanada.ca.

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Grade 8 girls take mid-island tourney

Winner determined by intense play and one point

The Salt Spring Island Middle School Grade 8 girls basketball team came home with gold last Wednesday after winning the mid-island championships at Bonner Middle School.

According to parent reporter Karen Hudson, the morning started with a close game against Duncan Christian School, ending in a 21-15 defeat for the SIMS girls.

Playing Chemainus next, the girls' usual teamwork and quick passes were credited with earning them a 44-19 victory. Jade Beauvais, Megan Brooke and Becki Steel all scored in the double digits.

The third game was against Bonner and the girls dominated the game with fast breaks, short shots and steals. Beauvais and Brooke led SIMS to a 33-8 win.

The girls switched gyms and immediately squared off against Queen of Angels school. It was a very close low scoring game with SIMS girls playing against some fellow Salt Spring players who attend Queen of Angels. After the half, the SIMS girls outscored the opposition and claimed the 21-14 victory with Zorah Wiltzen and Beauvais leading the team in scoring.

In the finals, SIMS met DCS again, and it was an intense basket-for-basket competition with Wiltzen and Brooke making the shots for SIMS to lead 16-15 at the half.

With less than a minute to play, SIMS led 32-29 when DCS made a basket to pull within one point. Steel scored, and DCS came back with a free throw, but SIMS' strong defence prevented a volley of last-minute shots to win the tournament 34-33.

The middle school team is coached by SIMS teacher Jude Shugar.



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

ON THE MOVE: U17 Salt Spring United boys player Corey Cottrell takes on two female players in soccer action against Bays United last week. Salt Spring hammered the visitors 6-1.

BC Ferries Current Schedule
 CROSSING TIME: 35 MINS
 CHECK WWW.BCFERRIES.CA FOR LATEST SCHEDULES

FULFORD - SWARTZ BAY
CURRENT SCHEDULE
 September 27, 2009 - June 29, 2010

LEAVE FULFORD HARBOUR	LEAVE SWARTZ BAY
6:15 am except Dec. 25, Jan. 1	7:00 am except Sun & Dec. 25, Jan. 1
7:50 am except Sun	9:00 am
9:50 am	11:00 am
11:50 am	1:00 pm
1:50 pm	3:00 pm
3:50 pm	5:00 pm
5:50 pm	7:00 pm
7:50 pm	9:00 pm

TRIATHLON CLUB

Club sets the pace

Triathlons offer an experience for everyone

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Bruce Grey has got some news if you're under the impression triathlons are the exclusive domain of Olympic-calibre athletes with abs of steel and monster quads.

"Some people think it's a bunch of svelte hammerhead athletes and it's really not like that," said the club's organizer and a tried-and-true triathlon veteran. "We get a cross section of ages and experience all looking to accomplish whatever their goal is."

Grey said it's extremely rare for triathletes at any level to excel in all three of the sport's disciplines.

That's where membership in the Salt Spring Island Triathlon Club comes in handy. Students enrolled in the group share training tips and experiences that help one another strengthen weaknesses and refine strengths in running, swimming and cycling.

The non-Olympic triathlons involve swims of 500 to 800 metres, bike rides of between 15 and 20 kilometres and up to an eight-kilometre run.

Some triathlons include mountain bike and even kayak components, he added.

Whatever the course, Grey said, the triathlete's goal is to set targets and train accordingly.

Based on last year's results, club members quickly get in the habit of meeting their goals and picking up

some friends along the way.

"[Last year] sure felt like a real success in regards to getting people out and across the finish line," he said.

The club's 2010 calendar includes a mix of physical training and theoretical course work that's aimed at helping members improve their techniques.

According to Grey, the sport of triathlon is as much about the teamwork on the sidelines as it is about making personal bests and reaching one's goals.

Having support from fellow club members is especially important when those gloomy wet mornings make sleeping in an extra half hour far more appealing than lacing up the running shoes.

"It's a social thing," Grey said. "The goal has been to try and get some folks who've been training by themselves and drag them out of the weeds. It's really worked."

For an added incentive, the club is in the process of organizing a Salt Spring event that is expected to happen sometime in June.

This year's program includes three 10-class sessions spread out through the spring and summer. Each session is designed to prepare participants for a specific race, including a possible event planned for Salt Spring in June.

Course fees are \$150 per 10-class session or \$375 for all three. The first session begins March 1. Registration is ongoing at the Rainbow Road Pool.

For more information, contact Grey at 250-537-2572.

Photographic Solutions



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Valdy's Radio Hour | l'Heure de Valdy w. Valdy (Wed. 8:00 pm)
 Word on the Rock w. Karen Hudson & David Hart (Wed. 11:30 am)
 A Beaver's Tale w. Phillip Reece (Thurs. 2:00 pm)
 A Little of This and a Little of That w. Li Read (Mon. 7:00 am)
 At The Crossroads w. Brant Zwicker (Sat. 6:00 pm)
 Attics Of My Life w. Bruce Creswick (Thurs. 5:00 pm)
 Bateman Morning Show w. John Bateman (Thurs. 7:00 am)
 Bobby's Blast from the Past w. Bobby Be Cool (Tues. 2:00 pm)
 Bobby's Investment World w. Bobby Magee (Wed. 1:00 pm)



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SPORTS & RECREATION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

RISING STARS:

Fernwood Elementary School basketball player Trevor Clemente winds up for the shot against Fulford Elementary School players during a recent inter-school event.

HIKING CLUB

March Trail and Nature Club schedule full of options

Variety of leaders ready to roll

Presentations

Sheila and Barry Spence will present Travel in Iceland on Thursday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower hall of the United Church.

Hikers

March 2: Janice Dickie will lead a moderate hike on a variety of Mount Erskine trails, beginning at the Toynbee Road trailhead. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m.

March 9: Simon Rook will lead a moderate hike with a few steep sections on the Cogwheel Trail. Leave ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or meet at the corner of Fulford/Ganges and Cranberry roads at 9:50 a.m.

March 16: Sharon Sullivan will lead us on a moderate hike up and down Reginald Hill, and along the road through the Indian Reserve. We then head back to the Reginald Hill entrance. Meet at ArtSpring

at 9:45 a.m. or at the Reginald Hill parking area at the end of Morningside Road at 10 a.m.

March 23: Mary Hof will lead a moderate hike on Cobble Hill Mountain near Duncan. Meet at Portlock Park at 8:30 a.m. to catch the 9 a.m. ferry to Crofton. We will meet the leader at the rest area on the highway near the Valley View Centre at 9:45 a.m. New trails!

March 30: All walkers and hikers will go to Ruckle Park for our annual broom pulling work. Please bring work gloves, various loppers, and a lunch. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or from the parking lot outside Ruckle Park gates at 10 a.m.

Walkers

March 2: A mystery leader will take you on a mystery walk. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

March 9: Nieke Visser will lead a walk to Manzanita Ridge and the top of Mount Erskine from Toynbee. This is a walk with a few rather steep

sections at the beginning. Leave ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet at the t-intersection at the top of Cranberry Road at 10:15 a.m.

March 16: Fred Powell will lead a walk in Ruckle Park to Kings Cove and back. It's a longish walk, but there isn't not much climbing. Leave ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet at Beaver Point Hall at 10:20 a.m.

March 23: Judy Nurse will lead a moderate walk along the Channel Ridge Trails with some street walking. Leave ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet at the corner of Merganser and Canvasback at 10:10 a.m. Lunch will be on Judy's deck followed by a stroll through the labyrinth.

March 30: All walkers and hikers will go to Ruckle Park for our annual broom-pulling work. Please bring work gloves, various loppers, and a lunch. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or from the parking lot outside Ruckle Park gates at 10 a.m.

Ramblers

March 2: Ramble with Bill and Marilyn Harding in the Long Harbour area. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 9: Shelagh Tulloch will take us for a Ramble in the Brinkworthy area. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 16: Leader's Choice Ramble with Bob Ball. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 23: Harold Page will take us off-island to MacDonald Park in Sidney. Meet at the Fulford Inn at 9:15 a.m. to carpool on the 9:50 a.m. ferry. Lunch will be in Sidney.

March 30: Leader's choice ramble with Cathy Darling. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

New Members

Interested in joining us? Contact Barry Spence (membership) at 250-537-2332 or Kees Visser (president) at 250-537-5443, or come on Tuesdays to the meeting point for the activity you are interested in.

Who reads us?
88% of Islanders read the Driftwood each week.
-Combace survey

Capital Regional District Notice of Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel 2010

- Sticks Allison Water Service (Galiano Island)
- North Galiano Island Fire Protection Service
- Small Craft Harbour Facilities Service (Southern Gulf Islands)
- Fernwood Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- Ganges Sewerage Service (Salt Spring Island)
- Highland Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- Beddis Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- Fulford Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- Maliview Estates Sewerage Service (Salt Spring Island)
- Salt Spring Island Liquid Waste Disposal Service
- Cedar Lane Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- Magic Lake Estates Water Supply and Distribution System (Pender Island)
- Magic Lake Estates Water Second Service (Pender Island)
- Magic Lake Estates Sewerage Service (Pender Island)
- North Pender Island Fire Protection & Emergency Response Service
- Lyall Harbour / Boot Cove Water Service (Saturna Island)
- Surfside Park Estates Water Service (Mayne Island)
- Skana Water Service (Mayne Island)
- Gossip Island Electric Power Supply Service

Take Notice that the annual sitting of the Local Parcel Tax Review Panel, pursuant to Sections 204 and 205 of the Community Charter will be held at 12:00pm on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at the Capital Regional District, Room 651, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, British Columbia to hear appeals against the aforementioned 2010 parcel tax rolls.

The Local Parcel Tax Review Panel will hear only those appeals filed in writing with the undersigned at least 48 hours in advance of its sitting.

A copy of the complete rolls will be available for inspection at the Capital Regional District, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm M-F and the Ganges Building Inspection office, #206 - 118 Fulford-Ganges Rd. (above the Post Office), Ganges, BC from 8:30 am to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 pm M-F, commencing February 24, 2010.

Dated at Victoria, British Columbia, this 24th day of February, 2010.

Diana E. Lokken, CMA
General Manager, Corporate Services
Capital Regional District

Congratulations to:
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Christie
Kim

Chicks with Sticks!

YOGA Salt Spring Centre honours nationwide date with free classes

Islanders can take part in National Yoga Day on Saturday

The Salt Spring Centre of Yoga will be joining countless venues across the country in offering free classes this Saturday, Feb. 27 as part of Yoga Day Canada.

The nationwide event aims to increase the public's exposure to yoga and promote a healthier lifestyle. Free classes are offered by participating centres and teachers. The classes are meant to introduce the practice to those who have never tried it, and to allow current practitioners access to different yoga styles.

Salt Spring Centre will offer two free classes for the event. Mixed Level Yoga with Dorothy Price begins at 9 a.m., while at 4:30 p.m. there is Beginner's Yoga with Vidya. Organizers say the classes are an opportunity for those who are not familiar with the centre to come visit. There is a weekly schedule of yoga classes and other offerings open to the public.

For more information call 250-537-2326 or visit www.saltspringcentre.com.

Information on Yoga Day Canada and the benefits of practising yoga can also be found at the following web sites: www.yogadaycanada.ca, <http://yogabc.org/contact/view.html> or www.canadianyogalliance.com/cya/cyacontact.cfm.

SPORTS & RECREATION

VOLLEYBALL

Howe set to impress at B.C. finals

GISS alumnus returns to the coast

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Eighteen-year-old Chris Howe won't only be taking a shot at the top honour in college volleyball when he plays the province's best at Camosun College this weekend, he'll be coming back to his old neighbourhood.

Howe will be at Victoria's Camosun College on Feb. 25, 26 and 27 as the UBC Okanagan (UBCO) Heat tries to defend its top-ranked status and cap a perfect 2009-10 season.

"I think if we keep our heads and play our game we'll do well," Howe said. "If we get flustered and down on ourselves we could have problems."

Showing up with confidence is something that Howe has made a habit of from the season's very beginning.

Howe, who started out the year on the sidelines, took to the court when one of his teammates went down with an injury.

Not only has the 198-centimetre (6'6") middle hitter filled the spot, he's locked up a starting position and is a strong contender for rook-



Chris Howe dressed in UBC Okanagan colours.

ie of the year.

Earlier this month, the B.C. College Athletic Association named him athlete

of the week.

"Howe has a physical presence unlike most rookies that enter the BCCAA,"

reads information on the association's website.

"Howe has been a key factor in UBCO's success thus far and he continues to have the desire to improve and become one of the best blockers in the league."

Howe said he's especially grateful to Gulf Islands Secondary School volleyball coach Kellie Booth for helping him make a transition from basketball while he was still studying on Salt Spring.

Switching sports paid off handsomely as Howe completed a successful senior year at GISS and went on to play with the provincial team last summer.

Howe's father, Salt Spring's Bob Howe, is one of the many people expected to make the trip down to Victoria to watch the action.

"I wouldn't miss it for anything," he said. "I'm the proud father."

A strong finish at the provincials will clear the way to the national college championships in Edmonton next month. The Heat is ranked third in the country.

For now, Howe said he intends to stay focused, keep practising drills with his teammates and have fun in anticipation of his big trip home to the coast.

Fatal attraction: Olympics brings out anarchists

What is it about the Olympics that make disgruntled "do-gooders" dress up like the Unabomber, crank up the volume of their favourite anti-establishment punk rock album, and then proceed to spread unnecessary chaos in downtown Vancouver?

Well apparently someone didn't get their morning coffee or — more likely — they tried to boycott their neighbourhood Starbucks and that didn't work out.

With the 2010 Winter Olympics now well underway, the vast majority of Canadians have embraced the global event with open arms and been proud to play host to some of the world's finest athletes.

That being said, there also seem to be a handful of people who have taken it upon themselves to not only try to stop the Olympic Games altogether but also to destroy a variety of expensive things in the process.

I'm assuming the latter is to try and make some kind of point about consumerism in



Patrick Cwiklinski

LET'S TALK SPORTS

the modern world, but that's not important.

Anyway, Vancouver police have had to waste time dealing with these, as columnist Jack Knox of the Times Colonist put oh so perfectly, "self-indulgent, violent, balaclava-clad buttheads" who have been unsuccessful in crushing the Olympic spirit but successful aggravating the cops as well as the people whose cars and stores they vandalized.

As if law enforcement officials in Vancouver didn't have enough on their plate already.

The so-called "black bloc" protesting tactic was used at the anti-Olympic rallies in Vancouver in order to stop police from recognizing protestors in their all-

black disguises, but apparently no one told them if you walk around in a large group of people wearing the exact same thing, people tend to notice.

But here's the thing: If you want to be anti-Olympic and voice your distaste for the Games, then that is absolutely your own prerogative. Just make sure you keep it civil and respectful and hey, your side of the story might even get heard.

However, once you start using vandalism and violence as a means of getting a message across, then you're nothing more than a petty criminal who deserves what's coming to you, which in most cases is a world of hurt and a ride in the backseat of a pad-dywagon.

Part of me also wants to say that here in British Columbia, there are people who just seem way too lenient towards this type of behaviour because they claim it's "free expression" and we should be happy that we can voice our opinions in this manner.

Well, that's half-true. We should be happy that we can voice our opinions, but to what extent is it truly voicing your opinion and not in fact criminal activity instead?

Seriously, I dare these guys to pull a stunt like that in Provo, Utah.

And if you can honestly sit there, read this and tell me that those anti-Olympic protesters in Vancouver who are trying not only to ruin the excitement of hosting the Games but also to propel anarchy are rightfully justified in their actions, then I'm truly at a loss for words because that means you've lost faith in this society.

All in all, these Olympics have been a hit so far and while there are some who have tried and will try to crush one of the most significant events in recent Canadian history, luckily most of us still believe in the spirit of camaraderie and unity which the games are meant to represent and don't take our freedom for granted.

VOLLEYBALL

TRU team recruits GISS' KC Knight for 2010-11 year

Casey (KC) Knight of Gulf Islands Secondary School is the first recruit of 2010-11 for the Thompson Rivers University WolfPack men's volleyball team.

Head coach Pat Hennelly announced Knight's signing of a Canadian Interuniversity Sport letter-of-intent last week.

"He is a big, long guy who hasn't had a ton of volleyball experience," said Hennelly in a press release, "but at 6'8" he has shown the athleticism to do very well at this sport. All coaches are looking for

big left handers to add to their program. Casey fills the bill."

"I think it is a really great opportunity for me," said Knight, who also plays basketball at GISS and will take business administration at TRU in Kamloops.

"The first thing I looked at was the TRU business program, which happens to have exactly what I want," he said. "The campus is beautiful and not so large that it could be its own city, and it's not too far away from home that my parents would

never be able to see my games. Last but not least was the fact their volleyball program is in the CIS and has been very successful in the past."

Knight was approached by both Douglas and Camosun colleges of the B.C. College Athletic Association, but chose TRU instead. Besides playing for GISS, Knight has played club volleyball in Nanaimo, B.C. under Chris Densmore and has also been asked to try out for the B.C. under 18 men's volleyball team.

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Salt Spring Island
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The Capital Regional District (CRD) invites applications/nominations from Salt Spring residents interested in sitting on the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission to provide advice regarding public transit on Salt Spring Island and advise on other services to meet transportation-related needs including conducting studies; construction, installation, maintenance and regulation of sidewalks and bicycle paths; construction, maintenance and regulation of parking spaces, areas and facilities; implementing and providing transportation demand management programs; and construction and maintenance of pedestrian safety and traffic calming facilities

Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month in Ganges Village. The appointment is for one year ending December 2010

There is one appointment to be made. Send us a one-page summary telling about your areas expertise and interests relevant to the Commission's tasks and why you would like to serve on the Commission.

Deadline for receipt of applications is March 10, 2010. For more information contact the Commission at saltspringtransit@crd.bc.ca or 250.931.1372.

Mail, fax or email your application to:
Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission
Unit 1206-A 115 Fulford Ganges Rd.
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T9
saltspringtransit@crd.bc.ca
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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 Beaver Point Hall, Sunday,
 March 7, 2010, 2pm. 1365 Beaver
 Point Road.

LADY MINTO HOSPITAL AUXILIARY SOCIETY
 Annual General Meeting
 Mon. March 22 @ 1:30pm
 at the Lion's Hall
 Election of Officers
 ~~~~  
 all members urged to attend

**The Annual General Meeting of the Salt Spring Arts Council**  
 will be held at Mahon Hall  
 114 Rainbow Road,  
 Ganges on Sunday,  
 March 7, 2010  
 at 6:00 pm  
 To elect Directors, receive  
 and consider reports, and  
 transact such other business  
 as may be properly brought  
 before the meeting.  
 Dated February 16, 2010.  
 By Order of the Board of  
 Directors.

**BEGINNER ACRYLIC**  
 Painting Classes  
 (maximum 3 Students)  
**ADULTS & TEENS**  
*Tuesdays & Wednesdays*  
 10:00am-2:30pm  
 March 9, 10, 16, 17  
 Bev Lillyman  
 250-537-2466

**JULIE MACKINNON CERAMICS**  
**POTTERY LESSONS**  
**CLASS #1:**  
 Wed. March 3rd 6-9pm,  
 Thurs. March 4th 6-9pm  
 through Sat. March 6th  
 10-3pm  
**CLASS #2:**  
 Sat & Sun March 20th &  
 21st 10-4pm  
**COST:** \$180-includes all  
 clay and supplies, glazes  
 and firings.  
 We will work with slab and  
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 Cups, mugs, vases and  
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### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### COMING EVENTS

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**KRAYENHOFF MEMORIAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT**  
 Saturday, March 13 at  
 noon for lunch  
 Fulford Hall  
 For \$20 tickets call  
 250-537-0897  
 All profits to OPT Clinic  
 (formerly Planned Parenthood)

**LEARN TO dowe,** March 20  
 Beginner & 21 Intermediate.  
 \$100 for 1 day, both days  
 \$175. Held at Fulford Harbour.  
 Info: Barb Lyngard, 250-653-  
 4469

**UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
 There will be no service as we  
 will be enjoying the Film  
 Festival, Sunday, Feb 28th.  
 www.saltspringunitarian.com.

#### DEATHS

**Brian Swinburne**  
 passed away Sunday afternoon,  
**February 14th, 2010.**  
 Brian was born September 8th 1946  
 in Sunderland, England.  
**A memorial service will be held**  
**Thursday, February 25th, 10:30 am**  
 at Stubberfield Chapel  
 7221 Duncan Street, Powell River.  
 Reception to follow at Brian's house.

#### WEDDINGS



**Shawn & Denise**  
 wish to thank our family & friends for  
 their generosity, because of them we just  
 returned from a 3-week honeymoon on Maui.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### COMING EVENTS

**SCRABBLE FUNDRAISER**  
 Turning the Tide of  
 AIDS/HIV in Africa  
 Games Schedule:  
 Mar.2: SS Inn - 2pm  
 Mar.3: SS Elementary - 7pm  
 Mar.4: SS Inn - 2pm  
 Mar.5: SS Elementary - 7pm  
 Mar.6: ArtSpring 7pm  
 Grandmothers to  
 Grandmothers in support of  
 Stephen Lewis  
 Foundation  
 Info @ 250-653-9406

**VAUGHN FULFORD IN THE WHITE DOGS OF TEXAS**  
 Tix \$15  
**Sat., Feb. 27 • 7 pm**  
 ArtSpring Gallery  
 SPONSORED BY Sotheby's  
 INTERNATIONAL REALTY

**"WHO'S UNDER WHERE"?**  
 Come & find out, March 26,  
 8pm. Mar. 27, 28. 2pm & 8pm.  
 SS Community Theatre.  
 Director: Steve Coopman.  
 Mahon Hall.

#### INFORMATION

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#### DEATHS

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 pearing in this edition of the  
 Gulf Islands Driftwood. Per-  
 mission to reproduce wholly or  
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 publication must be obtained  
 in writing from the publisher.  
 Any unauthorized reproduction  
 will be subject to recourse in  
 law.

**DISCRIMINATORY LEGISLATION**  
 Advertisers are reminded that  
 Provincial legislation forbids  
 the publication of any adver-  
 tisement which discriminates  
 against any person because of  
 race, religion, sex, colour, na-  
 tionality, ancestry or place of  
 origin, or age, unless the con-  
 dition is justified by a bona fide  
 requirement for the work in-  
 volved.

**DR. SHANE** Barclay's office  
 will move to 164 Kings Lane  
 on Monday, March 29, 2010.  
 The office number will remain  
 the same as 250-537-1828.  
 Please help us welcome Dr.  
 Ian Gummesson, Dr. Paula  
 Ryan and Dr. Manya Sadouski  
 to the office. Please be ad-  
 vised this is not a walk in clinic.

#### COMING EVENTS

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### INFORMATION

**Islands Trust**  
**THE SALT SPRING ISLAND OFFICE OF THE ISLANDS TRUST WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC ON Wednesday March 3, 2010**  
 Regular office hours will resume at  
 8:30 am on Thursday, March 4, 2010.  
 We apologize for any  
 inconvenience this may cause. In  
 case of emergency, please contact  
 our Victoria Office at (250)405-5151.

**THE VISION**  
  
 GoAllPower.com

#### PERSONALS

**DENIED CANADA** Pension  
 plan disability benefits? The  
 Disability Claims Advocacy  
 Clinic can help. Call Allison  
 Schmidt at 1-877-793-3222.  
 www.saskadvocate.com.

#### COMING EVENTS

**Islands Trust**  
**SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF BUSINESS MEETING**  
 The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will be meeting  
 to consider various matters of general business, such as  
 applications received, bylaw reviews and meeting notes.  
**DATE: March 4, 2010**  
**TIME: 10:30 am**  
**PLACE: ArtSpring, 100 Jackson Ave**  
 Starting at 10:30 a.m. up to 45 minutes will be available for the  
 public to discuss local land use matters with the Local Trust  
 Committee. Those who wish to present a more formal petition,  
 or make a delegation to the Committee as an Agenda item,  
 must advise Islands Trust staff at least one week in advance  
 of the meeting so that they can be added to the beginning of  
 the Agenda. For information about the Agenda, please call the  
 Islands Trust at 250-537-9144.

**The Community Gospel Chapel**  
 invites you to attend the Alpha Course,  
 a 10-week basic study about God  
 beginning March 3rd.  
 Alpha has become a worldwide  
 phenomenon, now in 164 countries,  
 where millions of people have come to  
 explore the meaning of life.  
 At each session, people enjoy laughter  
 and learning in a fun and friendly  
 atmosphere where no question about  
 life and God is seen as too simple or too  
 hostile... questions like: Is there a God?  
 Why am I here? Where did I come from?  
 Where am I going?  
 The talks each week cover the following  
 topics; Christianity: Boring,  
 Untrue and Irrelevant? Who  
 is Jesus?  
 Why and How Do I Pray?  
 For more information, times,  
 locations, please call the church  
 at (250)537-2622 or info@  
 communitygospelchapel.com

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### COMING EVENTS

**YOGA** Starts Feb. 17  
**ALL LEVELS WITH DOROTHY**  
 ~ 2 NEW CLASSES IN GANGES ~  
 (Top floor of the Core Inn-134 McPhillips)  
**MONDAY MORN 9:00 - 10:30 AM**  
**WEDNESDAY EVE 6:30 - 8:00 PM**  
 ~ 1 NEW CLASS AT SS CENTRE  
**OF YOGA ~ (355 Blackburn)**  
**FRIDAY MORN 9:00 - 10:30**  
**Dorothy**  
 250-653-4655  
 www.dorothyoga.com  
 e: dorothyoga@hotmail.com  
**SEE WEB FOR FULL SCHEDULE**

**15% off Sparkle & Blackberry Port with Residents Card**

**OPEN SATURDAYS 12-4 pm**  
**SALT SPRING VINEYARDS**  
 250-653-9463  
 www.saltspringvineyards.com

**GANGES YOGA STUDIO**  
 New location opening in March!  
 See website for schedule.  
 154 Kings Lane  
 250 537 2444  
 info@gangesyogastudio.com  
 www.gangesyogastudio.com

**SaltSpring Exercise Therapy Triathlon Club**  
**Session #1**  
 Learn all aspects of the three disciplines, swim/  
 bike/run, & train on our local roads & trails in a  
 fun, educational environment with:  
**Kinesiologist Bruce Grey BA Human Performance**  
 10 sessions Mondays/Wednesdays (6-7:30pm)  
 Starts: March 1st  
 Cost: \$150 for one session  
 \$375 for all 3 sessions  
 Includes pool, running, dryland training  
 & instructor sessions  
 "for those that want to complete or compete  
 in a short course Triathlon"  
**Registration @ Rainbow Road Pool**  
**250-537-1402**  
 sponsored by Recreation Excellence

# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES  
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**LOST: BROWN** Chorophylla brand, zipper top sweater on Saturday at Fulford Hall during Jose Sanchez performance. 250-538-1794.

**LOST CAT:** black & white, Castle Cross/ Hundred Hills area. Answers to "Mo". Call 250-537-5209.

**LOST: SMALL** grey cat with white paws. Very friendly, 500 block of Fulford Ganges Rd. Phone 250-538-0934 or 250-538-8640.

COMING EVENTS

**FULFORD COMMUNITY HALL**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
March 9, 2010, 6 p.m.  
OAP Hall in Fulford, Anderson Room  
Public is welcome to attend

INFORMATION

355B Blackburn Rd.  
250.537.9130

**Salt Spring Centre School**

Join us!

**New enrolment deadline**  
**March 1st**  
for Full Day Kindergarten through Grade 6 Leadership Program.  
Join our dynamic learning community!  
Inquiries: 250-537-9130

K - GRADE 6

Moving March 1st!

*Esthetics by Penny naturally....*

Penny Thomas  
licensed esthetician  
250-538-0307

1-266 Lower-Ganges Rd.

**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](http://gulfislandsdriftwood.com) and [bcclassified.com](http://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.

COMING EVENTS

**Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary Society** is offering **two scholarships** to students presently attending **Gulf Islands Secondary School**

Applicants must be continuing their studies in some health care related fields.

Completed applications must be submitted to the GISS Counselling Department no later than March 30, 2010. No exceptions.

TRAVEL

ADVENTURES

**SAIL THE** British Virgin Islands on a 39 foot sailboat! Guided cruising Sun, Sail, Fun! Slots available April 9 thru May 21. \$1000 per week 250-573-0085 or [benderwestconsulting@telus.net](mailto:benderwestconsulting@telus.net)

SKIING

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

Photos are available for purchase @ our on-line photostore [gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

COMING EVENTS

TRAVEL

TIMESHARE

**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.sellatimeshare.com](http://www.sellatimeshare.com) 1-866-708-3690.

**BCjobnetwork**

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**CHATTERS HAIR | BEAUTY | SALON** 100% Canadian owned, successful national hair salon chain EXPANDING in your area. Seeking Franchisee for CAMPBELL RIVER. Discover success in the billion dollar beauty industry. Internationally awarded for excellence & proven track record. Previous salon exp preferred but not required. Email franchise@chatters.ca [www.chatters.ca](http://www.chatters.ca)

**FUN, PROFIT, SUCCESS.** Great Canadian Dollar Store, a dollar store leader since 1993 has new franchise opportunities coast to coast. Call today 1-877-388-0123 ext 229; [www.dollarstores.com](http://www.dollarstores.com).

**HOW TO** Get Guaranteed Big Money For Life! Free 20-Page Book! If You're Looking for a New Way to Make Big Money. [www.guaranteedbigmoney.com](http://www.guaranteedbigmoney.com)

**GREEN PAGE B1-5**

HELP WANTED

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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](http://www.electric-bike-rentals.com)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

**WANTED: EXPERIENCED** Construction Surveyor proficient in AutoCAD to work fulltime at Regal Ridge, a 15 year land development project in the South Okanagan. Please submit resume: [adrian@regalridge.com](mailto:adrian@regalridge.com).

DRIVERS/COURIER/ TRUCKING

**F/T DRIVER**

**JORDANS INTERIORS** at our LANGFORD location has an opening for an experienced **F/T DRIVER** for deliveries in Victoria and surrounding areas. Driver abstract required. Heavy Lifting. Duties include in-home set-ups, unloading truck, general wise work.

**Competitive Hourly Rate & Full Benefit Package.**

Please fax resume attn: **Manager, 250-478-3933 or e-mail: [chv@jordans.ca](mailto:chv@jordans.ca)**

HELP WANTED

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

WORD OF THE WEEK

**'Dactylonomy'**  
*counting on fingers*  
**Free maths tutoring for adults. Dactylonomy is so passé.**  
**Phone: 537 9717**  
[www.saltspringliteracy.org](http://www.saltspringliteracy.org)

**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](http://www.canscribe.com), [info@canscribe.com](mailto:info@canscribe.com).

**TURF YOUR OLD JOB.** Turf-grass Equipment Technician training. GPRC Fairview College Campus. Learn to repair and service sportsfield, golf course and parks equipment. 1-888-999-7882; [www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview).

HELP WANTED

**CAFE WORKERS,** barista experience an asset but not a must. Must be able to work all shifts. Please apply in person to Faye Wicks, cafe manager, Country Grocer, Salt Spring.

**EXCLUSIVE FINNING/CATERPILLAR** Heavy Equipment Service Training. GPRC Fairview College Campus. Grade 12 diploma and mechanical aptitude required. \$1000. bonus on first day of attendance. Paid work experience. Write all 4 years apprenticeship exam. 1-888-999-7882. [gprc.ab.ca/fairview](http://gprc.ab.ca/fairview).

**EXPERIENCED HEAVY** duty mechanics required for North Vancouver Island logging company. Full time, union rates & benefits. Fax resumes to 250-956-4888 or call 250-956-3123.

**FULL TIME** Class 1 driver required immediately for Port Hardy. Bulk fuel/off road exp. an asset. Clean abstract. Competitive wage package w/ benefits. Email/fax resume to: 2 5 0 - 9 4 9 - 6 3 8 1 . [port\\_hardy\\_agency@telus.net](mailto:port_hardy_agency@telus.net)

**HOST FAMILIES NEEDED.** Northern Youth Abroad is looking for families to host 2 youth from Nunavut/NWT, volunteering in your community JULY/AUGUST. [www.nya.ca](http://www.nya.ca). Call 1-866-212-2307.

**HYGIENIST WANTED** for busy, perio-focused practice. Resumes to Office Manager, 199 Salt Spring Way, Salt Spring Island BC, V8K 2G2 or email: [mail4radish@yahoo.ca](mailto:mail4radish@yahoo.ca)

PROFESSIONAL/ MANAGEMENT

HELP WANTED

JOIN US

for a rewarding career supporting a female adult in her home and the community with communication, behaviour, employment training and life skills. Experience preferred, training can be provided. Valid drivers license required. Please submit cover letter and resume to GIFTS 152 McPhillips.

**LEMARE LAKE** Logging Ltd., has an immediate opening for a Hoe Forwarder (Log loader operator). Please forward your resume by email or fax 250-956-4888, [jouellette@lemare.ca](mailto:jouellette@lemare.ca)

**MOA** to do a 4 - 6 week fill-in for MOA on medical leave. Full days Wednesdays and Thursdays and part day Fridays, starting March 17. Please reply to Dr. K. Berg's office. 250-537-5750.

**PUT POWER** in your career as a Power Engineer! On campus Boiler Lab. Affordable residences. Write 4th Class and Part A 3rd Class. 1-888-999-7882; [www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview).

**ROCK SALT** restaurant is gearing up for spring. We are hiring baristas, servers and dishwashers. Apply by email [manager@rocksaltrestaurant.com](mailto:manager@rocksaltrestaurant.com) or apply in person -ask for Jane.

**SALES REPRESENTATIVES** for international personal insurance provider. Service established accounts. Paid training provided. Must be bondable and have reliable vehicle. Call 604-703-5748 or email [d.a.n.bartram@ca.com-bined.com](mailto:d.a.n.bartram@ca.com-bined.com)

**SEABREEZE INNE** at Salt Spring Island is hiring One permanent F/T Front Desk Manager Min. 1 yr. experience with good interpersonal skills. Degree/dip. in Hotel Management related discipline. Wage \$17.50/ hr. Kindly post resume by email or fax. No walk-ins please. Fax 250-537-4323. [info@seabreezeinne.com](mailto:info@seabreezeinne.com)

**SLEGG LUMBER** - 2 positions available in the lumberyard. Driver's license asset but not mandatory. Apply in person with resume.

SALES

An RV SALES Representative is required at B.C. Interiors LARGEST RV DEALER ASAP. Join the team at Voyager RV to sell only the best RV products, with Benefits! RV Sales experience is a plus, but not necessary. Fax resumes to 250-766-4640 or email [sales@voyagerrv.ca](mailto:sales@voyagerrv.ca)

PROFESSIONAL/ MANAGEMENT

TRADES, TECHNICAL

WORK WANTED

**FORT MCMURRAY** Electrical Company looking to hire Senior Project Manager, Estimator, Construction Supervisors, Construction Electricians, Welder/Electrician immediately. Required Safety Training: Fall Arrest, Manlift, CSTS, First Aid, Confined Space Clean Driver Abstract & Drivers Licence required. Must be able to pass D&A testing. Excellent wages and benefits Fax. 780-714-9691 or Email: [michelle@powermaxltd.ca](mailto:michelle@powermaxltd.ca)

WORK WANTED

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

PERSONAL SERVICES

ART/MUSIC/DANCING

**PRIVATE GUITAR** lessons with an informal, practical and empowering study of music call Don McEachern at 250-538-7569 or send email: [mick-dot@mac.com](mailto:mick-dot@mac.com)

COUNSELLING

**EMPATHY ROLE-PLAYS** Experience the relief of being heard around what matters to you while I role-play someone in your life. Sliding scale \$25-\$60. Call Derrick at 250-538-8256 [derrick@bootacomputer.com](mailto:derrick@bootacomputer.com)

HEALTH PRODUCTS

**WANT TO** Lose weight and keep it off? Herbal Magic can help. Results guaranteed. Call for a free consultation and information kit 1-800-926-4363.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

**BANK ON US!** Mortgages for purchases, renos, debt consolidation, foreclosure. Bank rates. Many alternative lending programs. Let Dave Fitzpatrick simplify the process. Mountain City Mortgage. 1-888-711-8818 [dave@mountaincitymortgage.ca](mailto:dave@mountaincitymortgage.ca)

DEBT CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM.

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

PROFESSIONAL/ MANAGEMENT

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

The Driftwood newspaper has an opening for a part-time administrative assistant starting immediately.

We're looking for someone who enjoys working with the public in a busy office environment. Duties include reception, classified advertising, order entry and administrative work. Typing skills, knowledge of MS Office and Macintosh computers essential. Bookkeeping experience an asset. 12-15 hrs/week.

**SEND RESUMES TO:**  
Eva Kuhn c/o the Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2V3  
Or email [ekuhn@gulfislands.net](mailto:ekuhn@gulfislands.net)

**Driftwood**  
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960

**Head Chef**

Meadowbrook Senior's Residence invites applications for the position of HEAD CHEF. Applicants should be experienced in kitchen management, budgeting, supervision and scheduling.

For further information please call Maureen at 250-538-1995 or send your resume by mail to Suite 100-121 Atkins Rd. V8K 2X7 or by fax to 250-537-2719.

Meadowbrook is an equal opportunity employer.

**Meadowbrook**  
SENIORS' RESIDENCE

**BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc.**, a full service investment firm is currently looking for an enthusiastic individual to work in the capacity of Sales Assistant/Administrative Assistant in our Salt Spring Island office. Applicants having completed the CSC/CPH and/or experience in the financial services sector will be given preference.

Please submit your resume in confidence to:  
Natalie Peters  
Suite 1000, 730 View Street  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 3Y7

Alternatively, resumes may be submitted by e-mail to: [Natalie.Peters@nbpcd.com](mailto:Natalie.Peters@nbpcd.com)

**BMO Nesbitt Burns**

**PLANNER 2 PLANNING OFFICER R24**

**SALARY RANGE: \$56,055.99 - \$64,052.10**

Full Time – BCGEU Position  
Temporary Opportunity  
(March 2010 – March 2011)  
LOCATION: SALT SPRING ISLAND, BC  
Competition: CD2010:000623

The Islands Trust is incorporated under the Islands Trust Act of British Columbia. The objective of the Islands Trust is to preserve and protect the Trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the Trust area and of the Province generally. The Islands Trust is comprised of 16 distinct corporate entities: the Trust Council, 13 Local Trust Committees (LTC), one municipality and the Trust Fund Board.

There is a Local Trust Committee for each island or group of islands designated as a local trust area under the Island Trust Act. Comprised of locally elected trustees and one Executive Committee member, a LTC is responsible for land-use planning and regulation for its area of jurisdiction. As such, its responsibilities include preparation and adoption of an Official Community Plan, comprehensive land use bylaws, regulation of soil removal and deposit, and authorization of certain Local Government Act permits.

Reporting directly to the Regional Planning Manager for the Salt Spring Planning Team, based on Salt Spring Island, you will be responsible for a broad range of land use planning functions inherent in a small island community operating under the Islands Trust Act. You will provide support to Local Trust Committees and community committees within an assigned regional area of the Islands Trust.

Acting under moderate supervision by a Regional Planning Manager (RPM), the Planner 2 is responsible for addressing a number of planning related duties including, public enquiries, site visits, policy development, research, processing moderately difficult development applications including development permits, development variance permits, Official Community Plan amendments, and amendments to an LTC Land Use Bylaw.

Prior to submitting an application/resume, please go to our website [www.islandstrust.bc.ca](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca) to review the Job Description and to become familiar with the Islands Trust.

An eligibility list may be established. Required to work evenings/weekends. Must be willing to work overtime. Travel is a requirement.

Please quote the **Competition number CD2010:000623** in your application and submit it to: Islands Trust, 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria BC V8R 1H8; fax 250-405-5155 or [employment@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:employment@islandstrust.bc.ca)

**Closing Date: February 26, 2010**

For more information please contact Leah Hartley at 250-538-5607.

# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES  
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

## PERSONAL SERVICES

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

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

**DEBT FORGIVENESS PROGRAM**  
Avoid Bankruptcy, Stops Creditor Calls. Much Lower Payments at 0% Interest. We work for YOU, not your creditors.  
~Call Cornell~  
**1-866-756-9239**

cornellp@4pillars.ca  
www.4pillars.ca  
4 PILLARS CONSULTING GROUP

**\$500\$ LOAN SERVICE**, by phone, no credit refused, quick and easy, payable over 6 or 12 installments. Toll Free: 1-877-776-1660  
www.moneyprovider.com.

**GET BACK ON TRACK!** Bad Credit? Bills! Unemployed? Need Money? We Lend! If you own your own home - you qualify. Pioneer West Acceptance Corp. Member BBB. 1-877-987-1420.  
www.pioneerwest.com

**IF YOU** own a home or real estate, **ALPINE CREDITS** will lend you money; It's That Simple. Your Credit / Age / Income is NOT an issue.  
1.800.587.2161.

**\$\$ NEED MONEY \$\$** Have RRSP or locked in pension plan from an ex-employer (LIRA) or (LIF) 3 easy ways to help. Call 1-866-341-3274.

## LEGAL SERVICES

**#1 IN** Pardons. Remove your criminal record. Express Pardons offers the Fastest pardons, Lowest prices, and it's Guaranteed. BBB Accredited. FREE Consultation Toll-free 1-866-416-6772.  
www.ExpressPardons.com.

**#1 PARDON SERVICE** - We can remove your criminal record in 6 months! Receive FREE pardon or waiver evaluation. We guarantee it - Ask for details! Call Toll-Free 1-800-298-5520,  
www.canadianpardons.ca

## HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

### ACCOUNTING/TAX/BOOKKEEPING

**ACCOUNTABILITY BOOK-KEEPING** Complete book-keeping for small business. Payroll, GST/PST, WCB. 250-516-6122.

### APPLIANCE REPAIRS

**SAM ANDERSON** Appliance Repair. Warranty technician for all makes & models. Sears warranty rep. 250-537-5268.

### CLEANING SERVICES

**HOME & COMMERCIAL CLEANING**  
\$15/HR FLEXIBLE SENIORS' RATES

**ULTRA CLEAN**  
250.538.7403

### COMPUTER SERVICES

**BIT STREAM SOLUTIONS**  
Data Recovery  
Hardware/Software repair  
Onsite or dropoff  
PC, Mac & Linux support  
zenfrost@hotmail.com  
250-537-6218

**BOB & JILL MCIVOR** would like to advise our customers that RCM-Tech Services will be closed from Jan. 26 to Mar. 5. Unfortunately the house sitters don't do computer or network service so we suggest that our customers call Ron Weisner at 250-537-5058 for computer support during that time. Keep doing those backups! See you in March!

Photos are available for purchase @ our on-line photostore  
gulfislandsdriftwood.com  
gulfislandsdriftwood.com

## HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

### CONCRETE & PLACING

**GULF COAST MATERIALS**

Serving the Gulf Islands  
Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne, Penders

- PARKING CURBS
- READY MIX
- WASHED GRAVEL
- REINFORCED STEEL
- BAGGED CEMENT

**250-537-2611**  
345 Rainbow Road

### DRAFTING & DESIGN

**LET'S GET STARTED!**

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

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

## HAULING AND SALVAGE

**STRONG WOMAN HAULING**

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

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

## HOME IMPROVEMENTS

**COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION & CONTRACTING SERVICES**

Fast, reliable, quality craftsmanship. Experienced in projects of all sizes.  
Local references  
Call: 250-538-8209

## PET CARE SERVICES

**STAR BARKS**

**SPRING GARDENING STOCK ARRIVING DAILY!**

Including bagged soils, ocean compost, gardening seeds and general hydroponic products.

**All bird seed 20% off including black oil sunflower seed.**

**Mon.-Sat. 9 am - 5 pm • Sundays 10 am - 2 pm**  
250.653.4871

## MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

## 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.

## 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 537-1200, or Community Services at 537-9971 for information on materials accepted for recycling.

### RUBBISH REMOVAL

**Jim's Rubbish Removal**

**SAME DAY SERVICE FULLY INSURED & BONDED FREE ESTIMATES**

**Commercial & Residential Got Junk? Got Rubbish?**

Call 310-JIMS (5467)  
www.jimgroup.com

## REAL ESTATE

### ACREAGE

**LAVENDER FARM** partner wanted for agri-tourism on Salt Spring Island. You have 3-5 acres or more of sunny, well drained south facing land between Ganges and Fulford Harbour. We can supply all plants, value-added products, proven marketing and operating expertise. We have 8 years' experience and operate our own farm off-island and three other smaller lavender farms with partners on the Saanich Peninsula. All replies in confidence to: P.O. Box 2776, Sidney, BC, V8L 5Y9.

## HOMES WANTED

**HOUSES WANTED!** Local company wants to purchase your home. Will pay cash and close quickly. Any house, any area, any condition. Call 1-888-572-0030.

## REAL ESTATE SERVICES

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

## RENTALS

### APARTMENT/CONDO

**SOUTHERN MODERN** private bach. suite. Longterm, super clean, pristine location, queen sized loft, own entrance, fully self contained. ADSL. Looking for mature quiet single who respects special rural surroundings. Shared garden space avail. \$625/mo. includes utilities. 653-4101 lv. message

## PET CARE SERVICES

## RENTALS

### BED & BREAKFAST

**BED AND** Breakfasts, Attractions, tourism operators get incredible exposure for your business... Advertise in the 2010-2011 BC Alberta Bed & Breakfast directory. Call Annemarie at 1-800-661-6335 ext. 744

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR RENT

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### WHAT'S ON

**PAGE B6**

## RENTALS

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**"WHO'S UNDER WHERE"?**  
Come & find out.

# This Week's Horoscope by Michael O'Connor

**Tip of the Week:**

There is a special planetary line-up this week worthy of mention. It includes a few auspicious and even rare alignments. First, the Sun will form an exact conjunction with Jupiter on February 28, with Venus and Uranus also closely aligned all four planets in Pisces; all this, just hours before the first Full Moon of the Metal Tiger. Less than a day prior very close by, Mercury will conjunct Neptune and Chiron at 26 Aquarius. This rare triple conjunction will not occur again for centuries! Back in May of 2009 it was Jupiter, Neptune and Chiron and at the same degree of Aquarius. So, this rare triple conjunction, a close repeat from May except Mercury replacing Jupiter is quite close to the 4 planets in Pisces. This majestic line up of planetary gods reveals a mystical union where high ideals, rich imagination and transcendent realizations shine brightly. Yet, Chiron's presence in the mix implies a healing theme. Positively, it can prove to be very uplifting and inspirational feeling of unity and communion. Fanatical and over zealous attitudes are the darker reflection. At worst, it suggests over imagination and unrealistic ideals, delusions, denials and deceptions. That this triple conjunction is exactly conjunct the Moon in the United State's Birth Chart is synchronizing with Barack Obama's attempt re-structure the health system. On March 3rd Venus will conjunct Uranus in Pisces. This union synchronizes favorably for uplifting social events and Venus in Pisces brings forth the sweetness of this sign. Tune-in and embrace this time under the fullness of the Moon for all its best offerings.

**Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**

Are you are feeling like you are living a lucid dream or have entered a fog or some other surreal state? At best, you feel at one with creation and all beings - a mystical union. At worst, you feel energetically depleted, depressed, lost or aimless. This too will pass, but not right away. Yield to the flow, let it be and allow for the blessings of this bliss.

**Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)**

Meeting new people and making friends or deepening existing friendships is big now. These may well be spiritual connections or simply sweet. It may be up to you to reach out to make the connections, however. Aim to build bridges - like have a party and invite a new and eclectic mix. Communications now stand to be poetic and inspirational.

**Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)**

You can see the signs of spring early this year and it's not just the weather. This is a pleasant return after such a stormy period. Beyond inspiration of the early season feeling, you are in a take command mood. This is likely to continue. You feel inspired to realize dreams that have been brewing for some time. Aim to control your own focus and actions, but not others. Realize a new dream!

**Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)**

You are awakening to a new vision. Summoning the courage to face your fears and lay claim to your power is part of the plot. Investigation into new ideas and/or trying new methods is likely. Desires to embark on a journey are strong. Your may wonder if you have the energy to match your ambition. Your energy levels will increase in a few weeks. Rest and prepare.

**Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23)**

Pulling back for a while in preparation for a big charge is the call now. Investments of time

and energy into your own security needs are on your mind. Reaching out to others to achieve this is very likely and a good idea. Returns for your own generosity in the past are yours to receive, yet you may have to ask. Aim to heal miscommunications and misunderstandings where you feel any exist.

**Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 22)**

Change and healing on relationship fronts is a central theme. Forgiving and seeking forgiveness is likely. Inner fears where you feel the need to have more courage are lingering. This may last for a couple weeks before it subsides. You are not alone in this current. Show integrity by deepening your commitments. Speak your truth to heal the past.

**Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)**

Powerful changes are brewing close to home. Your goal is to work with them to make them work for you and all concerned. You may feel as though you are experiencing a threshold struggle. Delays or other blocking situations beyond your control may be another issue. Health concerns are woven into the plot. Balance your giving and take care of yourself as well as others.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**

Like a good agent, you can wear many hats. Yet, you also need the talents of others. The more you see the advantage in opening your heart mind and eyes wider to the importance of your partners, business especially, but personal life too, the more will your own creativity grow and prosper. Sometimes the old ways no longer work and it is time to embrace a new style of creating successful relationships.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**

Something of a tropical storm is sweeping through your world. Whether this feels good depends on your situation. Sometimes, the wind is fierce and its whip unforgiving. Other times the rain, thunder and lightning serve to refresh and rejuvenate all of nature to everyone's satisfaction. Between the two is the storm we didn't like but may have needed. Thank and/or pray to the gods.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**

All eyes may be on you these days. How much you are enjoying all the spotlights is another question. Perhaps you have been dreaming of this for a long time. Either way, it is all part of the law of returns. Life does not judge but does teach by consequences. It may be that an old skin is being shed, revealing a new healthy glow. Hopefully it's not a messy process.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19)**

Dreams of realizing new levels of power are dancing in your mind. Like looking to a distant shore, you realize it is there yet currently out of touch of reach. It takes courage to sail to a distant shore we only believe is there. Plot your course with vision and faith and journey gratefully. This will open your heart to enjoy the waters and winds and your vessel and crew.

**Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**

Life is but a dream and it is good to know whether one is lost in it, or living it, or both. Surrendering to the currents too much will lead us adrift. We must sail with awareness, focus and integrity as well. Showing up matters most, initially. Your direction and the wind and currents will help you to know what you need to do next. Live your dream!

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**SPORTS & RECREATION**



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

**AND THEY'RE OFF:** Philippe Erdmer in Impossible, a Lindenburg 22, jockeys for position at the start of a recent Salt Spring Sailing Club race.

**WOMEN'S SOCCER**

**Intense play greets Salt Spring United's foray into cup action**

See-saw game ends in 3-2 loss

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Beautiful weekend weather accompanied a perfect Sunday for the start of Division-2 cup games.

Salt Spring United faced the Lakehill Reds for the first game in the Shergold Cup, in a solid game of soccer where both teams fought hard to take the lead.

Lakehill scored early in the game, but Salt Spring answered right back with a goal of its own. Sue-Anne Donaldson capitalized on a through ball that turned into a breakaway, putting it in the back of the net to tie up the game.

Carol Adam had a great day in net after stepping in to sub for the regular keeper.

Adam's spectacular save in the first half kept the score tied until Lakehill got lucky at the end of the half, putting the team in the lead for the start of the second.

"Salt Spring dominated throughout the second and when Rhea Davidson received the ball in the 18,

she made no mistake. She tied up the game for us beautifully," Donaldson said.

High-level soccer played with intensity, speed and skill was exhibited throughout the match. Lakehill ended the game one goal ahead by putting the ball in Salt Spring's net late in the second half.

"Our midfield did a great job at containing the play in their half and moving the ball around. Our defence did a super job at forcing them wide and limiting their chances in the middle.

"We just ran out of time," Donaldson explained.

Salt Spring's player and team manager, Joanne O'Connor, said Donaldson's play especially "sparkled" in this match.

"Not only did she get us on the scoreboard with a brilliant goal, but she created numerous other chances for our offence. She won the ball countless times with her characteristic heading and trapping skills. Her pace and skill definitely stands out on the field," O'Connor said.

The team now looks forward to the upcoming break before their next match in March.

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# GREEN EDITION

## Community action think-tank tackles local food supply

Islanders invited to share ideas and resources at March 6 event

**BY SHOSHANA RAY**  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

"Let's Grow More Food This Year!" is a community action dialogue on making Salt Spring more food self-reliant.

Set for March 6 at Mahon Hall from 1 to 5 p.m., the "Let's Grow More Food This Year!" Open Space forum will form action groups to follow up on some of the ideas shared at the Feb. 6 Climate Action Workshop.

Creating a secure local food system requires utilizing the ideas, experience, energy and resources of Salt Spring Island residents — both food growers and consumers.

This is an open invitation for all members of the community to contribute their ideas, thoughts, resources and opportunities to answer the question "How can we grow more food together this year?" Everyone who cares where and how their food is grown; those with solutions to share; and those who have or need help, skills, tools, land or others to grow more food is encouraged to participate.

Many Salt Spring residents eat locally — whether they grow it themselves, frequent the Tuesday and Saturday markets, or visit local farm stands. Even so, Salt Spring only grows five

per cent of its fruits and vegetables — a very small amount of what could potentially be produced on the island.

The problems with our current industrial agricultural practices are numerous: greenhouse gas emissions and volatile organic compounds are contributing to climate change, aquifer depletion, poisoned soils, dead zones in the ocean from fertilizer runoff, etc.

Our current food system provides us with nutritionally deprived foods that are harvested unripe, genetically engineered, and bred for shelf life.

As the supermarkets only stock a three day supply of food, having a secure local, ecologically sound food supply is important for our community's resilience and our environment.

This event is cosponsored by Transition Salt Spring, Island Natural Growers and the Salt Spring Seed Sanctuary. Transition Salt Spring is part of the international Transition movement of communities who are undertaking strategic planning to address peak oil and climate change from a grassroots level.

Increased self-reliance and resilience are two predominant themes in the Transition movement — themes which are shared by Island Natural Growers and the Seed Sanctuary, and which underlie the idea of growing more food this year. ary, and which underlie the idea of growing more food this year.

FOOD continued on B2

# GREEN EDITION

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**CLIMATE CHANGE**

## Trip to the tarsands marks 'strange' 40th birthday gift

I-SEA founder decides trip is imperative

**BY MARGERY MOORE**  
 SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

A few years ago a local activist Dorothy Cutting started providing me and the organization I run called I-SEA — Institute for Sustainability Education and Action — as well as the global community via westcoastequity.org information on the Canadian tar sands and the direct impact it is having on global climate change.

Up until that time I knew of the issue, the scale of the problem, but very little about what I could do about it.

About six months ago I started to get more active by doing research and viewing online documentaries and trying to get a deeper understanding of the scale of this development, now the largest industrial development in the world. The scale of the environmental and social impacts have shocked me to the core.

But, I was amazed to learn that there are things we can do, and there are people here on this island doing a lot already, in addition to Dorothy. Our own Jack Woodward, for example, is handling the court case of the Beaver Lake Cree nation, whose members are trying to stop their habitat destruction caused by the project.



Margery Moore

Others working hard on tarsands issues here at home include Terri and Alan Bibby, Michelle and Kelsey Mech, and Birgit and Robert Bateman.

At the same time I started to talk about the tarsands within the context of climate change to my colleagues in the U.S.A., specifically around Washington, D.C. As I talked to fellow board members of various environmental organizations I belong to, media contacts and even the general public, I was deeply saddened and shocked at how little anyone knew, or knows. However, I am even more shocked at how little interest there was or is in stopping it. Canadian oil is better than Middle-eastern oil, isn't it?

From a climate change per-

spective, producing one barrel of tarsands oil generates three to five times the greenhouse gas emissions as producing the same amount of conventional oil. (See forestethics.org.) The water used, natural gas wasted, forests destroyed, wildlife and lives destroyed are just as bad.

It is total madness that Canada will not own up to its responsibility to stopping climate change and in turn scale back the tarsands, instead of expanding it. Therefore, it is time for me to go to the tarsands.

For my birthday this year, my 40th, my husband Mark Starik and I are going to the tarsands to see it for ourselves. It will be painful, it will change my life. But, it already has on so many levels.

It's been very clear these last six months that I have to do everything I can — everything — to raise awareness and maybe help stop what I think is the quintessential climate change problem of our time. This is our generation's moral imperative. It's time to stop pretending I can't do anything.

Please visit [www.i-sea.org](http://www.i-sea.org) starting the end of March for my personal story, posts and pics. If you would like to come along, donate or participate in some way, please call me at 250-537-4400.

*The writer is a founder and director of I-SEA.*

## March 6 gathering on tap

**FOOD**  
 continued from B1

This gathering will use an open space format, in which the content is determined by the participants. In the first part of the event the whole group will share ideas of ways to grow more food this year. Several small group brainstorming, networking and planning sessions will follow.

The aim is to envision concrete, easily implemented, immediate food-growing projects with the potential to increase the food supply and create new opportunities for people who would like to grow more food.

Our community has many of the skills

and resources we need to become more food self-reliant.

This open space meeting on March 6 from 1 to 5 p.m. at Mahon Hall will engage the collective genius of the community, identify the areas where resources, energy and needs are aligned, and create food self-reliance through cooperative growing projects.

The event is free and begins at 1 p.m., with registration at 12:45.

For children's activities, parents are asked to contribute one hour towards childcare. Tea and coffee will be provided; please bring a mug and a snack to share. For more information, contact Shoshanah Ray at 250-537-4748 or [lets-grow@saltspring@gmail.com](mailto:lets-grow@saltspring@gmail.com).

**The Salt Spring Institute for Sustainability Education & Action (I-SEA) supports the Transition Salt Spring Focus on Peak Oil and Climate Change and encourages All Driftwood Readers to visit the Transition Table at the Upcoming Salt Spring Film Festival and the "Let's Grow More Food This Year" Community Action Dialogue at Mahon Hall on March 6th, 1-5pm**

for more information on I-SEA, visit: [www.i-sea.org](http://www.i-sea.org)



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# GREEN EDITION

## COMPOSTING



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Jessica Freedman and her son Luca Hodge pose amidst food-compost collection bins at Planet Zero's north-end headquarters.

# Landfill ban prompts local fix

Planet Zero serves up green solution for food waste

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

News that the Hartland Landfill will stop accepting food waste in 2012 means folks on Salt Spring and the rest of the Capital Regional District will soon have to pay more attention to their leftover food scraps.

"There's going to be a big education component and an adjustment for households on Salt Spring," said Jessica Freedman, co-owner of Planet Zero food waste collection service.

The days of tossing leftovers in the trash may be numbered, but thanks to Freedman and her husband Neil Hodge, that transition shouldn't be very hard to swallow.

With so many islanders already in the habit of composting most of their organic waste, Freedman and Hodge said Salt Spring is off to a great start.

With the new restrictions at Hartland coming into effect, however, families and businesses will have to find

new ways to dispose of material not suited to the home composting unit like meat, grease and bones.

The business also strives to help older island residents or folks who, for whatever reason, haven't caught the composting bug.

Each client receives an instruction pamphlet identifying which materials can and cannot be composted, biodegradable food-waste bags and a big bin. The local couple is also more than willing to help answer any questions from people starting out in the food-composting process.

For a modest fee, the couple picks up and transports islanders' food waste and delivers it (in a bio-diesel powered truck) to the region's only certified composting facility in Nanaimo.

The finished products include compost, fertilizers and soil amendments, all of which meet international standards.

In the month since Planet Zero began operating, Hodge said, the level and interest from residents and business owners has been phenomenal.

"People are all asking the right questions," he said.

"They're taking responsibility for their material once it leaves their premises."

Space restrictions and a desire to operate in a more environmentally friendly manner have encouraged the CRD to reduce the total amount of waste accepted at the Hartland Landfill by 60 per cent by 2013.

Since food and organic waste comprises about 30 to 50 per cent of the total material accepted at the landfill, finding an alternative has proven a key part of the district's strategy.

The CRD's move follows on the efforts of numerous municipalities and districts across Canada that have begun efforts to direct food waste away from landfills.

Salt Spring doesn't have a suitable facility to accept food waste, but that's something Freedman and Hodge would like to see addressed as the organic-waste ban draws closer.

Having a food-waste collection site on the island, they said, would reduce the costs of hauling waste

off-island and create a marvellous opportunity for local gardeners and landscapers to profit from some truly homegrown compost.

More information about Planet Zero is available online at [www.planetzero.ca](http://www.planetzero.ca) or by calling Freedman and Hodge at 250-537-1715.



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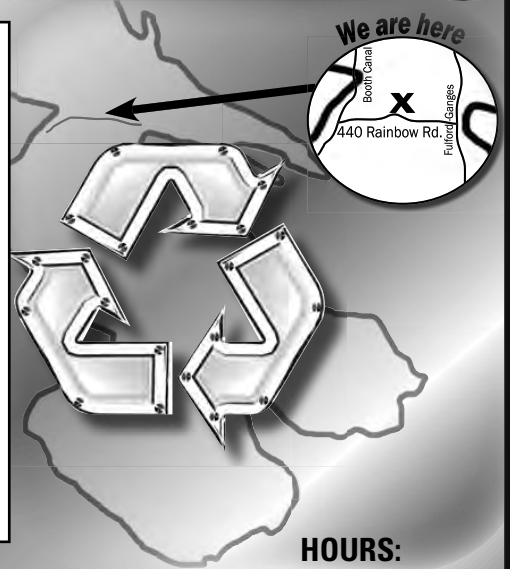
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## ISLAND BUILDERS

# Local builds a rammed earth reputation

Latest project features West Coast's biggest rammed earth wall

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When Clifton Schooley heard that his bid on a project at the University of British Columbia had been accepted, he couldn't believe what was happening.

And who could blame him?

Schooley had been contracted to build the West Coast's biggest rammed earth wall, as part of a project that's expected to wrap up by early spring.

The 24- and 16-metre walls will act as a backdrop in a natural amphitheatre at the university's world-renowned botanical gardens.

The project has raised quite a few eyebrows from folks at the university and, he hopes, helped raise the profile of rammed earth construction and design.

When he began his first rammed earth projects about seven years ago, he said almost nobody had heard of the concept let alone trusted it enough to consider it as a major component of any building project.

Thanks to Schooley and other rammed earth pioneers, word has spread through the building industry, the media, municipal engineering departments and the general public.

"People can be tentative because they don't really understand the material perhaps or maybe because they have a misconception that it's not strong or they sometimes confuse it with mud," Schooley said.

"Once they touch it and see it, people realize this is a really sophisticated and legitimate wall system."

Schooley has many clients eager to use



Clifton Schooley completes work on the West Coast's largest rammed earth walls on the grounds of the University of British Columbia's botanical gardens.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

rammed earth as a component in their landscaping plans (such as the entrance to Salt Spring's Heiwa Peace Park), but an increasing number of people have incorporated the durable and eco-friendly material into full-scale home projects.

He's found that Salt Spring property owners are especially open to trying out rammed earth concepts.

That's especially true when they realize rammed earth homes can be created for

as little as \$225 per square foot. The result has been a steadily growing five-year-old business that, depending on the project, employs up to nine people.

"Assuming that you have a good roof and a good foundation, there's no reason that building won't be here in 500 years," he said.

"You have a building that's more environmental and economical from that standpoint alone."

## What is rammed earth?

A wall made of compacted layers of mixed gravel, sand, silt and clay that is hard as rock. It can have insulation inside the wall and/or be stabilized with some lime or cement. Rammed earth is a high performance structural wall system that can handle earthquakes, rain and snow. It's built to last. ([www.rammedearth.info](http://www.rammedearth.info))

Aside from building the buildings he's so passionate about, he has been inspired to help solve the island's ever-present shortage of affordable housing.

In Schooley's opinion, affordable housing needs can only be met if building codes, zoning regulations and traditional housing models are adapted to the times.

Smaller houses clustered around communal areas used for food production and recreation, a model popularized by the eco-village concept, is necessary if communities are to solve the affordable housing problem in any tangible way, he said.

According to Schooley, the efficiency and durability of rammed earth makes it the ideal material to help this vision take shape.

Once work on the UBC project wraps up, he's already got plans to start work on solving one of the region's biggest social problems. Thanks to a new wave of skilled and idealistic green builders on the island, he's confident an on-island solution can be found.

"Money is less of a motivator. We're more motivated by the principle and we just want to be able to make a decent living at it. It's not something that makes you rich," he said.

"My goal is not to develop and sell real estate but rather to create communities."

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GREEN EDITION

# Home renovation choices: attic insulation, easy; carpeting — agonizing

Renovations, I've discovered, are hotbeds for good and bad decisions about carbon emissions and environmental impact generally. In fact, I ran into one before I even got started, when I discovered that the attic in my 15-year-old house was none too well insulated. To make a long story short on this, I realized it would be crazy not to "do something" while the attic was open to easy access, so I did some rapid research and identified blown cellulose as the best option.

Nope, I'd never heard of blown cellulose either. But it's got great insulating capacity and it's an entirely recycled product, made mostly from old newspaper. It's very resistant to moulds and, to my surprise, it's not especially flammable. (Really, look it up.) After a bit of a hunt, I did finally find someone who had access to the right equipment and supplies (these had to come from Duncan). The job wasn't as messy as I'd feared, and I'm very happy with my warm (greater than R40) ceilings. Check one for the planet.

But the really big challenge I set myself during the reno was to make the best possible choice about floor covering. This was going to be hard because, as I confessed last month, I'm a carpet lover. Yes, I know there are lots of beautiful hard-surface flooring options out there, good choices environmentally, and in some places in my house, I'd love them. But not in "my room" — my office, sitting room and bedroom. There, I want soft, I want cozy and I want colour.

I've been trying to talk myself into hardwood for years, knowing eventually I'd have to replace the carpet I've got there. The reason for trying, in my case, is not so much because most carpeting is made from petrochemicals, a problem in itself, but mostly because the glues and backing famously off-gas for years, and I've got lung problems. Carpets are also not as easy to keep clean as hardwood, so dust and nasty



Judi Stevenson

## MY YEAR OF CHANGING CLIMATICALLY

dust mites gather. Still, the heart wants what the heart wants, even in floor covering.

My starting point in January was to think, okay, I'm going to go for my first choice and see if there is an environmentally friendly carpeting option that I can afford and wouldn't have to make a face at every time I crossed the room. Frankly, I wasn't optimistic. In fact I was imagining myself writing about failure in this column.

My first stop, for research purposes, was a big carpet dealer in Victoria. The good news started immediately. First of all, a young salesman took the environmental questions I was asking very seriously and had lots of information. "Wool," he said.

He also said a whole lot of other things about "breakthroughs in product development" until my eyes were crossing. So I came home — since I prefer to shop local anyway — and prepared to camp out at our own floor covering stores for serious study of carpet samples and specs.

It became clear that there were arguably two good "green" choices: indeed wool, but also a number of new carpet products made from recycled plastic. Well, partially made anyway, maybe 30 per cent, maybe a bit higher depending on the product. Mohawk, one of the biggest of the U.S. companies (Canada doesn't manufacture carpet it seems), claims that three billion plastic bottles a year go into their carpets instead of to the land-

fill. That's impressive, I thought. Another of the "green" products they boast about is made partly from corn, although I kind of think somebody should be eating the corn, not walking on it, just like I think we shouldn't be driving our cars with it.

Still, wool sounded better. As one of the ads summed it up: "from grass to sheep to carpet and back to grass" because wool carpet completely breaks down in the landfill (if the backing is right). But then came the kicker: all of the dozens and dozens of wool samples I saw were in neutral colours: off whites, grays, browns. Whereas the recycled products sang out in rich reds and blues, and my favourite, a fabulous show-stopping purple.

Honestly, for a while there, it was pretty tough. A purple carpet before I die, I thought. It's irresistible! It would be gorgeous, it would be warm, it's not too expensive, it's a choice that would reward the carpet company for coming up with new products using recycled plastic. I wanted it, despite the fact that the wool options seemed indisputably better for the planet.

But you know what? After quite a struggle with myself, it *was* resistible. As I sit at the keyboard right now, my lovely new wool carpet stretches out in all directions to the walls. It's the colour of a slightly dirty sheep, and I love it. It sits on a thick underpad called "eco cushion," which is positively bouncy and seems to have added warmth to what has always been a cold floor.

And there's more. Wool is the best option in terms of air quality too, it turns out: no harmful emissions and, if you can believe the claims of the company whose product I bought (Nature's Carpet), wool "does not promote the growth of bacteria or dust mites."

And for colour: — wait for it — on two sides of the room, purple walls!

*Next month: is there a way to recycle everything?*

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# What's On This Week

www.gulfislandstourism.com/calendar.htm



## Wed. Feb.24

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Spring Showcase.** Celebration at Fulford Elementary School. 6:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**SS Garden Club.** Jane Tice from Glendale Gardens speaks on winter gardening on the south coast. Community Gospel Chapel. 7 p.m.

**SS Genealogy Group.** Meets the last Wednesday of each month at the Mormon Church on Vesuvius Bay Road. 7 p.m. Info: Claudia - claudia2@shaw.ca.

**The Artist's Way.** Wednesday afternoon course led by Robert Birch begins today. 2 to 4 p.m. Info: farmboy@uvic.ca or 250-653-0036.

**Swing Dance.** New six-Wednesday series begins at Mahon Hall tonight. 7-9 p.m.

**SS Genealogy Group.** Meets the last Wednesday of each month at the Mormon Church on Vesuvius Bay Road. 7 p.m. Info: Claudia — claudia2@shaw.ca.

## Thurs. Feb.25

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**SIMS Music Concert.** Middle school concert bands, choir, jazz ensemble & special guests. SIMS gym. 7 p.m.

**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

**Prenatal Classes.** New SS Health Unit session begins. Info: 250-538-4880.

## Fri. Feb.26

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Grand Ole Opry Jam.** Hosted by Ted Scott every other Friday at the Legion. 7 p.m.

**Live Music.** TBA at the Tree House Cafe. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Paul Mowbray.** Live music at the Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 p.m.

**Tom & Matt.** Live music at Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Film Festival.** Opening Night Gala at GISS. Live music from Alvaro Sanchez and Chamigos plus light dinner fare at 6 p.m.; then see The Yes Men Fix the World at 7 p.m.

**Rollerblading.** Fridays at Fulford Hall. 7:30 to 9 p.m.

**StoryTime at the Library.** Quick, quiet, quirky. What can you do with Q? Stories, activities and fun for early grade and preschool children. At the library. 1-2 p.m.

## Sat. Feb.27

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**White Dogs of Texas.** One-man award-winning play starring Vaughn Fulford. ArtSpring gallery. 7 p.m.

**Auntie Kate & the Undes of Funk.** Live music at Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

**Paul Bram.** Tree House Cafe. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Ramesh Meyers.** Live music at the Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Film Festival.** Films and Social Justice Bazaar at GISS from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Films at the Fritz from 5 p.m.

**National Yoga Day.** Free classes at SS Centre of Yoga. 9 a.m. Mixed Levels with Dorothy Price; 4:30 p.m. is Beginners' Yoga with Vidya. Info: 250-537-2326.

**Drawing Studio.** First of two-day beginner to intermediate-level workshop offered through the SSI Painters' Guild and presented by Bill Porteus at Lions Hall. Register: 250-537-0887; margiro@mac.com

**Vocal Workshop.** Voiceplay workshop with Ella Topaz. Info/register: 250-653-4261; ella\_topaz@hotmail.com

**Weekend Jewellery Course.** Two-day course at Martinus Studio begins. Info/register: 250-538-1730.

## Sun. Feb.28

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Richard Wood Trio.** Prince Edward Island Celtic music at Moby's Pub. 7 p.m.

**The Barley Brothers.** Acoustic music every Sunday at the Fulford Inn. 6:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Film Festival.** Films and Social Justice Bazaar at GISS from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Films at the Fritz from 4:30 p.m.

**Songwriting Workshop for Secret World of Og.** SS United Church. 2 to 5 p.m.

**Argentine Tango Practica.** Sundays at the Core Inn, third floor. \$5. Beginners welcome! Bring clean, smooth-soled shoes. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

## Mon. Mar.1

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Headwater, and Bruce Brackney & Rick Van Krugel.** Salt Spring Folk Club double bill at Fulford Hall. 7 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Soup, Soup, Beautiful Soup.** Eight-Monday Community Education course begins. info@sscommunityed.org

## Tues. Mar.2

### ACTIVITIES

**From Blue Sky to Green Earth: the "What" and the "How" of Education for Human Sustainability.** School District 64 annual retreat. ArtSpring. Wine & cheese reception, 6 p.m.; Context-setting lecture from Briony Penn and John Abbott, 7 to 9 p.m.

**Stephen Lewis Foundation Scrabble Tourney.** Games at Salt Spring Inn from 2 p.m.

## Wed. Mar.3

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Hector and Friends.** Men's vocal group from Victoria perform for Music & Munch. All Saints. 12:10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**From Blue Sky to Green Earth: the "What" and the "How" of Education for Human Sustainability.** School District 64 annual retreat. Info: 250-537-5548.

**SSI Breast Thermography Clinic.** Digital infrared screening clinic. Info/register through Arbutus Therapy Centre at 250-537-4728, extension 1.

**Mark Making.** SSI Painters' Guild Workshop presented by Martin Herbert at ArtSpring. Info/register: 250-537-0887; margiro@mac.com

**Stephen Lewis Foundation Scrabble Tourney.** Games at Salt Spring Elementary from 7 p.m.

**Tenants' Rights and Obligations.** Community Education workshop. Info/register: info@sscommunityed.org.

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7:30 PM RiP: A Remix Manifesto

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28**  
4:30 PM One Peace at a Time  
6:15 PM One Crazy Ride  
8:00 PM Finding Farley

The Fritz will be closed Friday, Monday & Tuesday for floor refinishing.

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### CINEMA

- See the **Salt Spring Film Festival** guide in last week's Driftwood and around town for details on this week's films! The cinema is closed Friday, Monday and Tuesday for floor refinishing.
- Shutter Island** starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Ruffalo and Ben Kingsley plays next at The Fritz!

### EXHIBITIONS

- 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**.
- The February artist at the **Salt Spring Coffee Company Cafe** is **Dawn Young: Permission to Play**.
- Leslie Corry** has a retrospective of paintings in the **Artspring** lobby for the month of February.
- 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**.

## Salt Spring Film Festival

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# Arts & Entertainment



## MUSICIANS

# Folk club's sound tech is tops

Canadian folk legend ensures fellow musicians sound their best

BY TANYA LESTER  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

They come from all over North America and sometimes from other continents to perform at the Salt Spring Folk Club. They love this island's beauty, the food served at the club and the audiences' response.

Yet what makes these high-calibre folk artists really marvel is the tall man with a friendly, booming voice who has stationed himself in a back seat for all 13 years the folk club has existed.

The fact that Valdy, who is referred to by many as a folk music legend, is handling the sound from the last row of seats in Fulford Hall is always a point of interest.

When Christine Lavin of Sensitive New Age Guys fame sang at the club in 2005, she led the audience in a round of applause for Valdy, the sound technician. Last fall Connie Kaldor joked about Salt Spring Island being the only place where the sound man is "way more famous" than she is. David Essig, in December, thanked Valdy for being a "really good sound technician."

Granted, he is a little more vocal than most sound technicians. Like, for example, when he piped up to ask KC Kelly, who opened for Kaldor, how his guitar was tuned for a nice piece the local musician played.

Still, why is he doing the sound work at the folk club?

For Valdy, the question is a no brainer.

"[Bill Henderson and I] started the folk club 13 years ago and I have a PA system," he said.

That's how he became the sound volunteer. Never mind being a folk legend, he was the guy with the PA.

Off-island musicians are always surprised because they know him only in his role in front of the microphone, he said.

In the music world, established full-time performers seldom venture much into the behind-the-scenes technical side of things.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Valdy works the sound at Fulford Hall during a recent folk club sound check.

**Valdy and [Bill] Henderson worked to improve the quality of sound in Fulford Hall, which was originally set up for hearing clear whistle blowing at the floor hockey games.**

Valdy said what he does at the folk club has helped him in recent years when he is performing. If there is sound feedback, he can now make suggestions as to what needs

to be changed on the sound board in order to improve the quality. After all, on the folk music circuit, venues can range from having top-end sound production to what Valdy dubs "dog shit."

To stay clear of the canine waste end of things, Valdy and Henderson worked to improve the quality of sound in Fulford Hall, which was originally set up for hearing clear whistle blowing at the floor hockey games.

To better absorb sound, Valdy said Plan A was to hang carpet in the hall. Then, they tried drapery. In the end, hanging up baffles made visually appealing by the artistic abilities of local elementary school children has worked best.

Valdy said he likes using a lot of power on the sound system to ensure "rich and pure clarity" for the musicians. Things like

buzzes and other background noise must be eliminated. Attention to the performers' musical sounds and the in-between places in which there is absence of sound is important.

The next opportunity for islanders to watch Valdy as sound technician will be on Monday, March 1.

This evening will feature a double bill of performers: Bruce Brackney and Rick Van Krugel representing the vintage folk scene and Headwater, representing folk energy of the now.

Then, Salt Spring residents will experience Valdy in front of the microphone with Bill Henderson at the folk club fundraiser and season grand finale, the Gumboot Gala on March 29.

Concert tickets are \$15 at Acoustic Planet (250-537-9668), Salt Spring Books (250-537-2812) or Stuff and Nonsense (250-653-4620).

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

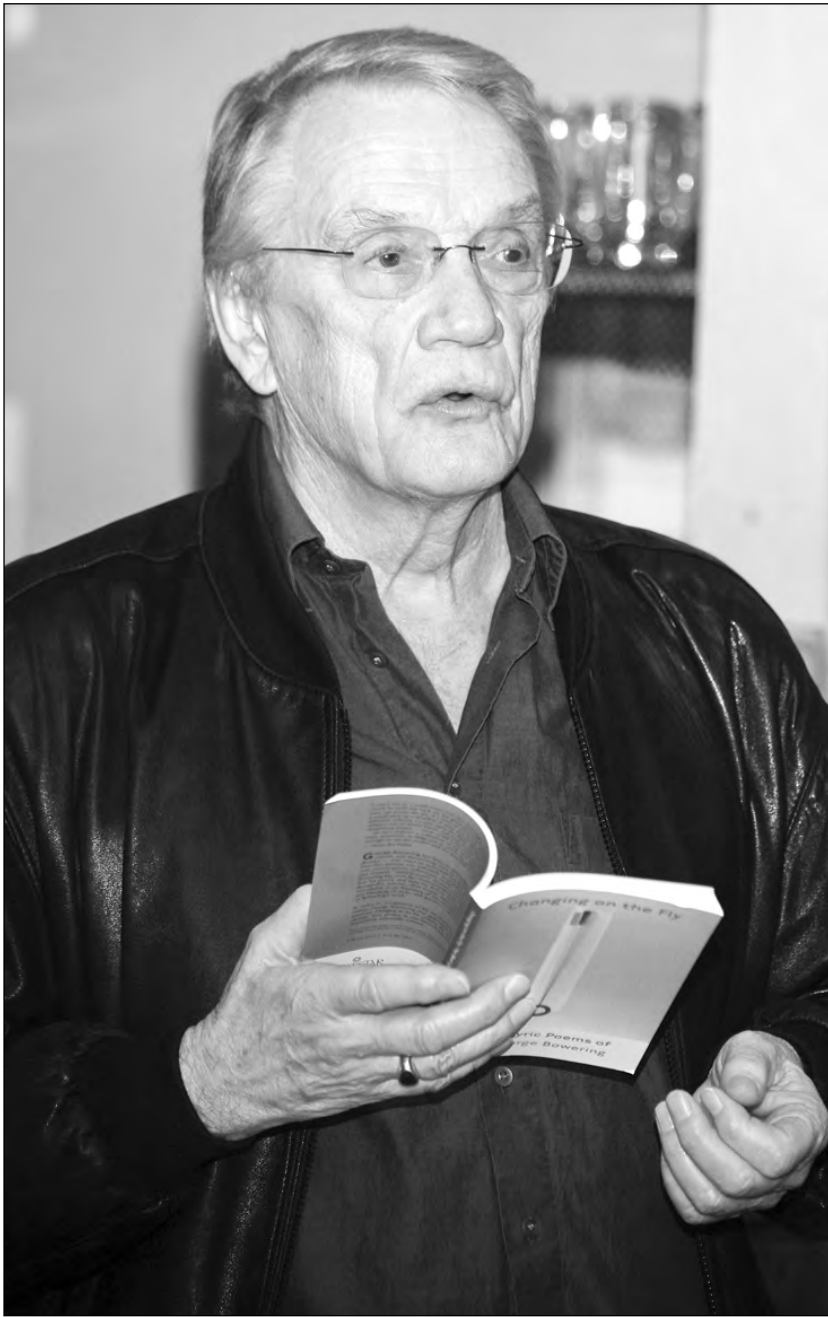


PHOTO BY HELEN ELIZABETH SCHNARE

**THE WORD:** Famous Canadian writer George Bowering reads at the first Galiano Literary Festival, held at the Galiano Inn last weekend. Some 30 writers plus members of the public converged on the island for readings and workshops.

## FUNDRAISING BOOK

# Encouraging words translate into hope for Copper Kettle

Donation contributes to local food program

Something Cherie Geauvreau has learned over her years of involvement with helping people of lesser means on Salt Spring is that words of encouragement and a positive outlook are worth their weight in gold.

That's why it was natural to create a chapbook celebrating those kinds of words and sell it to create much-needed funds for the Copper Kettle Community Partnership's food program.

As its name implies, the program provides food to Salt Spring families and individuals

in need, over and above what's available at the weekly Community Services food bank.

When funds are needed, Geauvreau usually sets up a table outside of Country Grocer on a Tuesday and collects donations.

She hopes that selling the book called Some Encouraging Words will provide a somewhat easier method of doing that, while at the same spreading good vibes.

One aim of the book, said Geauvreau, "is to help people feel more positive about their involvement in life, no matter where they come from."

Inside, readers will find short poems and sayings from a few

known but mostly unknown writers and speakers, which have been shared at various community potlucks and other events over the years.

Some are attributed and others are not.

Artists Pam Adams and Judy Harper donated their talents for the cover, and Geauvreau put the books together.

Some Encouraging Words is so far available at Volume II Bookstore, Salt Spring Books and Salt Spring Literacy, or directly from Geauvreau. Suggested donation is \$25, although Geauvreau notes, "More is always good."

Call Copper Kettle at 250-537-5863 for more information or to buy a book.

## LIBRARY EVENTS

# Spring break brings nature to the library

Extra Wednesday sessions part of March programming for youth

Following is the event schedule for kids' activities during March at Salt Spring's library.

• Wednesday, March 10  
Nature at the Library: Fresh water creatures.

There's a pond in the library! Join us for hands-on experiences with fresh water life. Presenter:

David Denning, Salt Spring Conservancy. For ages 10 and under. 1-2 p.m.

• Friday, March 12  
Nature at the Library: Marine life.

Learning and activities about salt water life. Presenter: David Denning, Salt Spring Conservancy. For ages 10 and under. 1-2 p.m.

• Wednesday, March 17  
Nature at the Library: More fun and learning about nature on Salt Spring Island.

Presenter: Salt Spring Conser-

vancy. For ages 10 and under. 1-2 p.m.

• Friday, March 19  
Nature at the Library: Mammals that love water.

Puppet animals tell their own stories. Fact and fiction with help from the Conservancy's Jean Gelwicks. For ages 10 and under. 1-2 p.m.

• Friday, March 26  
StoryTime at the Library: Spring Surprise!

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## CONCERTS

# Old meets new at folk club double bill

Bruce Brackney and Rick Van Krugel plus Headwater

The evening of Monday, March 1 offers a truly special program at the Salt Spring Folk Club, where traditional folk songs and cutting-edge bluegrass are on order for an exciting double bill.

Bruce Brackney and Rick Van Krugel provide the traditional music portion of the evening. Press material states Brackney, aka Haywire Brack, has been a folk-singer since "before it became an industry."

Brackney is a member of The Rose Tattoo, a group of old friends devoted to experiences and songs of riding the freight trains.

Through his performances he keeps alive a rich legacy of music and social justice promoted by his late friend and fellow Rose Tattoo member Utah Phillips. Brackney's double CD tribute to Phillips, *Singing Through The Hard Times*, was recently nominated for a Grammy Award as Best Traditional Folk Album.

Brackney is accomplished at styles including old timey, blues, hokum, country, labour and social commentary and keeps one foot in the modern world with a song bag filled with more recent compositions, press material states.

Van Krugel is considered "a folk musician's folk musician."

"He has played mandolin for over 40 years, and avidly loves to get behind a good song," states press material.

"His first music was jug band, 1920s and '30s roots jazz/blues from the southern U.S. To this day, that music and the closely related rural blues are nearest to the heart of who he really is.

"An entirely self-taught play-by-ear musician, Van Krugel learned to play years before the mandolin became



Rising bluegrass stars perform together as popular band Headwater at Monday night's folk club show, part of a double-header evening.

trendy, without any points of reference to mimic or emulate; this fact gives him the well-earned title of 'genuine article.'

"Van Krugel has achieved what all artists aspire to: he has found his own voice in his work.

Their performances are described as "a smorgasbord of songs delivered with rectitude, probity and wit, laced with sagacious stories and garnished with a sprinkling of off-the-cuff aural snake oil."

Brackney and Van Krugel will be followed by Vancouver-based bluegrass band Headwater, who have just returned from a well-received European tour and UK record release.

Online roots music sites have called Headwater's album *Lay You Down* "one of the best albums these ears have heard all year," "a sophisticated master-class in the

art of Americana roots" and "better than many more high-profile releases covering similar ground."

The high-profile British magazine *Maverick* gave the record a four out of five star review, saying: "Headwater have turned out a very exciting record — something of real worth. Think Great Lake Swimmers with a greater sense of momentum."

"It's kind of surreal, really," Headwater co-founder Matt Bryant is quoted as saying in press material.

"We knew we had a really good record on our hands when we finished *Lay You Down*, but to get so much positive press and booking agents and a European tour out of it seems like a dream."

The Salt Spring show starts at 7 p.m. on Monday at Fulford Hall. Tickets (\$15) are available at Salt Spring Books, Acoustic Planet and Stuff & Nonsense.

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday, Feb. 25, 8-11pm  
Blues: Soul Shakedown & Friends

Friday, Feb. 26, 8-11pm  
Live Music: Tom & Matt

Saturday, Feb. 27, 8-11pm  
Live Music: Auntie Kate & The Uncles of Funk

Sunday, Feb. 28, 7-10pm  
Celtic Music: Richard Wood Trio

Monday, March 1  
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Grand prize draw will be made Friday, March 26th at 4:00pm during the **DRIFTWOOD'S GOLDEN (50TH) ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**  
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY  
Salt Spring children's entertainer Jim Raddysh (right) gets the crowd hopping at the Lions Hall during Stage-coach Theatre School's birthday celebration.

## Heavy-hitting acts on tap

### WHAT'S ON AT ARTSPRING

• Howard and Mimi — Friday & Saturday, March 12 & 13, 8 p.m.; Sunday, March 14, 2:30 p.m. The Academy Presents . . . Howard and Mimi by Caroline Gold. Directed by Lynda Jensen. Caroline Gold, playwright and writer for BBC radio and television, was awarded Best Play at the Fringe Report awards in 2006 for her latest play, Howard and Mimi. Howard and Mimi are human embodiments of the animals they are. Mimi (Sue Newman) is sophisticated, witty, content, the mistress of her own home. Her perfect world is shattered by the arrival of Howard (Luc Blanchett), an unwelcome guest. Howard is an enthusiastic, boisterous, appalling and slightly smelly hound. Innate hostility and suspicion gradually turn to domesticity and affection. This quirky and unusual play looks at issues from politics and death, to love and battle of the sexes.

• Carmen - Met Opera Live in HD — Saturday, March 13, 10 a.m. The encore presentation of one of the most popular operas of all time, Carmen "is about sex, violence and racism — and its corollary: freedom," says Olivier Award-winning director Richard Eyre about his new production of Bizet's drama. Elina Garanca plays the seductive gypsy of the title in her role debut at The Met, opposite Roberto Alagna as the obsessed Don José.

• ArtSpring presents: Janina Fialkowska — Tuesday, March 16, 8 p.m. March 2010 marks Chopin's 200th birthday, and distinguished Canadian pianist Janina Fialkowska helps celebrate with an all-Chopin recital. Born in Montreal and educated there and at Juilliard, Fialkowska has made a

career as a soloist in all the major concert halls of the world. She played at ArtSpring to a sold-out house in 2006 — the centre is delighted to have her return for this special celebration.

"She brings incredible relish to her playing. Endowed with phenomenal technical skills and effortless musicality, Fialkowska performs with a clarity that sets her apart from the ordinary superstars." — Toronto Star. Pre-concert chat at 7 p.m.

• ArtSpring presents: Chor Leoni — Saturday, March 20, 2:30 p.m. Founded by Diane Loomer in 1992, Chor Leoni is widely recognized as Canada's pre-eminent male voice choir. Their concerts move fearlessly between musical genres, always aiming to communicate, engage, and entertain. Engendering tears of emotion, peals of laughter, or gasps of awe from its audiences, Chor Leoni prides itself on its ability to perform in many languages and styles, always sung with fresh energy and poise.

"Chor Leoni has a polish, a sound, a spontaneity and a style that I feel is unequalled by any male voice choir that I have ever heard." — Maestro Bramwell Tovey, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. Garry Oaks Winery Tasting at 1:30 p.m.

• Death of a Clown — Friday, March 26, 8 p.m. ITSAZOO Productions comes to Salt Spring with Death of a Clown by Sebastien Archibald. Infusing the Epic Theatre of Bertolt Brecht with the art of clown, this hilarious satire is for the rabble-rouser in all of us. The play's story centres on Roy, a fun-loving clown

who suppresses his true 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. Following its debut at the 2006 Victoria Fringe Festival, Death of a Clown has evolved from a modest experimental show to an award-winning audience favourite featuring original songs, dance numbers, video, animation, projections and a live band.

• Hamlet — Met Opera Live in HD — Saturday, March 27, 10 a.m. Simon Keenlyside and Natalia Dessay bring their extraordinary acting and singing skills to two of the Bard's most unforgettable characters in this new production of Ambroise Thomas's Hamlet. For the role of Ophelia, the French composer created an extended mad scene that is among the greatest in opera.

• ArtSpring presents: Mexico City & The Russian Play — Wednesday to Friday, March 31-April 2, 8 p.m. ArtSpring is thrilled to present Halifax-based 2b theatre's production of two one-act plays by Canadian playwright Hannah Moscovitch. Mexico City is a comedy about a suburban Canadian couple on holiday in Mexico City in the 1970s. They have brought everything with them from Mississauga — cameras, Hawaiian shirts, and their frustrations with each other — but the city gradually works its transformative magic on them. The Russian Play recounts the tale of a Russian peasant girl named Sonya, the "foolish mistakes" of her youth, and the love affair that leads to her ruin. "Hannah Moscovitch is the hottest Canadian playwright on the scene today." — Belfry Theatre.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**FUNDRAISING SONG:** Salt Spring Island Middle School students, from left, Jenna Dawson, Phoenix Emery, Chloe Kaye and Dustin Billwiller record a song at Acoustic Planet Music to raise funds for an upcoming band trip.

## SPRING BREAK

# Salt Spring kids, teens and adults can Act~Sing~Dance with Sue Newman

Two sessions offered for different age groups

It seems all the rage again that everything is a musical, so Sue Newman will offer a special spring break course giving participants a taste of what it takes to do this kind of theatre performance.

The answer? It's all about being a "triple threat."

Act~Sing~Dance for ages eight

and up runs Monday to Friday, March 15 to 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Workshop students will spend the week learning all the skills required to be a triple threat and have the opportunity to perform for friends and family on Friday at 2:30. Workshop fee is \$275.

Act~Sing~Dance for teens and adults meets Friday, March 19 to Sunday, March 21. The fun starts on Friday evening from 7 to 10 p.m. with an introduction to musicals with movie clips and

popcorn.

Technique and foundation skills are learned Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. through 4 p.m., with a performance for friends on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Workshop fee is \$200.

Participants should wear loose-fitting clothes and bring plenty of food for lunch and snacks and water.

For more information, call 250-537-4294 or register online at [www.saltspringartsacademy.ca](http://www.saltspringartsacademy.ca).

## VISITING BANDS

# Fiery PEI trio plays SSI

Fabulous fiddler's group at Moby's Sunday

Richard Wood, one of the most highly regarded fiddlers from Canada's East Coast, will perform on Salt Spring at Moby's Pub on Sunday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m.

The trio will be here hot on the heels of their performance during the Vancouver Olympics at Atlantic Canada House on Granville Island.

This is Wood's first appearance on Salt Spring since 2001, when he

played a concert for the Salt Spring Folk Club.

"It was a memorable evening," said guitarist Gordon Belsler, "with Valdy doing sound and Bill Henderson on lights!"

Brad Fremlin, on piano and percussion, spent some time on Salt Spring in the late '80s as part of a Katimavik project and is looking forward to re-acquainting with some old friends.

The guys say they are delighted to be bringing their high-energy show to Moby's and hope to see everyone there.

**Bruce Brackney  
Rick Van Krugel**



Monday March 1  
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Show: 7:00

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Walmart Correction Notice for flyer ending February 25th

The Kraft Dinner White Cheddar  
Cups (#9203299) are not available.

=====

We apologize for any inconvenience  
this may have caused.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY  
**OCEAN SIDE:**  
Sculptor Graham Smith takes advantage of unseasonably warm weather, carving outside on the dock at his new studio in Fulford Harbour.

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### MUSIC & MUNCH

## Hector and Friends serve up vocal banquet

Male harmony soars  
at March 3 recital

The second presentation of the 2010 Music and Munch series takes place next Wednesday at All Saints church with the performance of a group of experienced male choristers from Victoria singing under the name Hector and Friends.

This group is primarily an a cappella sextet of mature male choristers formed 18 months ago from members of the

Victoria Philharmonic Choir. Comprising four tenors, one baritone and one bass, they are retired gentlemen (with one exception) who share a common love of singing together in male harmony.

Hector and Friends began their rehearsals in the living room of the baritone David Wooldridge, whose brother Alan lives on Salt Spring, where David also used to live.

The "friends" would do the singing; "Hector," being their number one fan and critic (and David's Jack Russell terrier),

would lie on his side on the rug and listen. Confronted with the usual quandary of choosing a group name, and being in agreement that they avoid picking some formal Latin derivative, they chose to settle for "Hector and Friends."

The group sings a varied repertoire of choral music, ranging from Renaissance motets, black spirituals and heart-felt ballads to clever rounds and audience sing-a-long of delightful English drinking songs.

They are presently working

on several songs of The King's Singers. Featured in Wednesday's performance will be two songs written especially for two renowned male choirs, one for Chanticleer and another for Chor Leoni.

It all promises to be 40 minutes or so of very enjoyable entertainment, and will be followed as usual by a pleasant optional lunch prepared by the Anglican Caterers for \$5.50. The performance begins at 12:10 p.m., Wednesday, March 3 at All Saints church.

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## GIRL GUIDES



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Girl Guides of Canada uniforms through the ages were modelled by current members celebrating the group's 100th anniversary.

## Fashion, tea and song featured at Guides' anniversary celebration

100th mark celebrated in style at Meaden Hall

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

While the international community is busy watching the Olympic games, people all around the world are also celebrating the shared birthday of scouting founders Lord Robert and Lady Olave Baden-Powell.

Feb. 22, known as Thinking Day, has grown to include events for Boy Scouts and Girl Guides occurring on the two weekends before and after the 22nd, creating Thinking Week.

This year Thinking Week is especially important to the Girl Guides of Canada as it marks

the 100th anniversary of the organization.

Tea, cookies and vintage fashion were key components of the local anniversary event put on by current and former Girl Guides at Meaden Hall last Sunday.

Around 55 people were on hand to join in celebrations that included a fashion show of past and present uniform, organized by longtime island Guiders Gail Temmel and Kerry Lee. The uniforms, which ranged from the 1920s to the present day, were collected by area archivist Sally Pilyk.

Temmel said the volunteer models enjoyed wearing Brownie dresses from the 1940s, while everyone wondered about the

reasoning behind full length, knitted white dresses suitable only for drinking tea.

Girls who weren't interested in modelling wore present day uniforms and acted as flag-bearers.

Participants enjoyed a visit from "Lady Baden-Powell" in person (played by Victoria Guider Peggy Morfitt) and by Water's Edge District co-commissioner Roanna McCormack.

The entire group participated in the campfire sing-along, enjoying traditional songs that everyone knew.

Temmel thanked everyone who contributed cookies and dessert squares to the event, and the Legion for donating use of the hall.

### Who reads us?

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

*Dr. Paula Ryan*

On March 29, 2010, Dr. Paula Ryan will be relocating her medical practice to 164C Kings Lane.

Until March 26, patients can book appointments by calling 250-537-0693  
 After March 26, call 250-537-1828

Photos are available for purchase @ our on-line photostore  
[gulflislandsdriftwood.com](http://gulflislandsdriftwood.com)

### If you are going to, or have tried to sell your home, it is worth considering the following:

In this relatively slow buyers market, is it better to lower your price by lowering the commission you are going to pay to the real estate agents or give away your hard earned after tax home equity?

Times have changed - buyers shop for homes on-line on the Internet. The buyers want to see a great virtual tour of the home for sale on line. That is what I do and that is how we sell our listed homes. I have one of the best Virtual tour systems on the internet and will use it to show your home in the best possible light. I will help you stage your home to make it look great and sell for the maximum amount.

If your home is not listed with another agent, call me, and I can show you how our simple, cost effective system works. I have sold 19 homes on the island and saved the sellers thousands of dollars.

**Scott Simmons, Salt Spring agent for One Percent Realty Vancouver Island**  
 saltspring@yahoo.com  
 250-538-8316 [www.escapetosaltspring.com](http://www.escapetosaltspring.com)



## The Healing Place

Counselling Centre

The Healing Place is a service for those dealing with terminal illness, prolonged chronic illness, have senior's concerns, and to all who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Individual, group & family counselling.

Elsje Hannah, M.A., CCC, Clinical Counsellor is a specialist in this field.

Phone: 250-931-8762  
 Email: [healingplace@shaw.ca](mailto:healingplace@shaw.ca)  
 Upper Ganges Centre  
 202-338 Lower Ganges Rd.

# GOLD MEDAL SAVINGS

## 2010 PONTIAC G3 Starting at \$11,295



- 1.6L DOHC 4 cyl. with VVT
- GM oil life monitoring system
- 5.7L/100km hwy, 7.5L/100km city
- AM/FM CD player with MP3 playback
- 5 year/160,000 km warranty

## 2010 CHEVROLET COBALT Starting at \$11,845



- 2.2L Ecotec 4 cyl. with VVT
- GM oil life monitoring system
- 5.4L/100km highway
- AM/FM CD player with MP3 playback
- 5 year/160,000 km warranty



PETER  
 baljet

## PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

## COMMUNITY

# Directory of groups and resources hits the streets

Community Services-Salt Spring Foundation partnership

For people needing to find a counselling service, social club or health resource, the Salt Spring Island Community Resource Directory is now available.

Compiled by Salt Spring Island Community Services with funding from the Salt Spring Island Foundation, the directory helps community members connect with a variety of social services and supports.

It is available for download, free of charge, from Salt Spring Island Community Services

at [www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca](http://www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca). It will also be found through a number of other community organization websites including the library, Parks and Recreation, and the Chamber of Commerce, to name a few.

A limited number of hard copies are also distributed among many service providers in the community.

The intention is that this valuable resource will be readily available at the places where people turn for information.

"The Community Resource Directory is a one-stop guide for programs and services," said Salt Spring librarian Karen Hudson.

"It contains contact information and short descriptions for 300 services offered by over 250 non-profit organizations and groups serving our community.

Most are Salt Spring based, but it also includes numerous off-island resources available to Salt Spring residents."

The Community Services Directory was prompted by a needs assessment conducted by the SSI Foundation in 2007.

The assessment identified a need to have better information available about community resources for residents as well as for the service providers themselves.

"An important foundation piece for

coordinating and planning effective services is knowing what other resources are available," said Rob Grant, executive director of SSICS. "The Community Services Directory is very thorough and it is pleasantly surprising to know there are so many resources."

Non-profit organizations or groups can be added to the directory by contacting Community Services at 250-537-9971, or by fax at 250-286-3650 or email at [connect@ssics.ca](mailto:connect@ssics.ca).

The directory can also be made accessible through any group's website.

Entries in the directory are free.



Islands Trust

## PUBLIC NOTICE

*Be Part of Your Community!*

**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 22, 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](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca) or on the Islands Trust website at [www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/ss/default.cfm](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/ss/default.cfm). We can also be reached at 250-537-9144.



Islands Trust

## ISLANDS TRUST 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 22, 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  
Email: [pbrazier@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:pbrazier@islandstrust.bc.ca)

## AGRICULTURE

# Power of permaculture — in Kenya and on Salt Spring

Week-long workshop organized for late March

BY MICHAEL NICKELS

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Recently I returned from a five-week trip to Kenya where I worked with a school of 800 students to help transform their school compound and some additional farm land that they own into a more productive scenario.

The first week of this journey was spent revisiting some of the former projects that I have worked on in the past.

Barren fields, once scorched by the sun and full of weeds are now completely transformed into highly productive landscapes.

**Large tracts of forest lands**

**now replace severely**

**eroded land, providing lots**

**of jobs and environmental**

**benefits.**

Complex systems are now present with forests, gardens, orchards, fish farming ponds, biogas production of cow manure into useful methane gas used to cook meals for all the employees as well as to dry myriad types of seed, which we produce for sale.

Excess firewood left over from production of furniture wood and construction timbers is used in special charcoal kilns to produce tons of charcoal while simultaneously firing bricks for construction.

Most bricks are being sold but many are being used on site for building simple round buildings similar to igloos that are cool in the heat of the day and warm during the cool of night.

Rainwater is diverted off greenhouses to irrigate fast-growing timber trees on the way to the fishponds. Sheep and ducks graze the 20 acres converting grasses, which formerly had to be slashed, into meat and manure.

Manure is now composted and used in the greenhouses as well as in the gardens.

Excess manure is converted into earthworm juice, which is diluted 2000:1 and used in boosting the vitality of the gardens.

Kenya Top Bar beehives are used throughout the system to improve pollination as well as producing delicious honey for sale.

Other projects which received funding from the Salt Spring Rotary Club and the Lions Club are supplying large quantities of food to those suffering from AIDS as well as being community education centers to teach locals the benefits of a permaculture system, which promote biodiversity rather than the typical monoculture of corn which plagues the soil and diet of millions of Africans.

Large tracts of forest lands now replace severely eroded land, providing lots of jobs and environmental benefits.

Several million trees are now growing sucking up excess CO2 out of the air.

On this last trip we worked with most of the students from Bukati Primary School in Butula in Western Kenya.

Seven hundred of the 800 students are orphans, having lost their parents to AIDS.

From the ages of six to 14, we taught them to grow food, establish tree nurseries, orchards and forests, rainwater harvesting and diversion to their fields to increase the productivity.

We explored and discussed growing more fruit and highly lucrative crops such as tomatoes rather than only corn.

These different crops would provide a more diverse and nutritious diet and supply lots of cash in the local marketplace with which they would then be able to buy extra food.

We set up ponds for fish farming, transformed former wastelands into banana groves, planted fodder trees to help supplement protein levels for livestock and established the first of many bee hives.

From March 29 to April 2, I will be teaching a one-week intensive hands-on workshop on Salt Spring Island.

During this week we will transform a lawn into a permaculture garden, plant dozens of types of fruit trees, vines such as grapes and kiwis, bushes and berries, learn to graft and prune fruit trees, design and build swales for strawberries, melons and potatoes, use an excavator to help build a fertile vegetable garden, dig a pond for aquatic edible plants, help a master fence builder installing a fence and gates, explore rainwater harvesting techniques, plant Mediterranean species such as olives, figs and pomegranates onto rock outcrops, plant deer-resistant edible trees and plant an herb garden plus much more.

Anyone interested in the workshop should call me at 250-653-9565 for further information.

## PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

# More JAGWE details released

Seeking inspiration in the everyday of life

BY LEAH HANSEL  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

When I think about my own experiences throughout the course of my life in this embodiment as a woman, there have been many consistencies to what I considered living the inspired life while staying in harmony with the balance of my "everyday" existence.

I have always sought to be free, to be creative in my expression and thinking, to be loving and compassionate, to spread joy as much as possible, to help where needed and to remember to be generous and understanding to all beings.

This way of life hasn't always been easy, but it certainly has kept me inspired and kept my muse entertained! As much fun as this has always been for me, there was a void that was needing discovery and a mode of expression within me that was only attainable for me by returning to source. Everyone has their own time in life which they are able to say was the defining moment in their own internal reclamation and truth, and for me, it's when I became a mother.

In the instant of my daughter Summer's birth, all and everything that will never be fell away. All the questions and choices I had been considering for so many years lifted themselves from my internal pockets of considerations and maybes, and have yet to return. Life instantly became simpler and easier to define and the most challenging adventure ever!

Fast forward to just about four years later. I hear the stories of women around me, I feel their joys and sorrows of motherhood, I feel the ache of not ever being able to give birth, I hear the struggle of trying so desperately sometimes to balance all the needs of all the different hats women wear. I feel the calling for women's voices and stories to be heard and within all this I see the opportunity for women to come together.

The Juicy Amazing Goddess Woman Event, from March 5 to 8, will be just that. Women and families of all ages are welcome to join us in song, dance, discussion, sharing and health! Bring your children and bring your partners and let's celebrate International Women's Day together.

It's also not every day that we get to experience the elation, inspiration and sense of connected community that the Olympics brings to our existence, nor is it every day that we get to meet an Olympian and help a whole community of people at the same time. On March 7, you have the opportunity to not only be inspired but help the earthquake-devastated country of Haiti when you join us for an exceptional and truly inspiring evening with three-time Olympian, mother, author and child-advocate Silken Laumann.

The full entertainment and presentation schedule for JAGWE is now up online, with final details for Saturday, March 6 available in next week's Driftwood.

Tickets are limited for all evening offerings, so be sure to secure your tickets either at Salt Spring Books or online at [www.BestAbundantLife.com](http://www.BestAbundantLife.com).



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**OFF-SCREEN, ON-ALLEYS:** Salt Spring Centre School students were challenged to avoid TV, movies or computer time for at least 15 days of February — aka Reading Month. The reward for their achievement was an afternoon at the bowling alley on Monday.

## WORSHIP

## Meditative singing part of Taize-style service

Set for Ganges United Church on March 3

BY PAT BARCLAY  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Reverend Ruth Cairns and music director Shirley Bunyan of Ganges United Church invite interested Salt Springers to attend a Taizé-style worship service on Wednesday, March 3 at 2 p.m.

First developed at the Taizé community in central France, this brief but compelling form of service combines sung prayer, readings from scripture and silence to offer participants a deeply felt and personal experience of the sacred.

As many of us already

appreciate, singing is one of the most essential elements of worship.

But short songs, repeated again and again, give worship a meditative quality when just a few words set to music express a basic reality of faith that is quickly grasped by the mind.

With repetition, this reality gradually penetrates one's whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God and of bringing the inner life to blossoming.

The Taizé community originated in wartime France, when a young Swiss man — soon to become known as Brother Roger — established a shelter in the village of Taizé for refugees

fleeing from the war.

Before long, on Sundays the shelter was also welcoming German prisoners-of-war from a nearby internment camp.

Today, the Taizé community is an ecumenical monastic order with a strong devotion to peace and justice through prayer and meditation.

The 100-strong community of Roman Catholic and Protestant monks is drawn from 30 countries around the world.

Through its very existence, Taizé is a sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and between separated peoples.

Some brothers live in disadvantaged places of the

world, where they strive to be a presence of love.

Others continue the community's work of welcoming church leaders from various Christian faiths and the many thousands of young people who come each year to share in the community's way of life.

There, they are encouraged to live out the Christian gospel in a spirit of joy, simplicity and reconciliation.

Sung prayer and silence are at the heart of the Taizé experience.

To share in its inspiration close to home, come to Ganges United Church on Wednesday, March 3 at 2 p.m. for a brief and memorable service.

## DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIED ADS WORK FOR YOU!

Run it 'til it sells.  
**\$24.99**

Run your classified ad in  
The Driftwood 'til it sells!

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 ½ price • Please, no more than 3 items, call to remove an item.

Run your  
25 word ad in  
19 community  
papers and  
6 dailies on  
Vancouver Island.  
Over 374,000  
readers.  
**only \$129.15**

Run your  
25 word ad in  
72 community  
papers and  
18 dailies in  
British Columbia.  
Over 1,000,000  
readers.  
**only \$334.75**

All ads appear on-line at: [gulflanddriftwood.com](http://gulflanddriftwood.com) and [bcclassified.com](http://bcclassified.com)  
in person, 328 Lower Ganges Rd. / call 250-537-9933 / email [classified@gulfland.net](mailto:classified@gulfland.net)



SAFE • FREE • CONFIDENTIAL

**Salt Spring Transition House & Help Line**  
250-537-0735 or  
toll-free 1-877-435-7544

**Women's Outreach Services**  
250-537-0717 or  
toll-free 1-877-537-0717

**Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women**  
250-538-5568

**Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling**  
250-538-5569

**'Transitions' Thrift Store**  
#1-144 McPhillips Ave.  
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Please visit our website  
[www.iwav.org](http://www.iwav.org)

Funded by the  
BC Ministry of Community Services

## PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**YOUNG READERS:** Books and kids spent some time together at Salt Spring Elementary School Monday afternoon as the school's annual "read-a-thon" got underway.

### 3 MILLION DOLLAR DEBT RESTRUCTURING OF INSOLVENT CORPORATION

## FORCED LEGAL AUCTION

A large wholesale/retailer of fine Persian & Oriental carpets is now insolvent. Their assets are ordered to be sold by auction.



### VALUABLE PERSIAN CARPETS

MANY DIFFERENT SIZES FROM MAJOR WEAVING CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. ALL ARE HANDMADE WITH NATURAL FIBRES. TRADITIONAL AS WELL AS CONTEMPORARY DESIGNS.

**Saturday February 27, Preview at 1pm, Auction at 2pm**  
**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, 120 BLAIN ROAD,**  
**SALT SPRING ISLAND**

Terms: Cash, Visa, MC and AMEX. 15% buyers' premium plus PST and GST applicable. Some items in advertisement are subject to prior sales/error/omissions. Licensed auctioneers.

For more info call 1-866-507-7676.

### LIFELONG LEARNING

## Next batch of Community Ed classes gets cooking

Soup, astrology, Spanish and more

BY PAT BURKETTE  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

There's still time to register for some Community Education courses that can help cure your late winter blahs.

Warm up cool nights with some pots of steaming soup, thanks to Soup, Soup, Beautiful Soup.

The course will teach you to prepare well-flavoured and textured broths, purees and chunky style soups in eight Monday sessions from 7 to 9 p.m. on March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12, and 19, for a fee of \$140, plus ingredient cost.

Instructor Ken Brudner has been a chef for 27 years and runs Artisan Catering Co.

Become one of 400 million people worldwide who speak Spanish by taking a course from Evelyn Nasarre, who is of Spanish heritage.

She will put you at ease as you learn basic Spanish conversation on 10 Saturday afternoons from 3 to 5 p.m. on March 6, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17 and 24, May 1, 8 and 15, for a fee of \$160.

If the constellations you see on clear March nights intrigue you, take an astrology course from Gwenyth Luptak, who has 30 years of experience in chart interpretation. Introductory Astrology runs on four Sundays, March 7, 14, 21 and 28, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. for a fee of \$70. Astrology-Beyond the Basics runs on four Thursdays, March 11, 18, 25, and April 1 from 7 to 9 p.m., also for \$80.

Three craft courses offer a chance to have fun and express your artistic side.

On March 12, from 1 to 4 p.m., local artist Wendi Gilson will teach you how to make some Bee-lightful lanterns from bamboo and tissue paper for a fee of \$35.

Then on March 13 and 14, for a \$110 fee, you can attend a basket-making workshop at Donna Cochran's Beddis Road studio, learning basketry techniques while you create a miniature basket from waxed Irish linen thread.

On three Wednesday nights, March 17, 24 and 31, learn how to turn that "box of photos under the bed" into a keepsake album with The Art of Scrapbooking for a fee of \$60.

Perhaps the best way of getting through the last of winter is by taking a gardening course that anticipates those summer days ahead!

A Square Foot Gardening workshop on Saturday, March 13 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon costs \$40 and will show you how to produce lots of food with few resources.

You can also learn how to create the best all-round garden possible with a four-session course taught by the super gardening folks from Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply.

It runs on four Saturdays, March 13, 20, 27 and April 10, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$100.

For more information and to register for any of these Community Education courses, phone 250-537-0037 or email [info@ssccommunityed.org](mailto:info@ssccommunityed.org).

## PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

## FILM FEST PREVIEW

## Stories explore gay, lesbian challenges in Middle East

Borders film one of the picks at weekend festival

BY DAN DICKMEYER  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

I expected the movie *City of Borders* to be a dry documentary about the problems that building a wall in Jerusalem to separate Israelis from Palestinians would bring to gays and lesbians whose sexuality perhaps supercedes religious and cultural differences.

As if that was some minor problem barely worthy of notice.

But the film was much more far-reaching and delved into the "borders" that face gays and lesbians — and straight folk — that go beyond the current political strife in the Mid-east. By looking at the lives of several couples in depth, other separations are explored, including family values versus gay identity, orthodox versus non-orthodox and masculine versus feminine roles in relationships. These are all borders familiar to gays and lesbians throughout the world even when not complicated by physical walls.

The film opens with young people out for a good time scaling walls to cross from the Palestinian side of Jerusalem to the Israeli side, where a famous gay



Scene from *City of Borders*.

bar, Shushan, awaits them. Here they find solace in realizing that the bond of their sexual orientation can, if just for a night, transcend centuries-old hatreds. The bar owner rejoices in the community service he is providing and later he is shown being elected as the first openly gay member of the Jerusalem City Council. For him, though, a huge border is the ostracizing he faces by the orthodox Jews in power.

Another young female professional couple faces the inevitable confrontation with family, who would prefer their daughter marry an Arab rather than be gay. Weathering that storm, the couple later must reckon with the fact that they

disagree on whether to become parents.

The first full-length film directed by Yun-Suh, an American of South Korean descent, *City of Borders* at times lacks for a sense of unity or a thread to follow, but this engaging and later he is shown being elected as the first openly gay member of the Jerusalem City Council. For him, though, a huge border is the ostracizing he faces by the orthodox Jews in power.

Boody, perhaps the most visible protagonist in the film, is a young Muslim Palestinian, who risks his life creeping under razor wire to become the first drag queen of Palestine. Faced with persecution and oppression, he eventually immigrates to the Mid-west of America. Free of cultural and religious

borders, he and his new boyfriend are last seen trying to negotiate the border of who is butch and fem in their relationship.

By observing in detail the lives of these patrons of Shushan, this relevant and inspiring documentary highlights the bond forged when people from warring worlds embrace what they share in common rather than be divided by their differences.

The film is suitable for all mature audiences and will be shown at the Salt Spring Film Festival at Gulf Islands Secondary on Saturday at 12:15 p.m.

A discussion of the film will follow and be led by Robert Birch, notable Salt Spring artist/educator and group

facilitator who has also lived in Israel. Issues of the links between our own experiences of sexuality and social privilege in Canada, contrasted with those who live in more oppressive conditions, will be the focus of the dialogue.

This particular film has been underwritten by donations from David Paine, Jack Hal-

lam and GLOSSI (Gays and Lesbians of Salt Spring Island).

Two other films of interest to the gay and lesbian community, but with broad appeal, will also be shown. Ferron: *Girl on a Road* examines the life and works of one of Canada's most influential songwriters, who is well known to Salt Spring audiences. The

film takes viewers on a heart-warming journey with Ferron as she performs and tours with her band. Ferron shows at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

At 3:45 p.m. Saturday, *Fatherhood Dreams* is the story of four gay men who want to be dads and the challenges they face — both legal and socially — in fulfilling their dreams.



University of Victoria  
Continuing Studies

### University of Victoria on Salt Spring Island

*For the love of learning—no exams, no prerequisites!*

The Division of Continuing Studies at the University of Victoria is offering the following non-credit courses on Salt Spring Island this spring. All courses are taught by Chris Mundigler, ACA, BA.

#### Palaeoclimatology I – What's Old is New Again

Take a look at ancient climate systems, the state of climate change and the causes of that change over millions of years.

**Saturday, March 13:** 10 am to noon

Fee: \$23 plus \$1.15 GST

Course Code: ASSI329 2010S E01

#### Palaeoclimatology II: Survival of the Fittest

The evolution of human societies includes an increasing vulnerability to environmental and climate change on our planet.

**Saturday, March 13:** 12:30 to 2:30 pm

Fee: \$23 plus \$1.15 GST

Course Code: ASSI330 2010S E01

#### History of Religion: An Anthropological Perspective

Anthropology and religion go hand-in-hand—we'll investigate human societies' need to explain the world around us and within us through some sort of belief system.

**Saturdays, March 20 to April 24:**

10 am to noon, 6 sessions

Fee: \$125 plus \$6.25 GST

Course Code: ASSI328 2010S E01

#### Science and Technology in the Middle Ages

This course will highlight how science and technology of the ancient Western world was preserved and saved from the European "Dark Ages" by a flourishing Arab culture.

**Saturdays, March 20 to April 24:**

12:30 to 2:30 pm, 6 sessions

Fee: \$125 plus \$6.25 GST

Course Code: ASSI331 2010S E01

To receive a brochure or to register, contact  
Preston Randall: [prandall@uvic.ca](mailto:prandall@uvic.ca) or 250-721-7797

## FILM FEST PREVIEW

## Inside Hana's Suitcase film reveals Holocaust to youth in movie format

Review of Feb. 26-28  
Salt Spring Film Festival  
offering

BY DEBORAH NOSTDAL  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

How do you tell school-aged children about the Holocaust? How can you help students understand what happened in Nazi Germany?

When Fumiko Ishioka took the job of director of the Tokyo Holocaust Education Resource Centre in Tokyo, Japan, this was the task she was facing.

The centre was started by an anonymous Japanese donor who wanted to contribute to global tolerance and understanding. He felt it was important for children in Japan to learn about the Holocaust.

How Ms. Ishioka meets this challenge is the subject of the documentary film called *Inside Hana's Suitcase*, directed by Larry Weinstein.

The film tells a many-layered story which begins in Tokyo during the winter of 2000 and alternates in time and space to include Nove Mesto, Czechoslovakia from the 1930s on, to Terezin, Czechoslovakia (named Theresienstadt by the Nazis); Auschwitz, Germany; Prague

and Toronto.

When Fumiko's education centre receives items from the Holocaust centre in Auschwitz, she decides that Hana's suitcase, an actual artifact of a young girl's life, would be the perfect medium through which she could tell the story of the Holocaust in a way which children could connect.

Her interest in the suitcase leads her to explore the person. Fumiko decided she wanted to emphasize life, not death, and in order to do so, she wanted to see Hana's face, to find a picture.

This begins her tenacious quest which leads her around the world and eventually to Hana's brother, George, who survived the Holocaust and lives in Toronto.

As well as skipping between time periods and locations, the film effectively uses a variety of media to tell the story. Photos, historical clips, and even some of Hana's drawings from Theresienstadt complement the documentary footage.

Music, including the delightful song called *Stonozka* add period detail and help connect the viewer to Hana's world. I did not find the occasional special effects to work very well.

While I usually prefer books to film, in this case I found the film a more complete story, largely

because of the interviews with Hana's brother, George Brady.

Brady and his sister, both Waisenkind (orphans), were very close. Hana's death was a profound loss for her older brother. Brady eventually moved to Canada and now enjoys a large extended family.

So, how do we fathom the unfathomable and how do we help children understand? As George Brady so succinctly stated, "Nobody will ever understand and I don't even try to. I wouldn't expect people to understand, but I feel it's my obligation to tell people what will happen when people hate each other."

The anonymous donor, Fumiko Ishioka and George Brady have managed, with help from many others, to help us learn tolerance and to embrace humanity.

The exhibition, called *The Holocaust as Seen Through Children's Eyes*, has extensively toured Japan and the film and book have reached audiences around the world.

*The writer is a Salt Spring Island teacher, currently dividing her time between four island schools, working as a teacher-librarian and as a classroom teacher.*

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Special Committee to Appoint an Information and Privacy Commissioner  
Stephanie Cadieux, MLA Chair Leonard Krog, MLA Deputy Chair

## Information and Privacy Commissioner

An all-party Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly has been asked to select and recommend the appointment of an Information and Privacy Commissioner for the Province of British Columbia. The Committee invites qualified candidates to submit their resumes for consideration.

British Columbia's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (RSBC 1996 c. 165) provides the public with the right of access to the records of government and other public bodies, and establishes an individual's right to the protection of personal information.

The Commissioner investigates and attempts to resolve complaints regarding compliance with the *Act*. These duties are carried out through the management of a group of professional and support staff.

The Information and Privacy Commissioner is designated as the Registrar under the *Lobbyist Registration Act* ("LRA"). The functions of the Registrar include registering lobbyists, conducting administrative investigations into LRA compliance, and promoting awareness of registration requirements.

A statutory officer of the Legislative Assembly, the Information and Privacy Commissioner must uphold the values of access to information and privacy, with the proper balance, when necessary, between the public's right to information and an individual's right to confidentiality. The Commissioner should possess a thorough understanding of relevant legal principles, and of the separate values of openness and privacy, as well as experience in mediation, senior level decision-making and administration.

The Information and Privacy Commissioner is appointed for a six year term and may be renewed.

Resumes should be received by email at the address below no later than **Friday, March 12, 2010**. Only those who are invited for an interview will be contacted. Resumes received will be held in confidence.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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*\*Prime 2.25% at time of publication. Qualification criteria applies.*

## PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

### SPECIES AT RISK

# Barn owls need warmth, rodents

SSI Conservancy seeks barns to house owl boxes

**BY LAURA MATTHIAS**  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

When most everything else is sleeping or away on winter holiday migrations, many of our lovely owl inhabitants begin their breeding season in the dark, long nights of winter. When much of a biologist's field season is at rest, the time for owling arrives.

There is something wonderful about going out at dusk, listening for owl calls into the night on a crispy late winter evening.

Why are we looking for owls? In David Suzuki's recent book (*The Big Picture*, 2009), he describes how recent global assessments of bird species show that one in eight species (over 1,200 species of birds!) are facing extinction, and one third are at risk. Owls are faring no differently, as we have several declining species on Salt Spring Island, including the western population of the barn owl, the Western screech owl (*kennicottii* subspecies), and the Northern pygmy owl (*swarthii* subspecies).



Barn owls need a warm place to sleep and lots of rodents to eat.

The Salt Spring Island Conservancy is working in collaboration with Bird Studies Canada to continue to monitor owls on survey routes around Salt Spring Island. This helps us to collect long-term information about the different owl species on our island, and to see population trends over the years.

With over 45 provincially and federally listed species at risk on the island, the stewardship program run by the conservancy works with a number of rare species. One such species is the barn owl (*Tyto alba*).

This species is relatively cosmopolitan, being found on every continent except Antarctica. However, the barn owl has experienced declines in western North America in recent years. In Canada, the western population is only found in southern B.C. in the Fraser Valley, on Vancouver Island and some of the Gulf Islands. The owls

are at the northern limit of their range, as they prefer warmer climates in general. They often nest in barns or other human-made structures in agricultural areas where they can find their predominant prey, rodents. They are a short-lived species, averaging only two years of age in the wild, though some have been recorded to live much longer than that.

Barn owls face several threats to their survival. Habitat loss is one of the biggest, as agricultural lands are being intensified to monoculture crops in many areas, or are being lost altogether due to urbanization and development. Barn owls require open fields, pastures and wet meadows to hunt rodents. Finding undisturbed areas for hunting can be a challenge for barn owls, while intensified or developed agriculture lands can impact rodent populations as well.

Barn owls are very susceptible to cold weather as they do not store extra fat for the winter and have very

few feathers on their legs. Harsh winters with heavy snowfall, such as we witnessed last year, can severely impact barn owl populations, with snow cover increasing the difficulty of hunting prey. Chemicals from rodenticides and predation by larger owls may also pose threats to barn owls.

How can we help? The Salt Spring Island Conservancy has installed barn owl boxes in a number of barns on the island in hopes of providing additional nesting sites for these owls.

If you have a barn on the island and are interested in monitoring and having an owl box installed in your barn, please contact the Salt Spring Island Conservancy at [info@saltspringconservancy.ca](mailto:info@saltspringconservancy.ca) or 250-538-0318. We are also interested in any sightings or nesting locations of barn owls on Salt Spring Island.

If you would like to read about the owl species on the island and hear their recorded calls, visit our website at [www.saltspringconservancy.ca](http://www.saltspringconservancy.ca).

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## Red-mittened hands wave wildly at Olympics bridge in the spring

Balminess gives exuberance to blooming hands

### BRIDGETRICKS

**BY JILL EVANS**  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

*Spring is sprung.  
The daffs are riz.  
I wonder where  
The winter is.*

In the rest of the world, it seems, and not bothering the five full tables of duplicate players on a relatively balmy Feb. 8 here.

Zelly Taylor and Ian Thomas were in full bloom first, with Gisela Welsh and Blanche Poborsa blossoming second.

Poking up third were Patricia Hewett and Bob Morrisette, while Isabelle Richardson and Jean Elder emerged fourth.

The remainder may have hung their heads like snowdrops, some regretting barmy mistakes.

Forty-five years ago on Feb. 15, the maple leaf rose as a flag for the first

time, even over Canadian boats in Barbados (we were there).

It also rose on Feb. 15 this year at the Olympics, to celebrate the Canadian gold medal winner of men's moguls, who flew faster over the bumps and soared higher in the fancy jumps than anyone else in the world. Navigating the bumps of bridge hands and soaring highest with the fanciest twists over five full tables were Prem Margolese and Paul Retallack that day, with Isabelle Richardson and Jean Elder just a little less exuberant. Flo and George Laundry were almost as adept in third place, followed closely by Ruth Hopping and Cathy MacDonald in fourth. Did the rest wave red-mittened hands and cheer?

If you'd like to have a game and need info, just call George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or email [pastorale@shaw.ca](mailto:pastorale@shaw.ca).

# PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

## CULTURE

# Letter from Geoje, South Korea

A comparison of two islands

BY RICHARD ADDISON  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

We've returned to Geoje Island in South Korea where I will work for a few months at a marine science laboratory in Jangmok in which I spent a year in 2004.

Geoje lies off the south-eastern tip of Korea and is about three hours by car or ferry from the country's second largest city, Busan.

The island covers about 400 km<sup>2</sup> (about twice the area of Salt Spring) and has a very convoluted coastline with many small harbours and beaches.

Mountains covered with mixed hardwoods and softwoods rise to about 600 metres and enclose narrow valleys which are farmed intensively.

Some of the southern part of Geoje is now designated as a national park, along with an archipelago of small islands lying to its west. Temperatures range from about zero (C) in mid-winter (though we are experiencing an unusually cold snap just now) to about 30-35 in mid-summer. Until about 30 years ago, the island was regarded by most Koreans as a remote, isolated and slightly quaint part of the country.

There the similarities to Salt Spring end. During the mid-1970s, two of Korea's largest companies built shipyards on Geoje and these have now grown to be among the largest in the world.

Together, the two shipyards launch about three hulls per week, a "hull" being anything from an LNG tanker to an offshore oil-drilling rig.

Geoje now has a population of over 200,000 (so it has about 10 times the population density of Salt Spring), most of which is concentrated in the towns of Okpo and Geohyun.

There are two permanent bridges to the mainland, and a third, direct to Busan, will open in 2011, and there are at least three high-speed passenger ferries to Busan and several car ferries to other mainland towns. We're seeing Salt Spring as it might be 200 years from now.

Perhaps surprisingly, it's not all bad. The economic development has been patchy, and while the shipyards themselves are clean, modern, spacious and efficient, the small locally run support or service businesses that have sprung up around them are much less slick.

The huge growth in

employment and the demand for accommodation have led to construction of large, anonymous apartment blocks, often jerry-built, and situated without any obvious planning for either aesthetics or convenience.

**I thought to myself, "Uh-oh, here's trouble; I haven't been here long enough to get my alien resident card, and I don't have my passport with me ... how will I get out of this?"**

Fortunately, most of the eyesores are concentrated in Okpo and Geohyun, and a 15 minutes' drive out of the towns takes you to rural Korea.

There, life is much the same as it was a century ago, but with some modern incongruities. The famers still manage their small paddies, some not much larger than our living room, much as their forefathers did; once, I saw an ox-drawn plough being used, though "hand-tractors" of the sort you see throughout China are commoner.

They plant rice by hand, standing barefoot and ankle deep in muddy water, but chatting away on their cellphones.

There are still "hunter-gatherers" in Geoje, mostly elderly women who collect shellfish from the rocky beaches to sell in the street markets in Okpo. They, too, chat to each other by cellphone, no doubt exchanging information about the good hunting grounds and recording it on their GPSes.

The hills and forests are interlaced with a network of hiking trails that must cover several hundred km (the Trail and Nature Club would love this place). After you've paid your entry fee by climbing the first 600m, the views can be spectacular, especially during the fall and spring when the leaves are off the trees.

Koreans love hiking, and particularly dressing up for hiking (and other activities) in the

latest high-tech and most colourful gear. So, on the trail you meet Koreans dressed and equipped as if for an assault on K2, although they are just taking an afternoon stroll up the equivalent of Mt. Maxwell.

At each trail intersection there is a sign giving its exact position (lat. and long. to fractions of a second) for comparison with your GPS. Unfortunately, it's very difficult to find an actual map, so although you always know exactly where you are, you're less sure how you got there, or how you'll get home.

The Koreans themselves are very pleasant.

We have only to stand looking confused (not difficult for us) at a street corner in Okpo for someone to come out of his shop to offer help. Once, a taxi driver picked us up at a bus-stop and insisted on giving us a free ride to our destination.

Another time I was brought home by the police.

This is usually not something you write home about, but I was completely innocent. I was standing by the Jangmok bus stop when a police car drew up and a policeman got out. I thought to myself, "Uh-oh, here's trouble; I haven't been here long enough to get my alien resident card, and I don't have my passport with me ... how will I get out of this?"

The policeman asked me in rather fractured English who I was and what I was doing, and I said that I was a visiting scientist — a harmless drudge — at that institute over there, and that I was waiting innocently for the bus to Okpo.

"Okpo?" he said, "but we are going to Okpo, we will take you there." So they drove me to Okpo, and we told each other, they in English and I in Korean, how pleasant it was to live in Geoje.

They dropped me at the front door of our apartment, with red and blue lights flashing, to the great joy of the kids playing there. We parted swearing eternal friendship, but I never saw them again.

Most Koreans still don't speak English well, so it is a bit of a surprise when you meet one who does.

Once, I was waiting for my bus when a dreadful old banger of a pick-up truck stopped noisily beside me, and the driver got out dressed in paint-spattered overalls and muddy Wellingtons (for some reason, "653" flashed through my mind).

I was wondering how

to explain myself to him when he amazed me by speaking flawless English with a cultured BBC accent: "Please forgive me for intruding," he said, "but we see so few foreigners out here that I wondered if you were in some difficulty, and if so is there any way I could possibly be of assistance?"

I managed to stammer out that I was OK and just waiting for the bus, so he bowed, thanked me courteously for the opportunity to brush up on his English, climbed back into his rust-bucket and chuntered off.

I was too flabbergasted to ask him who he was, and where he had learned his English (which certainly

needed no brushing-up).

He would probably have turned out to have been a professor of English recently retired from Oxford, or something — just like you'd meet in 653 country.

So our first couple of weeks back here have re-introduced us to the pleasant oddities of living in Korea's version of Salt Spring. Next time, I'll have some observations on banking and on "comfort stations" — and why they are connected.

*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 first in a series of letters home.*

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