



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, March 16, 2011 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 51ST YEAR — ISSUE 11 \$1.25 (incl. HST)

DISASTER

Community monitors ongoing tragedies in Japan

Candlelight vigil set for Friday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island joins the world this week in watching the terrible events taking place in Japan ever since the 9.0 earthquake hit last Friday.

The numbers alone are staggering: the world's fifth strongest recorded earthquake shifted the entire island of Honshu some 2.5 metres (8.2 feet) and has caused more than 3,300 confirmed deaths so far.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that 10,000 people are unaccounted for, while a further 11,000 have been stranded by flooding after the subsequent tsunami. Essential services, including electricity, gas and communications, have yet to be restored for hundreds of thousands of households. As of Tuesday, 1.4 million households were without water.

Japan was hit by a new 6.1 magnitude earthquake southwest of Tokyo Tuesday morning, in addition to scores of high-magnitude aftershocks from the initial quake.

Shinobu Murata, a member of Salt Spring's Japanese community and co-owner of the Raven Street Cafe, said people are staying outwardly calm but are very worried on the inside.

"It's not something to talk about a lot. It's a serious matter," she explained.

Murata was fortunate to have no friends or relations living in the areas most affected, although she said even the areas of coastline away from the epicentre received considerable damage from the tsunami. Two of the three work-study students she has employed at the cafe have homes nearby, but their immediate families also escaped from harm.

JAPAN continued on 2



GRAD HELP: Jerry Mott and James Black help promote fundraising for dry grad at the B.C. Liquor Store in Grace Point Square. Locally collected funds benefit the Gulf Islands Secondary School's dry after-grad party. Grad takes place this year on June 11.

WATER

Residents advised to 'bite the bullet'

Highland/Fernwood residents head to ballot box

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Outstanding questions as to who is at fault and how costs will be allocated shouldn't cloud the urgent need to complete a long-overdue water treatment plant for the Fernwood and Highland water service districts, says a Highland board member.

"My criteria, my interest and my push is to get potable water," said Ann Heeley-Ray, one of three Highland water district members.

"We have to bite the bullet," Heeley-Ray said on Tuesday, four days before residents of the districts' 332 properties vote in a March 19 referendum that could give the Capital Regional District authority to borrow up to \$500,000 to complete a new treatment facility on Maycock Road.

Heeley-Ray reminded voters that a yes vote in Saturday's referendum is essential if the district wishes to take advantage of a \$950,000 provincial infrastructure grant and have the new treatment facility up and running by 2012.

"We are up against a deadline here," she said.

Heeley-Ray said brochures with answers to questions raised at a March 7 public meeting were distributed to residents on Monday afternoon.

The brochure reiterates

WATER continued on 5

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INDEX

Arts.....	13
Classifieds.....	21
Editorial.....	A8
Island Wheels.....	25

Letters.....	A9
Sports.....	20
What's On.....	12

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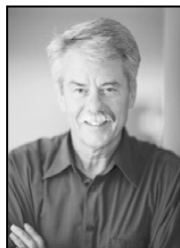
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NEWSBEAT

ISLANDS TRUST

Trust property taxes rise 1% for 2011

Expenditures up 6.2 per cent to \$6.85 million

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Islands Trust's 2011-2012 budget has been set at \$6.85 million dollars, resulting in a one per cent property tax increase to property owners.

The increase is considerably lower than the anticipated 4.4 per cent hike floated in the lead-up to last week's meeting and the 2.2 per cent rate announced Feb. 17.

Craig Elder, the Islands Trust's director of administrative services, said trustees were able to limit property tax increases by dipping into unused surplus funds carried over from last year's budget.

"In essence, we are using tax that was collected but not used in 2010/11 to reduce taxes in 2011/12," he said. "Our surplus will remain at an acceptable level."

The budget projects a surplus of roughly \$1.4 million by the end of March 2012.

While trustees minimized an increase to residents' property taxes, the Trust's overall 2011/2012 operating budget rose 6.2 per cent; that's \$401,101 higher than last year's total.

The figure represents the largest yearly increase since the Trust's 2008/2009 budget.

Approximately \$102,000 will be spent on local government elections in November. Expanded office space in Victoria and on Gabriola Island will cost an additional \$35,000.

A further \$46,000 will be spent to establish a regular grants administrator position. Forty thousand has been allocated to a website redesign and an

additional \$24,000 will pay for a "contract bylaw enforcement officer."

The Trust overall budget received unanimous support from trustees.

The Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce was among the formal delegations addressing the budget issue before trustees held a debate, revised the numbers downward slightly and voted.

"In essence we are using tax that was collected but not used in 2010/11 to reduce taxes in 2011/12."

CRAIG ELDER
Trust dir. of administrative services

"In times like these we look to government agencies to demonstrate leadership and fiscal restraint. We would hope to see the same kind of belt tightening in which the community must engage to survive. It is disappointing, therefore, to be presented with a budget proposal that anticipates a 6.9 per cent increase in spending over that of the current year. We recognize that the Trust initially discussed a tax increase of 4.4 per cent . . . but regardless of whether the revenue comes from current taxes, surplus, or other sources, the actual projected expenditures remain unchanged . . ."

Trustees voted 23-3 to increase remuneration provided to the Trust's 26 elected trustees. Trustees Deborah Ferens (Gabriola), Jeanine Dodds (Mayne) and

Colin Shew (Mayne) voted against the remuneration proposal.

Come December, annual remuneration for Salt Spring trustees will increase to \$28,294 from \$12,984. The chair of the Trust's executive committee will receive \$38,904, compared with the current \$34,461, while vice chairs' remuneration will rise from \$27,569 to \$31,123.

Remuneration for trustees in the 12 unincorporated local Trust areas varies from between \$8,486 and \$28,294. Municipal trustees on Bowen Island will receive \$3,200 per year.

New remuneration rates will cost the Trust \$57,000 in the current budget year.

"We heard from an unprecedented number of constituents on both sides of the trustee remuneration topic, both in writing and informally in our communities," said Sheila Malcolmson, chair of Trust Council, in a statement that accompanied the budget announcement. "Trustees and constituents agree it's important for trustees to come from many walks of life. Trust Council had a good debate about the trustee remuneration package, and in the end approved it at a reduced level.

"While this increase doesn't benefit the current trustees, we hope it will lead to more candidates in the elections this November."

The 2011-12 budget means Trust-area property owners will pay 64 cents more per \$100,000 of assessed property value to the Trust. That's roughly \$2.87 more than last year on a property assessed at \$450,000.

Islands Trust taxes account for approximately 10 to 20 per cent of total property taxes, depending upon other jurisdictions listed on a given island's tax bill.

Japanese response to 'accept and move on'

JAPAN
continued from 1

Aki Kikuchi, another island resident, comes from a small village close to the town of Soma in Fukushima. His mother, the sole resident of the property, was visiting in Tokyo when the earthquake hit. When she returned home with much difficulty, she found her home was basically undamaged except for the contents, but an older house on the property where Kikuchi grew up was destroyed.

Kikuchi said that area residents are very used to earthquakes, which happen frequently. The serious damage came from the tsunami,

which ripped up the coastline for kilometres inland and came too fast for most people to avoid.

"Usually there is one hour before the tsunami happens — here only 10 minutes," Kikuchi said. "Ten minutes is quite a short time, you know."

OCHA reports that Japan has deployed 100,000 troops, 9,500 firefighters and 920 police for emergency response operations. The Japanese Red Cross has 95 teams on the ground and 550,000 people are living in shelters.

Murata said she is proud of the Japanese culture for its calm response: "No panic,

no criminal actions, just helping each other recover."

"Japanese know we cannot go against nature. It is big thing. We just accept and move on."

Overriding the rescue efforts in the news media is the heroic fight to keep reactors at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant, damaged by the earthquake and tsunami, from reaching total meltdown.

David Sasaki, a Salt Spring resident who retired from his career as an engineer in Japan's nuclear industry 20 years ago, said he was worried about overheated fuel rods in the plant burning through

the bottom of the containment pit.

"It's so fragile—I have no idea how to control that, how to clean it up," he said.

"It's very hot and very critical. It's beyond people's imagination."

Kikuchi said that with the current lack of internet and other communications and the small amount of information being released by the Japanese government, he's worried that people like his mother don't have a good sense of how dangerous the situation actually is.

Sasaki is similarly worried about his daughter, who is working for an American firm in Tokyo, even though she is further away from the plant.

"It's out of control right now," he said on Monday. "It's just a terrible thing."

Rumiko Kanesaka said islanders who are wondering how to help can attend a candlelight vigil planned for Friday, March 18 at the Peace Park. The event

will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. with a moment of silence planned for 6 p.m.

The organizers are inviting musicians to play acoustic, spiritual music. There will be a donation box on hand to collect money for the Japanese Red Cross.

"We still don't know how, but we would like some of the money to also go directly to the affected areas," Kanesaka added.

Murata suggested another way islanders can help is to stay informed about the current events and to learn more about Japan in general. She also said the disaster makes clear the need to prepare better for similar situations on our own island.

The Japanese community group will be planning further fundraising events. For more information or to offer help, email 2011japan-relief@gmail.com.

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	20:11	0.8	2.6		22:28	1.4	4.6
17	03:45	3.2	10.5	20	04:57	3.3	10.8
TH	09:17	2.2	7.2	SU	11:16	1.1	3.6
	14:16	2.8	9.2		17:55	3.0	9.8
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18	04:09	3.2	10.5	21	05:23	3.4	11.2
FR	09:53	1.8	5.9	MO	12:01	0.8	2.6
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Newsbeat

Heads up!

Candlelight Vigil for Japan

Friday, MARCH 18

Peace Park, 4 to 7 p.m.

HOUSING

Brinkworthy residents warm to bare-land strata plan

Tristar Communities eases tenants' eviction fears

BY SEAN MCINTYRE

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

After years of fear that an application to convert the Brinkworthy manufactured home park into a bare-land strata would jeopardize one of the few affordable housing options for island seniors, a new poll of the community's residents indicates wide-scale support for the idea.

"There is no more fear," said Brinkworthy resident Ken Lee on Monday.

Lee said the change marks a big contrast to the confusion about the proposal when it surfaced at a local Trust committee meeting in October 2010.

Following that meeting, the Brinkworthy Park Committee launched a public education campaign and referendum to gauge the level of support among park residents for the bare-land strata conversion.

Once people were given the facts, said committee chair Rod Bailey, they began to see that strata conversion wouldn't entail being priced out of the market and having to leave the park.

Brinkworthy residents own their homes but pay rent to use the lot underneath. Conversion to a bare-land strata would give property owners the option to buy their lots and continue to have access to communal amenities such as water, sewer, garbage collection services and common areas.

Results of the Nov. 24 referendum revealed that 77 per cent of the 120 voters approved the change.

"These results indicate that a large majority of residents are in favour of converting the park to a bare-land strata," Bailey wrote in a December letter to the Salt Spring LTC.

It's been more than three months since Bailey sent that letter and he's still waiting for a planner to get assigned to the file.

According to Raymond Heung, director of Tristar Communities Ltd., the bare-land strata is a "win-win-win" for residents, the company and the island's local government.

Residents get long-term security, he gets long-term revenue from the sale of lots in the park and the local government gets to make a decision that solidifies the island's affordable housing supply.

"This conversion will help address one of the most significant problems the Salt Spring community faces, the creation of affordable housing," Heung said.

Tristar Communities seeks to amend the park's R3 zoning to permit a bare-land strata subdivision for a manufactured home park.

Heung said the move is intended to prevent any "potential future redevelopment of the property into something other than a manufactured home community" as has happened in other B.C. communities in the past decade.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Some of the residences in Brinkworthy, where a bare-land strata is being considered.

"Residents who buy their strata lots will have the security of true 'freehold' ownership of their homes," Heung notes. "For residents who do not purchase their strata lots, nothing will change except that they will no longer be subject to eviction because the owner of the strata lot . . . decides to redevelop the property."

Tristar Communities has assured residents their tenancy will not be affected if they choose not to or are unable to purchase their property if the proposal goes through.

"The Brinkworthy restrictive covenant will protect not only existing residents, but also any future residents who may buy a home from a resident but not the strata lot on which the home is located," Heung states in a comprehensive information package that outlines his proposal.

Al Kemp, CEO of the Rental Owners and Managers Society of B.C., works closely with the province's Manufactured Home Park Owners Alliance to protect the rights of people living in communities like Brinkworthy throughout British Columbia.

Kemp said the idea proposed by Heung and Tristar Com-

munities is unlike any he's seen.

"I don't know of anywhere bare-land strata has proceeded with a covenant," he said.

Kemp confirmed that such a scenario would indeed protect residents' tenancy in the event they choose not to buy into the strata.

Whereas the owners of many manufactured home parks in the Lower Mainland and southern Vancouver Island have evicted tenants to make way for more lucrative residential developments, Kemp said, the bare-land strata conversion process represents a middle-of-the-road approach.

"It hasn't happened a lot but it offers a way for property owners to generate cash without people having to leave the park," he said. "It's an in-between approach."

Now that Heung and Bailey appear to have won the public relations campaign on the streets of Brinkworthy, they say the next challenge is getting the application to proceed at the Trust level.

The Islands Trust has agreed to use a contract planner in an effort to speed up the project.

News briefs

World Water Day

The Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee is concerned about island watersheds and has arranged a World Water Day potluck dinner and discussion evening to put the problem in the spotlight.

While the committee has particular knowledge of Cusheon Lake, and spearheaded a management plan for the lake that was completed four years ago, the discussion will also involve

the St. Mary Lake, Weston Lake watersheds and ground watersheds.

The Tuesday, March 22 event is at All Saints By-the-Sea beginning with dinner at 6 p.m. It will be followed by a short PowerPoint presentation to spark the discussion, then dialogue and the airing of participants' concerns. Stewardship committee members will also try to answer people's questions.

People should RSVP to waterprotection@telus.net by Monday.

Donations would be

appreciated to cover the cost of the hall rental.

New fire trustees

The Salt Spring Fire Protection District board will look a little different after the April 18 AGM when two new fire trustees are acclaimed.

Doug Mitchell and Mark Lucich will replace outgoing trustees Mary Gillies and Jay MacAulay. The nomination period for the two vacant positions closed on Friday.

Other board members are chair Michael Schubart,

Grant Eckberg, Bruce Patterson, Ron Chamney and Richard Hannah.

The next fire board meeting is on Monday, March 21.

Creek House bones are human

An archeological find uncovered at the Creek House Phase III building site has been confirmed as ancient human remains.

Jonathan Yardley, the building project's architect,

said archeologist Jessica Ruskin discovered a partial skeleton laying on its side last week, which included parts of the pelvis and a leg and ankle. The burial was found on the bedrock and covered by around 12 inches of midden. There was no part of the upper body and nothing to determine whether the skeleton was male or female.

Ruskin was accompanied by Simon Smith Jr., a member of the Tsawout First Nation, at the time of the discovery last Monday. She said on site that day the

bones could be anywhere from 150 to 4,000 years old.

Yardley said he would be meeting with representatives from the Tsawout First Nation to discuss how they want to proceed with reburial. A usual practice would be to rebury the skeleton on the site, wrapped in a blanket.

"But it's up to the [Tsawout] bands to decide what they want to do and how they want to do it," Yardley said, adding he did not know whether there would be a ceremony or what the timing might be.

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NEWSBEAT

DEVELOPMENT

Farm groups eye fruits of Slegg rezoning

'Win-win' application to benefit agriculture and economy

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Representatives from Salt Spring's agricultural community lauded a local business owner's rezoning proposal during the latest in a series of ongoing public information sessions about plans for a Beddis Road site on Thursday afternoon.

"This is a win-win for everybody in the community," said Tony Threlfall, vice president of the Farmers Institute and a director of the Salt Spring Agricultural Alliance.

The applicant, Beddis Development, seeks to rezone 8.75 acres of agricultural land to construct a newer and larger Slegg Lumber building that would replace the company's current store at 804 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

Mark Rithaler, manager of the local Slegg store, said higher demand for building supplies and services encouraged him to bring forward the proposal in 2005.

He said expansion and relocation to the new site at 201 Beddis Rd. will provide stability for the company's 27 full-time employees, safer customer and staff

access, and a wider range of services.

"This is a huge coup for the community," he said during Thursday's meeting.

Part of the property is now being used as a storage and distribution centre for the Fulford-Ganges Road store. Plans for the property include construction of a nearly 30,000-square-foot building supply centre accessed from Beddis Road.

Rithaler said his company has offered a 3.5-acre portion of the property to the Agricultural Alliance in order to meet conditions associated with the removal of land from the province's Agricultural Land Reserve.

A separate structure proposed for the site could host a food handling and storage facility, commercial kitchen, commercial refrigeration, produce drying and juicing equipment and an apple press, according to information provided by Anne Macey, an Agricultural Alliance director.

"We are trying to provide infrastructure for small farms," Macey said.

The creation of a food storage/processing facility was among several core recommendations outlined in the 2008 Area Farm Plan. Other proposals from that plan are construction of a mobile abattoir and composting facility. Macey stressed that neither of these latter projects are planned for the Beddis Road property.

"This is a huge coup for the community."

MARK RITHALER
Manager, Slegg Lumber (Salt Spring)

The precise use of the site, she said, will be determined when results of a farm survey are compiled within the next several weeks.

Aside from ALR-exclusion, the application requires rezoning, an OCP amendment and a development permit. The rezoning process will require the Islands Trust to hold a public hearing on the matter.

Rithaler didn't fathom a guess on how long the extensive application process could take.

The Beddis Development application rezoning application is now being circulated among relevant government and non-government groups for comment.

The contract planner responsible for the application could not provide an anticipated timeline for the project's completion. More public information meetings will be held as work on the application progresses.

DISASTER

Radiation not a threat in B.C., health officials say

Iodine tablets not recommended here

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

British Columbia's provincial health officer Dr. Perry Kendall is asking residents not to stockpile iodide tablets in fear of radiation fallout from Japan.

Kendall and several health and science experts agree that there is little risk that radiation will affect people of the west coast of B.C. even if a larger meltdown occurs at the Fukushima power plant.

In a statement issued Tuesday morning, Kendall said, "Modelling of possible scenarios suggest that any release into the atmosphere of nuclear particles would take five to six days to reach British Columbia, by which time it would be so dispersed

as to be not considered a health risk."

The assessment was made using wind flow modelling through Health Canada, a provincial health office staff member said.

Michael Brauer, a professor in the School of Environmental Health at the University of B.C., agreed that in the time it would take to reach our coast, any radiation would have greatly dispersed.

Brauer wrote in an email to the Driftwood: "From what we know now, the risk for B.C. is very low. First, any radiation that was released into the air will take about five days to reach North America and by that time much of the radiation will have dispersed and the radioactivity of one form (iodine-131) will have decayed substantially.

"Although it is hard to forecast this far in advance, there

is a low likelihood that the air masses from Japan will pass over populated areas of B.C."

Brauer explained that of the two forms of radiation that could be of concern, iodine 131 loses 50 per cent of its radioactivity in eight days. It is of immediate concern to people living in Japan, particularly within the 30-km zone around the reactor.

Health officials say that potassium iodide tablets can help prevent iodine-131 from accumulating in the thyroid gland, but is only helpful for people in that close vicinity. For people living here, it can actually be harmful if taken improperly or for a long period of time.

According to Brauer, "The other form of radiation that is a concern (and the one that seems to have been most damaging from Chernobyl)

is cesium-137 — that takes a much longer time for the radioactivity to decay.

"It loses 50 per cent of its radioactivity in approximately 30 years, so if large amounts are released it could deposit on soil and for example contaminate agricultural land and/or surface water supplies."

"So far there is really no indication of any measurements of elevated levels anywhere outside of Japan," Brauer concluded.



"There is monitoring capability throughout the world, including U.S. and Canadian naval vessels that are in the Pacific."

Nuclear situation reports can be found from the World Health Organization at www.wpro.who.int and from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at www.iaea.org under news.

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NEWSBEAT

WATER ADVISORY

St. Mary algal bloom bigger

Advisory still in effect

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The algal bloom responsible for a seven-week water advisory in the Highland Water Service District may be getting worse, according to a Capital Regional District spokesperson.

Stewart Irwin said the latest test results indicate that an algal bloom in the lake may be expanding and shows no signs of letting up.

In spite of the above-normal toxicity levels caused by the microcystin toxin, Irwin said, water that has passed through the Highland treatment facility meets acceptable potability levels. While the treatment facility can remove the toxins, Irwin said the water advisory will remain in place in the event that the treatment process fails.

"Even though we've not had any hits for toxins in the system, we are totally dependent on chlorine for that," he said. "There is no alarm system to alert operators if we have a chlorine failure."

He said the CRD does not have enough confidence in the treatment plant to remove the water advisory at this point.

A meeting between the Vancouver Island Health Authority and the CRD to discuss a suspension of the advisory has been suspended until further notice.

Irwin confirmed that water distributed through the Fernwood system is safe to drink.

Trevor Hutton, general manager of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, said the NSSWD has resumed accessing water from St. Mary Lake in order to relieve the strain on its Maxwell Lake supply.

The district began to supply its entire customer base with Maxwell water as a precautionary measure approximately five weeks ago.

"When we switched over the first time, our treatment plant was handling the situation," Hutton said.

Staff at the NSSWD are testing water quality at the St. Mary Lake treatment facility every two days. Should toxins start getting through, he added, it's anticipated they will be in small amounts and the district can switch back to using Maxwell Lake.

"We are still confident that our plant can handle it," he said.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

INSPECTION: Fire pump inspector John Roworth, of Safetek, was seen recently at St. Mary Lake, testing the pumps of all Salt Spring's fire trucks.

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Referendum voters urged to give nod to borrowing

WATER
continued from 1

that a yes vote will mean an additional \$44 quarterly charge on residents' property tax bills to repay the debt over 15 years.

Residents do not have the option to pay off their share of the costs in a lump sum of \$1,500 in order to save an estimated \$900 in interest payments.

According to the CRD, "allowing some service participants to opt out of the borrowing would require that they be individually excluded from the proposed new service area, which would require an excessive input of administrative effort and cost relative to the size of the proposed loan."

Further answers offered in the brochure indicate that the borrowed funds will be used to cover consulting services for new site plans, legal expenses and to negotiate a settlement with Ridgeline Mechanical, the company formerly hired to construct the plant.

Construction of the facility stalled when it was determined that plans for the treatment unit, buildings and access road didn't correspond with the Maycock Road property's lot lines.

An internal CRD investigation is underway to determine who is at fault.

Salt Spring CRD director Garth Hendren assured those at the March 7 meeting that he would strive to present a more thorough breakdown of the \$500,000, including more detailed information about legal costs, in time for the referendum.

No breakdown of these costs is provided in the brochure.

"It is difficult to nail the budget down," Hendren said in a Monday e-mail. "Until the job is described and then tendered, absolute numbers will not be available."

The omission left more than a few

residents bewildered by the CRD's handling of the affair.

"More to the point, however, is that the electors deserve to know, with some detail, what CRD staff are planning to do with the \$500,000 that is sought from them. Is this blatant disregard for taxpayer dollars, is it corruption, or incompetence?" wrote one of the district's residents in an e-mail to the Driftwood upon seeing the brochure earlier this week.

"This is unacceptable."

The brochure clarifies that a 2009 referendum resulted in the borrowing of only \$400,680 from Highland residents, well short of the \$559,000 that was available to be borrowed.

The lower-than-anticipated amount was made possible as a result of Fernwood Water Service District residents' approval to borrow up to \$221,420.

"Since the Fernwood referendum passed, the Highland authorization above \$401,000 is considered to be inaccessible," states the new CRD information.

Based on materials presented at the March 7 meeting, costs to complete the new treatment facility are expected to reach \$2,496,663.

Prior funding approved in a 2009 referendum (\$595,680), reserves (\$448,370) and provincial grants (\$957,000) will cover roughly \$2 million of the project's final cost.

Advance polls for the referendum take place today (Wednesday, March 16) between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. at the Ganges Fire Hall. General voting day is set for the Fernwood Elementary School on Saturday, March 19 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Eligible voters must have lived on or owned property in the Highland and Fernwood Water Service areas for at least 30 days.

Since Jan. 26, residents in the Highland area have been advised to not consume their water due to the treatment plant's inability to deal with a toxic blue-green algae bloom in St. Mary Lake.

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NEWSBEAT

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Salt Springers view action plan at affordable housing sessions

Urgent needs considered first

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring residents interested in the Community Affordable Housing Strategy attended two open house sessions last Monday to view findings and offer input to committee members.

The final draft of the strategy, released last month, includes 18 action plans on affordable housing that address different community needs. Finding housing for the homeless and those at risk of being homeless, increasing rental affordability and accessibility and creating possibilities for low to moderate income families to enter the housing market are all part of the strategy.

Around 25 people attended the afternoon session at Fulford Hall and 10 came out to the evening event at the Lions Hall. Of the evening participants, several echoed the report's recommendations that those in most urgent need must be considered first.

"I think they should concentrate on meeting the needs of the poorest people first because they're going to find it hard to get housing no matter where they live," one attendee said.

Another participant noted the high financial and social cost of leaving people to live on the street, and noted that mental health resources have been reduced and policing left in its place.

Her concerns are directly reflected in CAHS Action Plan #1, which notes that housing challenges for the homeless are often complicated by addictions and mental health issues. The plan calls for a year-round shelter, eventual permanent

"I think building smaller is what people are willing to accommodate, mentally and psychologically."

PARTICIPANT

Affordable housing open house

housing and second-stage housing for women and children at risk from family violence.

Other types of housing to be considered include semi-independent models such as "wagon wheel" developments, care cottages and farm-worker housing.

In order to facilitate these innovative projects, the CAHS recommends changes to Islands Trust bylaws and an update to Salt Spring's Official Community Plan. Consultant Janis Gauthier said Monday that a Salt Spring housing council will very likely be established as a CRD commission within the next few months.

Also to be expected in the next two to three months is a draft bylaw to legalize secondary suites for rental, local trustees George Ehring and Christine Torgrimson said. Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee has been gathering public input on the issue and is currently trying to iron out the essential details, such as whether to test the idea in pilot areas and if a housing agreement guaranteeing affordable rent should be implemented.

The legalization of cottages would be the next step.

Ehring said providing that water resources aren't overtaxed and climate change concerns are addressed, the social benefit of opening up legal suites is considerable.

Making it affordable to enter the housing market was also on the table, and identified as a need by several open house participants.

"A lot of young families have a lower income — just everything goes into the rent or mortgage, and there's not a lot of life after that," one person said.

"I think building smaller is what people are willing to accommodate, mentally and psychologically. It would be nice to see developers or builders making more that's minimal but nice."

A young couple that has recently moved to the island from the Kootenays said they were interested in learning how the CAHS could affect people like themselves, who face challenges entering the housing market. They were interested to hear one idea, suggested as a possibility by Torgrimson, that would allow ownership of homes without having to own the land on certain sites.

"If something like that was managed by a housing council, it would be more accessible," the young woman said.

"To have 10 of your best friends suddenly all have the money at the same time to go in on a piece of land would be kind of miraculous."

The CAHS is supported by the Salt Spring LTC, the Capital Regional District, Salt Spring Island Foundation and BC Real Estate Foundation. The CAHS final draft can be viewed at www.ssicahs.ca.

Alcohol factors in three local court sentences

Impaired cases downgraded to MVA

A Salt Spring man received a \$200 fine in Ganges Provincial Court last Wednesday after pleading guilty to causing a disturbance.

The court heard that Jon Fair, age 45, had been observed shouting and throwing rocks at the Ganges RCMP detachment on Oct. 3 of last year. Fair then moved over to Country Grocer where he was reported yelling and throwing chairs outside. Police attending found an open can of beer nearby.

COURTDOCKET

Fair admitted to being intoxicated at the time, and though he could not recall the events, agreed they must have happened. Judge Ernie Quantz handed down the fine and a one-year probation order that Fair not attend Country Grocer if he has any alcohol in his body.

Also in court last week, two criminal cases of impaired driving were downgraded to charges under the Motor Vehicle Act. Catherine Hamilton, age 31, received a fine of \$1,250 plus a victim surcharge

of \$187.50 for an incident that occurred on June 6, 2009. She pled guilty to driving without due care and attention.

Margaret Homuth, age 21, was fined \$1,000 and a victim surcharge of \$150 after pleading guilty to driving without reasonable consideration on Jan. 22, 2010. Homuth failed an approved screening device test at a roadside stop and later provided two breath samples of .200 at the police detachment.

Contributing factors in both cases were that the women are contributing members of society, employed, have no previous records and showed good behaviour after the events.

MAYNE ISLAND REFERENDUM

Mayne rejects fire hall plan

Opposition calls for 'fiscal restraint'

BY SEAN MCINTYRE

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Back in December, it seemed like the task force assigned to develop a plan for Mayne Island's proposed fire hall had little more to do than wait for an inevitable "yes" vote at a March 12 referendum.

In spite of a public relations campaign that featured open houses, frequent question-and-answer sessions and a well-tended website, Mayne voters turned out in droves on Saturday to defeat a proposal that would have secured \$3.4 million in funding for a new fire hall. The unofficial referendum results are 817 to 414, a phenomenal showing for an island with a total full-time population of only 900.

According to Bill Warning, chair of the Mayne Island Fire Hall Task Force, the community's next step will be to start from scratch and develop a new

proposal.

Warning announced that he would not lead the task force through a second round of deliberations.

He said replacement of the island's fire hall is essential given that the existing hall is not built to meet today's "post-disaster" requirements.

"We're not going to stop," Warning said. "[The "no" side] will have to follow up."

Given that land for the site has already been secured, the \$3.4 million was to be spent entirely on a new building.

The "no" campaign was headed by members of the Mayne Island Residents and Ratepayers Association. That group argued that a \$3.4-million price tag "is too expensive and puts us in heavy debt for too long."

"The [Mayne Island Improvement District] needs to heed all the taxpayers concerns and adopt an attitude of fiscal restraint in a time of economic uncertainty," reads a post on the MIRRA website.

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NEWSBEAT

AWARDS

Driftwood up for best in Canada, B.C. honours

Finalists announced in two competitions

The Gulf Islands Driftwood has been nominated for nine national and provincial community newspaper awards, including best in its circulation class at both levels.

Other top-three nominations in the Canadian Community Newspapers Association's Better Newspapers Competition are for best editorial page and

for reporter Sean McIntyre's affordable housing series called Home Out of Range.

McIntyre is a finalist in both the feature series and the outstanding reporter initiative competition.

In the Ma Murray Awards event of the B.C. and Yukon Community Newspapers Association, the Driftwood is in the running for best special section (for its 50th anniversary edition), best photo essay (for Day in the Life of Salt Spring), best special publication (2011

Gulf Islander visitor magazine) and best ad design (for Lorraine Sullivan's Saltspring Soapworks Christmas ad).

Individual newspapers submit entries for specific categories from work published in 2010. Some 250 papers participated in this year's CCNA competition and 103 in the B.C. and Yukon event.

Winners will be announced at this year's CCNA and BCYCNA awards dinners, held along with annual conferences at the River Rock Casino Resort on the April 29-30 weekend.

AGRICULTURE

Island initiatives inspire young farmers

NFU youth visit Salt Spring

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A delegation of 12 representatives from the National Farmers' Union's youth wing had plenty of praise for the state of agriculture on Salt Spring during a whirlwind tour of the island on Friday.

Given that farmland averages at least \$60,000 an acre and the average age of an island farmer is 55 years, at first glance it was difficult to see what this next generation of farmers was so excited about.

"We need to take what you guys have done and use it across the country," said a cattle rancher from southern Alberta, during Friday's presentation by the Salt Spring Agricultural Alliance's Anne

Macey at the Farmers Institute.

It's not so much the state of island agriculture that the young delegates were keen to celebrate but rather the prospect of what's to come if islanders can pull off some of the key recommendations in the 2008 Salt Spring Area Farm Plan.

The farm plan determined that creation of a mobile abattoir, produce storage facility and composting project are key to revitalization of the perennially moribund agriculture sector.

"When people ask us when it's going to happen, I tell them, it's happening now," Macey told an enthusiastic audience.

"I'm not sure what changed, but we looked at [the abattoir proposal] again in 2010 and people said, 'Enough is enough, we've got to do something.'"

As of Friday afternoon, the agricultural alliance was only \$46,000 away from reaching its fundraising target.

Delegates representing eight provinces were on the island during a break from their official duties at the NFU Youth's annual gathering in Victoria last week.

The youth wing was established for young farmers aged 35 and under about five years ago as a way to promote the NFU's commitment to social justice and sustainable agriculture among a new generation of Canadian farmers.

"We are the only farmer-led direct membership [national agricultural] organization in Canada," said Kalissa Regier, the NFU's former youth president.

"We are clearly looking out for family farms and sustainable agriculture."

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Opinion



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 Gold - Best Photo Essay Award - "Day in the Life"
 Gold - Newspaper Promotion Award - "Owner's Manual" / Bronze - Best Overall Newspaper
 Bronze - Best Special Section - "Derrick Lundy Retrospective"
 Bronze - Best Sports Photo - "John Cameron - Slugger"
2010 BC and Yukon Community Newspapers Association Awards
 Gold - Best Overall Newspaper / Silver - Best Editorial Page / Silver - Best Front Page
 Silver - Best Special Section - "AQUA Gulf Islands Living"
 Silver - Best In-House Ad Campaign - "Owners' Manual"
 Bronze - Best Community Service - "Residents Card Program"
2010 Canadian Community Newspaper Association Awards



EDITORIAL

Political fortitude

Salt Spring's fire protection district board will have a couple of new faces at its AGM in April, after Doug Mitchell and Mark Lucich were the only people to submit nomination papers by the deadline on Friday.

Another important local government body, the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, is also holding an election for one vacant trustee position with the deadline for nominations on Thursday, March 24. If more than one person throws their hat into the ring, an election will be held at the NSSWD AGM on April 12.

With questions of water conservation, infrastructure and costs on many islanders' minds these days, management of our largest district is a topic that should command more public interest than it usually does.

THE ISSUE:

Local government office

WE SAY:

Good people should not be deterred

ees we've witnessed in our community lately, no one would be surprised if not a single sane person agreed to run for that office. However, that would clearly leave a vacuum that could only be filled by candidates with less than stable attributes. We're confident that's not going to happen.

It's easy for those not in power to criticize from the sidelines, determined to discard any information that conflicts with their prejudices and to barrel on with the points they have to make. So it will always be — and so anyone who decides to participate in public life should do so knowing they will likely be slammed at some point — and maybe even regularly. It's imperative to both listen to one's critics and take whatever value can be gleaned from them, but also to not be shaken from one's path or convictions if clearly elected with a specific mandate. It takes strong, committed and fair individuals to bring about positive change or to at least keep a community from falling off the rails.

And while Salt Spring Local Trust Committee members will now make as much money as the electoral area director to the CRD — just over \$28,000 — we hope that those aiming for a trustee position won't view their role so much as a "job" as what it has always been: public service that requires both diplomacy and a hard hat.

Then of course there's the local government elections set for November 19, where candidates will vie for the position of Salt Spring's electoral area director to the Capital Regional District and the two local trustee seats with the Islands Trust. Judging by the verbal and written abuse of trustees



Why do Cdns pay so much for gas?

BY DAVE HOWELL

As of March 3, Salt Spring's gas was priced at \$1.21 per litre. It cost \$90 to fill my Dodge Caravan that was on a quarter tank. The GMC pick-up will cost \$163.35 to fill when it's empty!

The news tells us all about the situation in Libya, etc. as to why we have such high fuel costs. Just think back to when oil was \$16 or \$17 a barrel, but here in Canada we had to pay significantly higher prices based on \$22 to \$25 a barrel.

At the time we were told it was because we had to develop the tar sands oil fields and that it would be rather expensive oil but better than purchasing from offshore.

Now jump to the present. The tar sands are developed and in production. But now they tell us that here in Canada our price paid at the pump is based on international price levels, and does not reflect the cost of production. What the heck is going on?

If that was the case, why weren't we paying those prices back in the '90s or whenever they were developing these fields?

Canada does not import oil, we export oil. Look around the world and check out the prices that producing countries charge their citizens for oil. It's pennies on the dollar. So when does the Canadian consumer get a break on the price he pays for oil/gas at the pump?

You can get Canadian gasoline cheaper in the USA than you can in Canada — go figure that one. I would be curious to know what a litre of gas costs in a fuel-importing country like China!

I would like to see a cap put on the price Canadians pay for oil used in domestic consumption. This price should allow for a reasonable profit margin for the producers and

VIEWPOINT

adequate tax base for the government, as well as a break on the enormous fuel hikes driven by the oil-importing countries for the Canadian consumer. This would reflect quite quickly in a positive manner as a stimulant to our economy, the

costs of food, etc.

Another problem is the current system used by the government to apply taxes on gas. It is based on a percentage of the product, not on a set amount per litre.

So as the cost based on the international market drives the cost per litre higher, the amount of tax on that same litre goes ever higher as well.

Not to mention the same effect on the sales taxes that are levied on that litre. This compounding effect of taxes is getting way out of round.

Ultimately I suppose the answer to the high cost of fuel would be for the world to convert to natural gas. Check it out.

The world is loaded with NG that produces low amounts of CO2. The application of NG as our main energy source will outstrip the Kyoto agreement requirements by more than double!

It is available almost everywhere, is cheap to produce and not a guessing game when drilled for, which really lowers development costs.

Further, there is no refining. Just distribution, compression and conversion of our vehicles, etc.

Fortunately, the most expensive part of the conversion is the new fuel tanks — high-pressure cylinders to hold LNG.

Well, that's my rant for today. I don't expect that this will do anything to bring down the cost of gasoline, but it made me feel better to say it.

The writer is retired from the Canadian Coast Guard.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

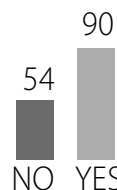
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LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should the Trust be tougher on bylaw violators?



Driftwood

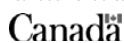
Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.
 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3
 Phone: 250-537-9933 Fax: 250-537-2613 Toll Free: 1-877-537-9934
 Email: driftwood@gulfislands.net Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday

Yearly Subscription Rates:

In the Gulf Islands \$49.88* Elsewhere in Canada \$84.00*
 Six months elsewhere in Canada \$58.30* Outside Canada \$179.00
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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities.



International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782



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IslandVoices

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Usually there is one hour before the tsunami happens — here only 10 minutes. Ten minutes is quite a short time, you know."

AKI KIKUCHI, SALT SPRING RESIDENT FROM FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE

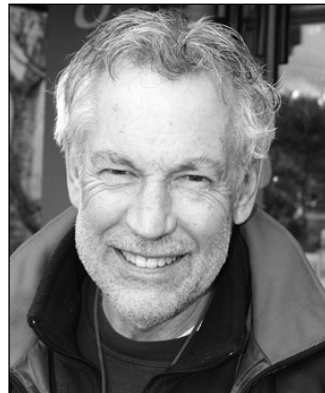
SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What is your reaction to the events in northern Japan?



CONNIE CHAMBERLAND

I think it's made me rethink my evacuation procedure. I send lots of peace, love and hope for the best.



ROB BROWNRIDGE

I guess this has made me really rethink my position on nuclear energy. It shows that producing nuclear energy in an [earthquake prone] place like B.C. is not an option.



RACHEL SANSREGRET

It makes me definitely appreciate all the things I take for granted in my daily life.



SUE MCKENZIE

I'm absolutely horrified, saddened and fearful of what's going to happen next. It's made us think about our own emergency situation.



DENISE WOOD

I am intending to give money to the Red Cross and have questioned my own preparedness. My family is not prepared at this point.

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.**

Protest fare hikes

Here we go again! Ferry fares are rising and fares on the smaller routes like ours rising disproportionately.

These routes are part of the B.C. transportation system and should be supported as such. Let us not sit passively by while our economic strangulation takes place.

I urge all those interested to contact the premier and others in power to share our concern.

DAVID EYLES,
SIDNEY

Lost CRD confidence

Of course we need clean drinking water. That's not an option. But is the CRD competent to provide it?

At a packed public meeting on Monday, March 7, CRD engineer Scott Mason told people who live in the Highland and Fernwood water districts that "no water systems on the island have been completed in years."

Although approval to upgrade our system was given in 2006, along with nearly \$1 million in provincial funds, the CRD didn't start work until 2010.

They hired a contractor from Duncan (are there no excavators on Salt Spring?) and didn't survey the property before the contractor started digging. The plant design (completed in 2007) encroached on private property.

As Scott Mason told us, "a whole bunch of mounting changes" ensued. A few months later, "the contractor lost confidence in us to complete the project."

Work stopped. The CRD and the contractor fell out. The budget soared.

The CRD is now asking the 332 households that depend on Highland and Fernwood water treatment to approve an additional \$500,000. That's on top of the \$750,000 we approved in 2009.

At the Monday meeting we were told the St. Mary Lake blue-green algae bloom "is still in active growth phase." Since Jan. 26 we've been told

that we cannot consume our water.

If we vote "yes" on March 19, will we get a functioning water treatment system? Or are we throwing good money after bad? Are we enabling future incompetence?

Any advice from people living in other water districts would be much appreciated.

ROSEY BRENNAN,
ENSILWOOD ROAD

Apology, ideas

The following is an open letter to SSILTC trustees, filed with the Driftwood for publication.

Dear George, Christine and Sheila,

I apologize for my outburst at the March 3 LTC meeting.

I know that you have a tough job to do and it is not helped when anger overcomes politeness.

I am sorry for the distress that I may have caused you.

As you may know, one of my chief concerns at this later stage of my life is affordable and safe housing for our young people.

What I would love to see is a written commitment from

the Trust promising:

- i) a moratorium on fines for illegal dwellings;
- ii) a blanket "grandfathering" of existing dwellings and
- iii) a real effort to persuade the CRD to allow "small" houses that would not be subject to the building code and so could be built affordably.

HARRY WARNER,
LEE ROAD

More on links

In the March 2 Driftwood I posted "a few links for those who wished some more information" about the smart meters programs.

In the March 9 issue, Harold Brochmann responds that these are questionable links. As I understand it he contends that the American Chronicle featured weird stories like "A man sees images of Jesus in his rocking chair," etc. I returned to the page I linked to and I see nothing remotely like that so I am reposting the link, in case of error: <http://www.americanchronicle.com/articles/view/216794>.

The second link I gave was to an article in JAMA which

seems to be at odds with Mr. Brochmann's interpretation of an article, so in the interests of clarity, I am reposting that link as well: <http://www.citizensforsafetechnology.org/Cell-Phone-Radiofrequency-Radiation-Exposure-and-Brain-Glucose-Metabolism,2,554>.

The third link I thought Hydro customers might find important, from a financial point of view was to a CBC story to the effect that Quebec had dumped its smart meter project because they thought it was too expensive. Driftwood readers should know that our B.C. Utilities Commission also turned aside an earlier application to install the so-called smart meters, by Fortis B.C. in 2008. But this time, smart meter proponents were allowed to bypass the BCUC, as were the extremely expensive run-of-the-river power projects, so there appears to have been no unbiased oversight of these projects and their alleged benefits.

Here's a link to an article in the Yee, where the writer exposes who's getting the gravy. I think we all know

who's supposed to be getting the lumps: <http://theyee.ca/Opinion/2011/03/07/Smart-MeterProfits/>.

Mr. Brochmann couldn't access the last link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRejDxBE6OE> — I think that link may have become hyphenated in the newspaper.

Because of the possibilities of data entry errors, I would recommend truth seekers go to the Driftwood's online edition where opinions and the above links above can simply be clicked onto.

Mr. Gordon English, who also wrote about Hydro's inaccurate statements in last week's Driftwood, may be interested in the above link as it indicates that also contrary to BC Hydro's statements about smart meters only running for brief periods . . . they appear to pretty much run all of the time and at high levels.

A Google search for "Stratford Smart meter 1" will also pull up the above link.

TOM PICKETT,
LEE ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on 10

Tried-and-true proverbs could use updating

We say a lot of stupid things. When winter solstice arrives we use words like, "Hurray, today marks the return of the light!" We celebrate the shortest day of the year and rejoice with the thought that each successive sunrise will bring more sunshine and less darkness. This is like throwing a big party the day you go bankrupt because you can't lose any more money so things can only take a turn for the positive. We are a strange lot!

It's not that we try to sound unintelligent. Most of the time, the opposite is true. We attempt to show how much wisdom we've accumulated in our lives by the act of spewing words out of our mouths.

Many of these attempts have been collected over the ages. They are known by a variety of names: aphorisms, proverbs, maxims, adages, idioms and axioms. Each one has a slightly different meaning but, in general, it describes "a tersely phrased statement of truth or opinion."

Most of the old ones warn us of dangers and comment on our behaviour. They warn us "not to look a gift horse in the mouth" and to "let sleeping dogs lie" or we may end up "crying over spilt milk." They tell us not to judge "a book by its cover" or "a man until you've walked a mile in his shoes," especially if you are on the road heading where

"the grass is always greener on the other side of the hill." And if "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush," and "birds of a feather fly together," make sure you don't put "all of your eggs in the same basket" or you just might be wearing some of that "egg on your face."

My favourite one comes from the mouth of Fred Allen, a satirist who had his own weekly show during the 1930s and '40s, the Golden Age of Radio. Allen is credited with the magnificent "You can take all the sincerity in Hollywood, place it in the navel of a fruit fly and still have room enough for three caraway seeds and a producer's heart."

Proverbs and wise sayings have been around since the dawn of creation. Long before the invention of written language, one can imagine Stone Age Neanderthals hunkering down in their cold, damp caves while sharing little kernels of truth with each other, such as "You can lead a stegosaurus to water but you can't make it drink."

"Where there's smoke, there's fire" led primitive man to the discovery of one of the greatest technological inventions in history. Up to that point, he had spent thou-



Shilo Zylbergold

NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

sands of years carrying smoke around with him and trying to find a use for it. Eventually, he tried inhaling the smoke and the tobacco industry was born.

Similarly, "What goes around, comes around" led to the invention of the wheel, which altered the direction civilization was taking. The wheel brought about a revolution in transportation and made world industrialization possible. It culminated in the late 20th century A.D. with the introduction of the hula hoop.

Hippocrates, heralded as the "father of modern western medicine," is credited with coining the word "aphorism" in his cleverly titled "Aphorisms of Hippocrates" in the late 5th century BC. One example from the collection, "Life is short, art long, opportunity fleeting, experience misleading, judgement difficult" is as relevant today as it was when it was first written 2,500 years ago (meaning that it still doesn't make a lick of sense). This is of course the same man who penned the Hippocratic Oath, a collection of ethical principles to which all medical doctors must swear. Basically, the oath can

be summed up with "I swear to always keep my stethoscope in the ice box until the moment I place it on my patient's skin."

Although proverbs, maxims, adages, or whatever you want to call them are meant to be universal in nature, they are still culturally sensitive. For instance, if you tell a primitive, camel-riding, nomadic Bedouin tribesman in sub-Saharan Sudan, "Don't change horses in mid stream" you may get a blank stare in return.

It is likely you will have to inform him that a horse is like a camel without the humps. Even still, you may then have to explain to him what, exactly, is a "stream." And whatever you do, don't get into a discussion with him about "Red sky in the morning, sailor take warning."

Nobody asked me, but maybe it's time we stopped relying on the old "tried and true" proverbs of our ancestors and started creating a few of our own. Here's one I'm still tweaking: "You can take all the blind naivety of a tree-hugger, infuse it in a solution of the beer belch from a trucker dissolved in the sweat of a logger and let it steep for the time it takes a bureaucrat to approve a proposal . . ." I know; it needs work.

thyme2001@hotmail.com

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NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

THE ELECTION OF ONE TRUSTEE

Notice is hereby given that at the Annual General Meeting, to be held on April 12th, 2011 at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, one trustee is to be elected, to serve for a period of three years. Nominations of candidates for this position must be made in writing, duly signed, seconded, with signature of agreement by the nominee, and delivered to the District Office, 761 Upper Ganges Road, at or before 12:00 noon, March 24th, 2011.

NOMINATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FROM THE FLOOR

To be eligible a nominee must be a Canadian Citizen, 18 years of age or older, an owner, or spouse of an owner of land in the Improvement District, and entitled to be registered as a voter under the Elections Act.

Nomination forms are available at the District Office.

Trevor Hutton
General Manager

OPINION

MORE LETTERS

continued from 9

More WOLFkids

Thank you for publishing the article about me and my recent trip to Thailand in last week's paper. I would like to acknowledge that there were also two other Salt Spring WOLFkids who took part in this adventure with me: Kai Lampard and Hana Riepl.

As well, I'd like to clarify that the WOLF wilderness program definitely includes girls, not just boys, in about equal numbers. Thanks.

AYDEN CATRY-BAUER, WOLF KID

Unjust global economy

It was recently reported that several emergency patients in Vancouver's Royal Columbian Hospital had been cared for in the coffee shop next to the emergency area. Interviews with two senior hospital personnel confirmed that total capacity for patient care at this hospital is inadequate for the demands placed upon it. They implied that the Canadian medical care system is seriously underfunded.

I suggest that this local problem is one more symptom of a failed world economic (dis) order.

The literature I regularly read concerning public affairs has in recent years emphasized the growing disparity between the lowest and highest paid employees in Canada. One well-researched document reported that the richest one per cent

took home almost one-third of all income growth during the decade 1997 to 2007. By the end of 2009, 3.8 per cent of Canadian households controlled \$1.78 trillion of financial wealth, 67 per cent of the total.

The widely unequal distribution of wealth and income in Canada (and the political power to one class that comes with this) is due in part in Canada to 50 years of reduction in the taxes paid by international corporations. But this is a situation not limited to Canada. Internationally, the increasing gap between rich and poor is a major cause of the present revolutionary unrest, as we are seeing in the Arab world.

The global economy, with its hunger for natural resources and its super-exploitation of workers, now reaches into every part of the world. Everywhere wealth is moving steadily away from the pockets of the poorest and into the bank accounts of the richest.

The early, creative period of de-centralized entrepreneurial capitalism has gradually morphed into the dangerously centralized world of corporate capital. During the last 30 years this has become more obvious than previously. Wealth and power are increasingly controlled by a diminishing number of very powerful people.

I am therefore dismayed and disappointed that, at this time of provincial and national electioneering in Canada, few politicians are helping us to understand the nature of the critical economic disorder which is at the heart of global tribulation.

And to return to the local scene where I began: our medical care system will remain chronically underfunded as long as the radically unjust

global economy remains uncontested by Canadians, and as long as we fail to challenge the rule of the corporate giants.

BOB WILD, HEDGER ROAD

Wireless plan opposed

Our Gulf Islands community is BC Hydro's chosen test site for a WiMax radiation electrical grid, in combination with new wireless electric "smart" meters reporting in "real time" about our electrical use.

This change is to be funded by taxpayers, who assume risks while benefits flow to the corporation and to investors in the so-called "smart" sector. Economists report that "smart tech" is becoming the hottest market sector ever, worth about \$42 trillion.

Alarming, Hydro plans 10 per cent increases in electricity rates for the next three years. B.C. Public Interest Advocacy Centres predicts 10 per cent increases for 10 years! If the meters (which replace our perfectly good existing meters) "pay for themselves" — why these drastic rate increases?

A March 7 article in The Tyee, title: "First to Profit from \$1 Billion Smart Meter Program: Liberal Insiders" estimates that rates will soon rise by 50 per cent.

And while the public remains in the dark, this article details how B.C. government confidantes understood long ago how to profit by the technical changeover for which we are to pay such a high price.

It's alarming that chief project officer of the smart meter program, Gary Murphy, (Mar. 2 Driftwood In Response) is unaware the plan involves radiation at microwave frequencies,

and would think it sufficient to address project deficiencies by sending the generic "myths and facts" message to B.C. newspapers, thus bypassing specific legitimate concerns.

Knowing wireless electrical grids adversely impact public health and that of other species, an informed citizens group, "Gulf Islanders for Safe Technology," has emerged to oppose Hydro's wireless intentions and help facilitate a positive outcome. The website is: www.gifst.ca.

While recognizing the need for improvements to the grid, GIFST opposes Hydro's wireless plans.

Few realize that this smart grid concept translates into huge increases in continuous RF radiation throughout neighbourhoods homes and places of work. Some enviro groups support what is touted as energy-saving smart initiatives, which allegedly reduce greenhouse gases. However, we can make needed improvements, which avoid another huge layer of electromog.

Hydro's WiMax plan entails transeiving antennas everywhere gathering information from smart meters to be forced on every home and business — all via EM radiation. This is bad-design phase engineering to omit the known adverse effects of EMR on living things. System improvements are achievable safely with wired data transfer. Industry knows that fibre optics and shielded cable are preferable for speed and security. Science shows wired systems involve no harmful radiation, while achieving intended benefits.

CHRIS ANDERSON, GULF ISLANDERS FOR SAFE TECHNOLOGY

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RANTS and Roses

Roses

Beautiful bouquets of many coloured roses full of motion from the Salt Spring Arts Council to all the children who created banners for the children's art show, Motion, to their teachers for supporting the project and especially to Maureen Procter for her amazing teaching in inspiring such beautiful art. Also to Carol Adams, Sue Ginsley, Lee Ann Norgard, Maureen Procter, Melissa Searcy and Michela Sorrentino for

hanging the show. You did a fabulous job!

Flashy bouquets of roses from the Salt Spring Arts Council and ArtSpring to the Country Grocer for supporting the Flash Mob project. Your support and cooperation were the best. We had a lot of fun singing and dancing in the produce aisles. Google YouTube Salt Spring Island Flash Mob to see the performances.

Many, many thanks to the "pump side" gentleman who was able to get my car operational again after it had decided to freeze up, not allowing me to turn the key or shift to neutral. You had the magic touch.

The Salt Spring Island Middle school teachers, administrators and staff would like to give our heartfelt thanks to the parents and other members of our community who supported us with their presence, gifts of food and flowers during our very difficult time. You all helped to ease the pain of our loss as we dealt with the initial shock of the death of our beloved

colleague Bruce Crewswick.

Popcorn-scented roses to Dave and his wonderful staff at The Fritz for their generosity and support with making the screening of Plan B - Mobilizing To Save Civilization a success. Thanks also to Elizabeth White and Michael Byers for their insightful responses to questions from the audience. And also a big thanks to Raffi and Marion Pape for their commitment of time and energy to make this opportunity possible for the community. And finally, thanks to Earth Policy Institute, Transition Salt Spring volunteers and also to the attendees for a warm experience of community.

A bucket of roses for all the help I received to make our horse show such a fun day. To Leslie and Michell, Star Barks, Country Grocer, Leslie K., Erika, Barb, Claudia, Mel, Sharon, Patricia and Sacha. Thank you and thanks to all the participants for having faith that it would all go off well. Jacky

Roses to the Salt Spring Rotary Club,

Salt Spring Garbage, Salt Spring Fire Department and Country Grocer for furthering my education with their generous GISS bursaries. Ethan Smith

A dozen yummy roses to Thrifty Foods for its support of SWOVA's Respectful Relationships (R+R) Youth Team this year. Thank you!

Little Red roses to Scott Nyuli and Alex Bapty for bucking, chopping, delivering (with much excitement!), and stacking wood for our little school house. Our hearts are warm as well as our school from your hard work and generosity. Special thanks to Bob the dog for adding some extra fun for the children. From the staff, families and toasty children at the Little Red School House.

All praises to the staff and volunteers at Community Services for their compassionate care to people whose needs often go under the radar on Salt Spring.

A pan full of roses to all my regular customers. Have a wonderful day! Sarah Lynn Smith

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OPINION



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

SPRING SOCCER:

Girls U15 soccer players and some of their fans huddle in the rain on the soccer sidelines last weekend. Having dominated the U15 Silver this year, the Salt Spring United team played their first Gold District Cup game. They lost 4-0 against Gorge. The game was played in a cold downpour.

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WHEELS
PAGE 25-28

Comments on (un)civil society

BY GREG SPENDJIAN

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee meeting of March 3 featured another spectacle of organized Trust bashing by opponents of the Islands Trust mechanism.

Participation in the democratic process is a wonderful thing. It should always be encouraged. Many of those at the meeting were responding to the call which had gone out on several websites and blogs that the trustees were about to pass draconian measures intended to fine islanders for a variety of offences. One woman distributing printed notices about the meeting ran up to me in a panic in the coffee shop the morning of the meeting. She told me that if I had more than two cars in my driveway I would be fined, so I should rush to the meeting and protest.

The reality turned out to be that the LTC was to consider the adoption of a so-called "adjudication system" to deal with bylaw infractions, replacing the current "municipal ticket" mechanism. No new categories of fines were being added. (After the meeting it was revealed that some fines would indeed increase, but that the process could reduce the amounts significantly with a compliance agreement.)

The purpose of the "adjudication system" was explained to the assembled public. Unless I misunderstood the proposal it appeared to offer several positive elements for whoever was being charged with by-law infraction. This did nothing to mollify those who had come out to oppose the proposal. Neither did the explanation that the "complaint driven" aspect of the bylaws (except for environmental infractions) would remain unchanged.

Why was there so much anger in the meeting room? Many who were there appeared to believe

INDEPTH

that the Trust was infringing on too many aspects of their lives. Emotionally charged terms like "hyper-regulated" and "micro-managed" were used. (A friend who lived in an apartment building in Switzerland told me that they were not allowed to flush their toilets after 10 p.m. Now that's hyper-regulation!) Others seemed to fear that the bylaw was a serious money grab.

Freedom to do just as one pleases is great. But most societies choose to have a set of rules to live by, not because of the arbitrary wish of politicians or bureaucrats to restrict freedoms, but because a choice is made to put the welfare of the community as a whole ahead of that of an individual. That is what civil society is all about. Maybe Salt Spring Island remains the kind of place we choose to live exactly because of our bylaws, imperfect as they may be.

The trustees indicated at the meeting that not one municipal ticket had been issued since that mechanism was established five years ago. This brought on heckling, asking why the bylaws were there at all. A valid question. The answer is presumably that it is a safety mechanism to ensure that should there be truly egregious violations, the community would have some recourse. Or maybe we are just a law-abiding community.

That there are too many regulatory bylaws may be true. If so, the way forward would be for those who think so to propose changes to or elimination of specific bylaws.

The level of anger expressed at the meeting cannot be explained solely by the feeling of fear over loss of freedoms, however. There

has been deliberate fuelling of hatred towards the whole Islands Trust mechanism for quite a while now. Islanders for Self Government has played a part in this, notwithstanding group members' claims to innocence. Peter Vincent's relentless innuendo and haranguing of the Trust in the Driftwood, with no columnist providing Trust-positive counter-opinion, has also played a part. More recently, several blogs have been spewing vitriol, usually under pseudonyms, egging people on. Links to these are provided on the ISG site.

While much rudeness and taunting was shown towards the trustees prior to consideration of the "adjudication system," the vile insults and abuse really began to fly after the trustees decided to proceed with approving the system. A loud mass walkout of angry parties ensued. Maybe some people did not want to feel foolish that they had been made to leave work or whatever else they were doing to attend the meeting, only to find that no new offences were on the table and that the proposed mechanism was better than the existing one after all.

Throughout, the two trustees remained polite and did not respond in kind to the crowd. Kudos to them. Whatever one might think of their decisions, they are a class act.

My wife reminded me of a saying we had come across while living in West Africa. It said, "I cannot hear what you are saying because my ears are full of who I think you are." There is a desperate need for healing and real dialogue to take place on the island. I hope that someone with expertise in this area can make some positive proposals.

The writer is a long-time Salt Spring resident.

Disrespectful

I find the Parker cartoon of March 9 to be totally disrespectful; not only to our democratically elected officials, but even more so, to the people of North Africa. It is contemptuous of the Egyptians, Tunisians and Libyans who have joined together in their countries, in non-violent ways, in order to attain the kind of self-determination we enjoy.

I deplore the ill-mannered methods exemplified in the cartoon, used by some Canadians, that the folks of the Middle East are literally dying to get rid of.

May we join in respectfully working with each other to increase the effectiveness of the Islands Trust, an envied governance model that specifically

cherishes our right to preserve and protect our land and water, as a decent inheritance for those who come after us.

EILEEN WITTEWAALL,
SKY VALLEY ROAD

Stop it

Stop calling people Nazis! (Quote from "Adjudication proposal stirs dissent" story, March 9).

My mother and aunt barely survived Auschwitz. My mother's brother was shot into a pit just outside of Zagreb, Yugoslavia, along with all the other Jewish boys of the city. After the war, my mother was told that their moans were heard for days.

All my mother's aunts, uncles, cousins and grandmother were gassed to death or starved to

death in the concentration camps after enduring years of degradation and suffering. Survivors from that family: six.

My aunt (my mother's brother's wife) was 13 years old and starving in the Warsaw Ghetto. All five of her siblings, her parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles were starved and murdered. Only she and two cousins survived out of that whole family.

My father's two-year-old baby brother and his parents and grandparents and aunts and uncles and cousins were shot into a pit outside Riga, Latvia and left for dead, even if they weren't. Survivors: one.

That is Nazis.
RACHEL JACOBSON,
SALT SPRING

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Keep Smiling...



THOUGHTS & NEWS

from Dr. Richard Hayden

Tax time.

We are all looking for a bit of relief.

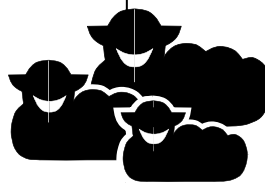
Many people lament that they don't have any dental benefits and only a small portion of their dental care is tax deductible. There may be a CRA approved plan that can help you get relief from dental issues as well as the tax man.

As I understand things, if you are self employed or incorporated you can have a Private Health Services Plan. These plans seem easy to set up and are tax efficient.

I am a dentist not an accountant. I can give you great advice and create solid comprehensive treatment plans for your dental and oral health. Tax info is NOT my bag so talk to your financial advisor and see if these plans might benefit you.

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What's On This Week

www.gulfislandstourism.com/calendar.htm



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Wed. March 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Simply Organic.
A concert of beautiful melodies by David Storm at All Saints. 10:10 a.m. followed by muffin and coffee.

Open Stage.
Wednesdays with Stephanie Rhodes at Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Highland & Fernwood Water Supply Upgrade Referendum.
Advance poll at Ganges Fire Hall. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Practical Homeopathy at Home.

First of five-Wednesday sessions taught by Jamie Capranos at Green Raven Centre. 7 to 9 p.m. Info/register: 250-537-0602 or info@jamiacapranos.com.

BC Cancer Agency's Screening Mammography.

Mobile service on Salt Spring. No doctor's referral needed. Call 1-800-663-9203 (toll-free) to book. Visit www.smpbc.ca for more info.

Thurs. March 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

St. Patty's Day with Black Velvet Band.
Live at the Tree House Cafe. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

St. Pat's Day Bash.
With Barefoot Thieves and DJ Leprechaun at Moby's.

Open Mic.
Thursdays at The Local pub. 6 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

SSI Weavers and Spinners: Texture in Tapestry.
With Mary Paddon. ArtSpring. 10:30 a.m. All welcome.

Fernwood Dock Management Commission.
Meeting of commission at Raven Street Cafe. 10 a.m.

BC Cancer Agency's Screening Mammography.

See Wednesday listing.

Bingo.
At Meaden Hall. 7 p.m. with early bird games at 6:30 p.m. Sponsored by Ladies Auxiliary of RCL Branch 92.

Fri. March 18

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Sue Newman & Peter Taschuck.
Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9:30.

Live Music.
TBA at the Tree House Cafe. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Candlelight Vigil for Japan.
At Peace Park. 4 to 7 p.m., with moment of silence at 6 p.m.

Chef Steve & Max's 7-Course Tasters Menu Event.

7-course tasters menu created by chef Steve Overholt of Marketplace Cafe and Max Delveccio of Pasta Fresca. 7 p.m. Info: 250-537-9911.

Rollerblading.
Fridays at Fulford Hall. 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Sat. March 19

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Music for Hammers and Sticks.
Salt Spring percussionist Luanne Katz, California pianist Teresa McCulloch and percussionist Chris Froh. ArtSpring. 8 p.m. Pre-concert chat at 7 p.m.

Dinner Jazz With Lloyd English.
Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

DJ Hotness.
DJ dancing music at Moby's.

ACTIVITIES

North by Northwest.
CBC early-morning radio show hosted by Sheryl MacKay runs live at Barb's Bakery & Bistro with all-island talent. Bring an island-centric item for "show and tell." 6 to 9 a.m.

Salt Spring Island Craft Bazaar.
The "not your average craft fair" of work by unconventional and fresh talents from the Gulf Islands and beyond. Plus consignment clothing boutique, food and music listening station. Mahon Hall. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Highland & Fernwood Water Supply Upgrade Referendum.

General voting day at Fernwood Elementary School. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sun. March 20

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Barley Bros.
Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Mon. March 21

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Fire Protection District.
Trustees' meeting at the Ganges fire hall. 7:30 p.m.

Life Drawing.
Mondays at the Core Inn third floor. 1 to 3 p.m. Drop in every week and draw. Info: Jose, 250-537-1121.

Toastmasters.

Meet every Monday at the Crofton Room in the Harbour House Hotel. 7 p.m.

Tues. March 22

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Richard Margison & Kinza Tyrrell.
Canadian tenor Margison and accompanist Tyrrell on piano. ArtSpring. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

World Water Day Potluck Dinner & Discussion.

Talk about Salt Spring watershed issues. All Saints. 6 to 9 p.m. RSVP to waterprotection@telus.net.

Wed. March 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Stage.
Wednesdays with Stephanie Rhodes at Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Watercolour Techniques; Bams and Butterflies.

A SS Painters Guild activity with Frank Townsley. ArtSpring. Info/register: Ann Holt, annholt47@hotmail.com.

BCSPCA Annual General Meeting.

Lions Hall. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Salt Spring Garden Club.

Garden photographer Alex Waterhouse-Hayward gives a presentation at Community Gospel Chapel. 7:30 p.m.

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CINEMA

Rango — A sheltered chameleon (voice of Johnny Depp) named Rango, an ordinary family pet, accidentally winds up in the gritty, gun-slinging town of Dirt — a lawless outpost populated by the desert's most wily and whimsical creatures. The less-than-courageous lizard finds that living up to his daydreams and saving the day isn't so easy. Rango is a hilarious, very entertaining film with fantastic animation and is fun for people of all ages.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Gallery 8** holds its first exhibit of the 2011 season from March 18 to April 10. The **New 8 Exhibition** features work by **Kathryn Amisson, RM Dupuy, Curtis Golomb, Heather Kocsis, Julia Lucich, Heather Martin-McNab, Pieter Molenaar and Vance Theoret.** Opening reception on Friday, March 18 from 5 to 8 p.m.
- **Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art** presents **New Works** by **Beulah Gordon**, an exhibition and sale of Beulah's glasswork and mixed-media paintings, until March 31. Gallery is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. People who drop in to the gallery during March have a chance to enter a raffle to win a piece of art.
- **Kip Johl** shows sculptured pieces and **James Labounty** shows photographs in the lobby at **ArtSpring** through March.
- **Roger Donnelly** has paintings hanging at **Island Savings Credit Union.**
- **Salt Spring Photography** has a new exhibition at the **Country Roasters Cafe** in Country Grocer, featuring work by **Cliff Kelly, Angela Jackson, Adrian Selby, Bob Rogers, Gail Neumann and Gregory Alan.** Runs through March 31.
- See **Lyman Whitaker's** wind sculptures at **Grace Point Square.**
- Pottery by **Julie MacKinnon** is in the display case at **ArtSpring.**
- **The Salt Spring Photography Club** displays photos by club members at the **Salt Spring Coffee Company** on an electronic picture frame, with updated photos every two weeks.
- **Shari Macdonald** shows new photos at **Jana's Bake Shop.**

Salt Spring Island Craft Bazaar

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Mahon Hall
11am-5pm

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Arts & Entertainment

CRAFT FAIR

Semi-annual craft bazaar returns

Local handiwork and upcoming artists featured

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The organizers of the Salt Spring Island Craft Bazaar are getting ready to host the third installment of their semi-annual event, taking place at Mahon Hall on March 19 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Katie Burke and Zoe Dubien, the two local designers and young mothers behind the event, continue to work to support local artisans and upcoming artists in all media. This time around the bazaar will feature an even more diverse range of original crafts, a consignment clothing section, Bazaar Café and a music listening station.

Burke and Dubien know firsthand the challenges of making an income on Salt Spring, particularly with a young family to support. They each rose to the challenge by starting their own businesses in 2009, inspired by their new daughters (now two years old).

Dubien has the funky baby hat and clothing line Owl + Dot Dot, and Burke makes baby headbands for her label Who Loves Ya Baby, and partners in Featherettes hair ornaments with Katy Parsons, also a new mother. Although their designs have been well received, the women felt more was needed to support local artisans in the existing market.

"We felt a need for another outlet for sales and came together to organize events," Burke and Dubien explained in an email.

"We've reflected on our strengths to produce an exciting environment for both vendors and supporters. We are ever growing and evolving to meet the needs of our artisans and our community."

RADIO EVENT

North by Northwest broadcasts from Barb's this Saturday morning

Everyone welcome to watch, or 'show and tell'

A long-running CBC radio show is broadcasting live from Barb's Bakery and Bistro on Saturday morning and everyone is invited to drop by to witness radio-making in action and participate as a live audience.

Sheryl MacKay's weekend arts program, North by Northwest, will run from 6 to 9 a.m., with the bakery ready to serve up coffee, tea, baked goods and everything from its breakfast menu beginning at 6 a.m.

According to CBC press mate-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Clockwise from top left are Angelo Scaia, Na'ara Dubien, Brian Dubien, Zoe Dubien, Kathryn Burke and Ella Scaia.

In between enjoying good response to the inaugural event last March and its follow-up in November, Burke showcased the above lines and those by other young mothers at her consignment store Damsel and Babe (now in limbo with its location going to the new library development). Dubien expanded her line and received offers from stores in Vancouver and Victoria. They hope the craft bazaar can serve as a similar launching point for other artists in the community.

"Personally we set out to empower our community and through succeeding, we've felt empowered," they said.

"We're challenging ourselves

to expand and think beyond the craft bazaar. It's given us confidence to delve into our own potential."

Some of the exciting features appearing at Mahon Hall this weekend include clothing by local designers, consignment clothing, artisans, food vendors, pottery, photography, toys, knives, paintings, glass arts, body products and more.

The event has free admission and everyone is welcome.

Burke and Dubien thank their partners, Angelo Scaia and Bryan Dubien, for their patience, support and encouragement, and the community for its continued and invaluable support.

rial, the March 19 show will feature local writers Brian Brett and Arthur Black, musicians Daryl Chonka, Alan Moberg, Valdy and Luanne Katz, cheese maker Julie Kimmel from Salt Spring Island Cheese and other talented island people.

Another part of the program will be "show and tell" segments with islanders. Anyone can bring in an item and chat with MacKay about it — "something 'non-commercial' that reflects life on the island would be preferable," said Jennifer Moss from the CBC.

Jason Coles, who co-owns Barb's with his wife Jennifer, said he was happy to accept the offer to host the CBC on Saturday.

"They just called me up one day and asked if we would like to host them and of course it was a no-brainer and I said, 'Absolutely!'"

Since then phone discussions have determined that the popular spot has everything the CBC needs to broadcast the show.

Coles suspects the restaurant's central Ganges location and longevity, and its role as "the gathering place for everybody" made it a natural pick for the CBC.


Moss confirmed that "word of mouth" and the fact it could accommodate a small crowd were factors in the decision.

"We usually do our remotes at a popular local cafe," she said.

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Salt Spring percussionist extraordinaire Luanne Katz is joined by friends Teresa McCullogh and Chris Froh for an eclectic sampling of dynamic music for percussion and piano.

Saturday, March 19 • 8:00pm

Pre-concert chat at 7:00pm

Tickets: \$23 adult,
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO COURTESY GALLERY 8

Corner View by Heather Kocsis of Cambridge, Ont. is among works of eight new Gallery 8 artists to be showcased at the New 8 Exhibition. It opens this Friday with a reception at the Grace Point Square gallery from 5 to 8 p.m. and runs through April 10.

EXHIBITS

New-to-Salt Spring artists join locals for Gallery 8 show

First show in a series for 2011

Salt Spring exhibition season opens this weekend with the first of a series of 2011 art shows at Gallery 8 in Grace Point Square.

Titled the New 8 Exhibition, it features work from an octet of gallery artists, including some new-to-the-island names.

They are Kathryn Amisson, RM Dupuy, Curtis Golomb, Heather Kocsis, Julia Lucich, Heather Martin-McNab, Pieter Molenaar and Vance Theoret.

Amisson is a Brent-

wood Bay artist who has been painting full-time since 1978, with a special affinity for the West Coast environment, while Dupuy and Lucich are well-known Salt Spring painters.

Martin-McNab is a basket maker passionate about her relatively new field. She was featured in the Winter 2010-11 issue of Aqua magazine.

Molenaar is a West Coast artist transplanted from the Netherlands, who specializes in oil paintings with dramatic skies, commanding seas, city and landscapes.

Golomb counts Toni Onley, A.J. Casson and Tom Thompson as his early inspi-

rations, along with the beauty of northern Ontario, where he grew up. He is known for his vibrant water-colour and acrylic paintings.

Theoret creates imaginative carvings in alabaster, soapstone, slates, chlorite and moose antlers, while Kocsis is an Ontario multi-media artist known for her depictions of urban and industrial buildings.

The opening reception for the New 8 Exhibition is on Friday, March 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. The show runs until April 10.

See www.gallery8-saltspring.com for details on this and upcoming Gallery 8 exhibits.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

EXHIBITIONS

ISCU premieres islander's work

Roger Donnelly pieces on display through March

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Currently on display at Island Savings Credit Union are over a dozen works of art painted by long-time south-end resident — and first time exhibitor — Roger Donnelly.

According to press material, Donnelly was born in London in 1945 the day WWII ended, and arrived on Salt Spring 45 years ago. Once on the island, he knew he never wanted to leave.

Donnelly first found an artistic outlet through wood, the results of which can now be found in homes throughout the Gulf Islands. He also designed and built his own sailboat, the uniquely handcrafted catamaran Ogis Rose.

A press release states that Donnelly has been inextricably drawn to painting over the last decade, exploring light, colour and textures on canvas.

His desire to be creative has found its true centre at his south-end property, where he built a geodesic dome for his family in the 1970s. The space is now the venue for his painting.

For Donnelly, painting is a rainy-day activity because when the weather improves he is outside taking care of his fish and chickens and dreaming up new projects.

His daughter Trinity MacRae says the self-taught artist lives with the seasons, and enjoys the simplicity of his alternate lifestyle on Reynolds Road.

"He has become a prolific painter, passionately working over his canvases for hours each day," MacRae said.

"He studies each minute detail: the play of light in a sky, a tree in the forest, the swaths of colour and texture



PHOTOS BY DERRICK LUNDY

Roger Donnelly's artwork is on display for the first time at Island Savings.



found around him on land and sea."

The Island Savings exhibit marks the first time Donnelly's paintings have been aired in public. Works on display show a keen power of observation, which translates to depictions of the natural environment that in some cases contain almost photographic realism.

A painting of an old maple within the Salt Spring forest, for example, is particularly fine. With dappled sunlight coming from the canopy above and ferns bursting up from the forest floor, the lushness of the landscape is immediate. The old grey trunk holds another gift, a neatly camouflaged owl.

Another good example from the local landscape is a view down Fulford Harbour, framed by drooping arbutus boughs on the right.

Mount Maxwell's

peak in the background dwarfs the only sign of human habitation, the unassuming pub building made insignificant in the greater picture.

A Stowell Lake view is a little more stylized, with dominant black and white tones enlivened with careful touches of red and green.

The scene is composed thoughtfully, with the basking turtle log dissecting the frame. Ripples of water below repeat the horizontal line, which is echoed again in an arching branch that forks upwards.

The vertical line then dominates through the upper half of the frame in a thicket of brambles.

Donnelly has other pieces that rely less on realism and go for a bit of fancy, such as two canvases that contrast bright zinnia blooms in reds and yellows with a complex background

of other tiny flowers and bright foliage. In another piece he puts colourful sun whorls and butterflies against a screen of green bamboo stalks.

MacRae said her father is eternally grateful to Salt Spring and his fellow long-term islanders for his education in life.

The public is invited to ISCU to view Donnelly's work during regular business hours.

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WHAT'S ON PAGE 12

SALT SPRING COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS **PROOF**
a drama by David Auburn • directed by Susannah Devitt
featuring ~ Christina Penhale, Scott Merrick, Colin Beamish & Sarah Penhale
Mahon Hall: March 25, 31, April 1, 2 at 8pm doors open at 7:30
March 27 - 2pm Matinee doors open at 1:30

Tickets \$15 for adults, \$10 for ages 12-19 (not suitable for children under 12)
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FUNDRAISER

StageCoach asking islanders to be April 1 dress-up 'fools'

Dress-up day fundraiser set

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With April Fool's Day just around the corner, StageCoach Theatre School is creating a community-wide event and raising some funds for its bursary fund in the process.

Participants of all ages are invited to dress in the special attire of any age and collect sponsors for their efforts for StageCoach Dress-Up Fools Day

on Friday, April 1. Prizes will be awarded at an evening reception and costume parade at Barb's Bakery and Bistro.

"Doesn't everyone have something in their cupboard they wish they had an event or venue to wear to?" asked StageCoach producer Maggie O'Scalleigh.

Adina Hildebrandt, the school's artistic director, added, "Who doesn't want a reason to dress up and go crazy in town for a day? It's been six months since Halloween — it's time for us to dress up again, because everyone on this island loves dressing up."

Possibilities suggested include men in kilts or tuxedos, women in grad dresses, and boys and girls in outfits from an auntie's wedding.

Ideas for period costumes from any era or decade include flapper dresses and hats, '50s poodle skirts and greaser leathers and jeans, '60s hippy garb, '70s



Lisa Stafford, LeeAnn Norgard, Carol Adam and Mardon Dary dress up as Hollywood starlets on Oscar night — perfect for Stagecoach's event.

glam rock, '80s neon or various Madonna looks.

The evening reception, set for 5 p.m. at Barb's, will include appies and drinks provided by StageCoach families, brief performances by the school's theatre students and maybe even a sneak peek of their end-of-year production, The Wizard of Oz. After having worn their costumes all day, participants will be awarded prizes for the best of each category, best team effort and a best in show.

Proceeds from the event will be used for bursaries to help island children attend theatre classes at StageCoach, ensuring affordable dramatic play and education for the community.

"It's a fun way to involve the whole community in supporting these children," O'Scalleigh said. "If we had 100 participants on island, and each collected \$100, that would be \$10,000. I think we can do it!"

Keen participants are already starting to plan outfits and get sponsors. To join in the event, people must register in advance by filling out a form at Salt Spring Books, B-Side Clothing or West of the Moon, or by emailing O'Scalleigh at jaynmags@gmail.com.

Pledges and sponsorship forms must be turned in at the final event, but pledges can be collected all the way up to the evening reception.

For more information, email O'Scalleigh or call 250-538-7494.



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Jackass 3D — feel-good boys' comedy

Once again navigating the vast distance between readers of community newspapers and dudes more likely to spend their afternoons getting wasted while watching Spongebob Squarepants, I find myself at a loss attempting to describe the insanity that is Jackass 3D.

If the "3" in the title wasn't a hint, this is only the third installment in a series of films that are really nothing more than a group of friends throwing up, getting hit in the crotch or experiencing some sort of combination of the two. And it's pretty brilliant.

Let's be immediately clear: if you don't find the whole concept of things coming out of orifices to be inherently funny, Jackass 3D is most absolutely, definitely not for you. Still here? OK, I'll continue.

The typical Jackass skit — more like a vignette, since some are only seconds long — is someone volunteering to suffer some sort of indignity. It might be a practical joke, such as being smacked by a massive hand on a swivel (while carrying soup, perhaps), but most of the time the subject knows full well what's about to happen.

Sometimes the ordeal is pain. Two guys taunt a ram with orchestral instruments, and get rammed. Someone gets bounced off a massive balloon and shot at by six paintball guns before falling into a lake. A gauntlet is staged down a narrow corridor lined with tasers and cattle prods. Jet exhaust is used to fling various items at mach speed at some poor soul.

Sometimes it's about disgust. Guys drink each other's sweat, and proceed to barf, creating a chain reaction that affects even the cameraman. Then, a guy, um, I'll stop there. Let's just say that there are a lot of genitals and poo involved, though usually not at the same time.

Jackass 3D is essentially boys being boys by thinking up the meanest things they could possibly do to each other, but there's something weirdly sentimental going on. They're clearly good friends, and the camaraderie displayed is in a twisted way almost endearing.

The result is a film that's absolutely hilarious, but not in a way that feels mean or —amazingly— cheap. Jackass 3D is feel-good comedy for the kid in all of us — the kid with a very, very, very strong stomach.

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THEATRE

Doubts and emotional turmoil anchor SSCT production of Proof

Pulitzer Prize winner at Mahon Hall

BY PATRICIA LOCKIE

DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

If you think advanced mathematics couldn't possibly be the stuff of a riveting stage drama, just wait until you've seen David Auburn's Pulitzer Prize-winning play called Proof.

Later this month, Salt Spring Community Theatre will stage this challenging drama, which explores the essential mystery of genius and its linkage to mental instability later this month.

The play is set in Chicago where Robert, a once brilliant mathematician who in his final years suffered a debilitating breakdown, has recently died. Robert appears in the play talking with

his depressed college drop-out daughter, Catherine. As preparations for the funeral are made, Catherine's hard-headed, take-charge sister Claire returns from New York and Catherine forms a tentative friendship with Hal, a mathematician who was one of her father's former students. The plot moving the drama forward hinges on the discovery of a revolutionary mathematical theory amongst Robert's papers, but who is the real author of a paper that will set the mathematical community alight? Auburn spins his play out of the doubts and emotional turmoil that follow the discovery.

Proof is directed by Susannah Devitt and produced by Therin Gower. The production showcases the talents of Scott Merrick (Robert), seen last year in The Rocky Horror Show, Linda & Cole: A Love

Story and in the SSCT production of The Dining Room, and Christina Penhale (Catherine) who has been acting for many years on island and off. Her previous roles include Shelby in Steel Magnolias and Olivia in Twelfth Night. Penhale says Proof is a personal favourite of hers, a play full of challenges and surprises. Rounding out the cast are Colin Beamish (Hal), whose previous credits with SSCT include Having Hope At Home and Accommodations, and Sarah Penhale (Claire), sister to Christina in real life as well as on stage. She has performed at the Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts and the Canadian College of Performing Arts.

Proof is on stage at Mahon Hall on March 25, March 31, April 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. A matinee performance is scheduled for March 27 at 2 p.m.

ARTS PROJECT

Art school/centre community talks begin

Consultant hired to lead the way

The Salt Spring Arts Council has hired a local facilitator to guide island-wide community conversations about the possibility of developing an arts school/centre on Salt Spring.

Pravin Pillay of Emergent Performance Consulting will guide the process over the next four months. Pravin will be working directly with the arts council's Art School/Centre Steering Committee.

Committee co-chair Liesbeth Leatherbarrow is impressed with the skills Pillay brings to the process.

"We are looking forward to working with Pravin over the

next few months," she said in a press release. "He brings a wealth of experience in varied situations to this project."

Pillay will help the committee organize and conduct community conversations about art school/centre ideas, concepts and challenges.

Two community-wide events are planned for individuals to hear the results of the research conducted so far, provide additional ideas and discuss any challenges and implications. In addition, a number of stakeholder conversations will be organized, targeting artists, tourism and accommodation operations, farmers, the business community and other interest groups. Information about dates and times for these events will be publicized

through newspaper and internet media.

"It is exciting to be taking the next steps," said arts council past president Rineke Jonker. "This is an important project and it will take the arts and culture on Salt Spring to another level. We hope to capture the best of what the island offers so that we become a preferred destination for artists and students of art."

The SSAC steering committee has been working on research and tasks to move the idea of a school/centre for the arts forward since last September. Work follows on the success of the "Chairity" fundraiser for a school for the arts held in May of 2010. The committee draws its membership from the SSAC board and from the larger community.

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

POWER OF ONE: Fernwood Elementary School kids learn about the "power of one" with Terry Fox's sister, Judith Fox Alder (holding banner). Fox presented posters and books to schools on Salt Spring last week on behalf of the Terry Fox Run organization.

HISTORY

Archives seeks Spence family to return Dead Man's Penny

Great War plaque found in 1980s

BY DIANE ALTON-KAIGHIN
 SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

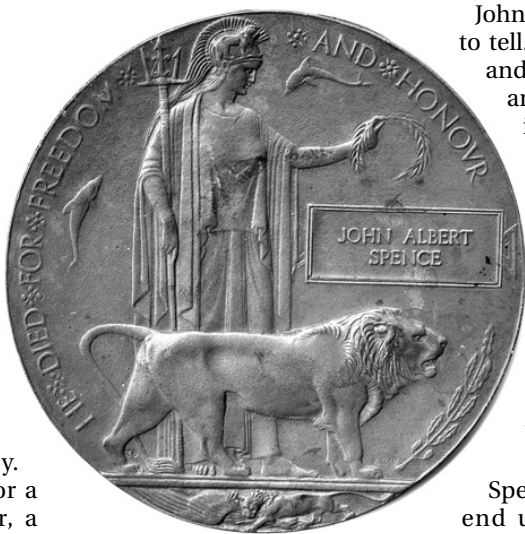
The Salt Spring Archives members attempt to solve mysteries in a timely manner, but this one has been a quarter of a century in the making.

A Dead Man's Penny for John Albert Spence was found on the side of Rainbow Road in the 1980s.

Each penny tells a story. The story of a young man or a young woman: a daughter, a son, a friend, a lover, from all walks of life. Many soldiers were conscripted in World War I, but many men willingly volunteered. The common thread amongst them was they all died fighting tyranny so we can live in freedom.

To commemorate lives sacrificed during the Great War, the British government issued memorial death plaques as an official token of gratitude. The plaques were presented to the next of kin of the Commonwealth servicemen who died. The memorial death plaque, also known as the next of kin plaque, was commonly called the Dead Man's Penny with affection by WWI troops.

In total, 1,355,000 Dead Man's Pennies were issued, including 600 for women. The round discs, about the size of a CD, are 12



centimetres in diameter and cast in bronze gunmetal. Designed by Edward Carter Preston, each element of the plaque was created to symbolize meaning.

The lion is a symbol of British strength. Two dolphins represent the power of the British Navy. Stylized oak leaves symbolize distinction for the individual man or woman who died. Royal Britannia holds a wreath of triumphant leaves in her left hand while bowing respectfully at the tablet bearing the name of the fallen soldier. No rank is shown as the pain for each sacrificed life was felt equally. Words along the curved edge of the Dead Man's Penny are: HE (SHE) DIED FOR FREEDOM AND HONOUR.

John Albert Spence has a story to tell. He was born in Ontario and fought with the Canadian Infantry (central Ontario regiment) 54th battalion. He died Sept. 19, 1916 and was buried in Ypres, Belgium. When he enlisted, his next of kin was his mother Matilda, who was living in Vancouver. Matilda died in Ontario in 1931. His brother Charlie Willet Spence died in Vancouver in 1958.

So how did John Albert Spence's Dead Man's Penny end up here on Salt Spring Island 70 years after his death in France? When the penny was found there was no internet or social networking. Attempts to find his family were unsuccessful. Twenty-five years on, the archives would be happy to return this memorial death plaque to the family of John Albert Spence.

If anyone can help the archives, please email the archives at info@saltspringarchives.com.

If you have a question for the archives or a mystery to be solved, please ask us.

If you are interested in the history of Salt Spring or the people who shaped this island, our website is full of information: www.saltspringarchives.com

The writer is a Salt Spring Archives volunteer.

GARDENING

Garden club takes photographic tour

Alex Waterhouse-Hayward visits March 23

The beauty of gardens will be shared in brilliant colour at the next Salt Spring Garden Club meeting on Wednesday, March 23.

That's when Alex Waterhouse-Hayward, a photographer, writer, artist and gardener from Vancouver, will make a presentation at Community Gospel hall beginning at 7:30 p.m.

According to a club press release, Waterhouse-Hayward "is one of Canada's most experienced magazine and portrait photographers. In 2001 Canada Post issued

four rose stamps that he photographed. Lucky for us, his favourite subjects are the roses and hostas in his garden."

Waterhouse-Hayward was born in Buenas Aries and settled in Vancouver in the 1980s.

He and his wife bought a house with a large garden and he says he was forced to learn how to garden.

"His entry into gardening was shade tolerant hostas. From there he graduated to roses particularly old and the new old-like English. They are his passion."

Non-club members are welcome to attend the event for a \$5 charge.

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

COUNSELLING

Centre for emotional healing opens

Mountain retreat offers day sessions, weekend stays

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island has a new centre for emotional and spiritual healing with the opening of Celtic Place, a bed and breakfast retreat with on-site counselling services by grief specialist Elsje Hannah.

Hannah and her husband Peter have been working for two years building the centre to a standard of perfect comfort for clients who will visit from off-island for combination getaway and counselling retreats.

Celtic Place is named not for any tie to the British Isles but as a gentler form of Centre for End of Life Transition. And although some medical equipment will be on hand for those who need it, it will not offer palliative care. Instead, the idea is to have a place for people with a terminal diagnosis to work on emotional healing before they enter the palliative state (typically defined as the last six months of life).

"We're helping people who are dying to do it emotionally and spiritually healed," Hannah said, "and what that really means is helping people mend broken relationships, finish unfinished business and answer questions like, 'Where do I go from here?'"

The setting on the slopes of Mount Maxwell, with views looking out across the water to the Southern Gulf Islands and Mount Baker, brings to mind a European sanatorium's offer of high-altitude fresh air. The guest suites are similarly outfitted with a sense of quiet luxury with private decks facing the view, leather furniture and fresh linens, set off by dark laminate floors and bright windows.



Grief specialist Elsje Hannah.

PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Tasteful flat-screen televisions, private bathrooms and discreet minibars complete the picture.

Shared amenities include a kitchen area where breakfast is prepared, a sunroom where it's served, a wheelchair lift in the stairwell and an area destined as a future elevator. Each room and level is wheelchair accessible, including decks and washrooms.

The centre will provide packages that include a stay in one of the suites and daily counselling sessions. People living on Salt Spring will be able to book office-hour appointments.

The location is in itself restorative, but what's truly different about Celtic Place is the professional care Hannah can provide, with counselling aimed specifically at terminally ill clients and their families, and those who are grieving a past loss.

Hannah said that in addition to people who are confronting their own upcoming deaths, their family members also benefit from counselling.

"A wife whose husband has been diagnosed as terminal, for example, will have her whole life turned upside down. She'll be in need of emotional and practical

support."

Hannah's entry into counselling was prompted by personal experience after her father passed away 12 years ago. Her decision to specialize in grief was an unusual one in the field, and one that most counsellors tend to shy away from, but Hannah felt it was a natural choice.

"I had to go to counselling to have my own stuff sorted and walked out of the experience feeling I could do that for other people," she said.

"I don't think grief is something we were ever meant to do by ourselves."

Her work has included an office in uptown Ganges (which she'll keep) and contracts with palliative centres in Nanaimo and the Lower Mainland.

One thing she has learned is there is a lot of medical support for people who have received a serious diagnosis (usually of cancer) and support again during the end of life process, but there's a big gap between those two states.

"When patients are diagnosed there's a lot of help to keep them alive and healthy, but once we get diagnosed as terminal, we kind of get dropped off the

map," she said.

The precarious state when the end has been predicted but the body hasn't yet started shutting down is the time emotional issues can be dealt with.

"You've been given a gift in the time you have left — what are you going to do with it?" Hannah asked.

"Are you going to live in the shadow of death, or live life to its fullest?"

The centre is also home to a 1,000-square-foot studio. Equipped with a kitchenette, piano and large TV screen, it can be set up for conferences, host group sessions or be used by larger family groups.

The studio is the location of Hannah's specialized treatments, such as art therapy and a rice table for children to act out their emotional experiences without having to articulate them. Another specialty, called Observed Eye Integration, is a trauma therapy Hannah has found very effective for helping mothers who have lost their children unexpectedly to causes like violence or drugs.

Despite its feeling of splendid isolation, the Hannahs have ensured that Celtic Place is both accessible and self-reliant. Water is stored in a 2,000-gallon holding tank and goes through a filter and a UV treatment system to protect fragile immune systems. Power outages are not a problem with a standby generator on site, which is equipped with a hospital-grade muffler.

The Hannahs have put in a new, private driveway from Wright Road and purchased their own snow plough. They are also willing to pick-up clients from the float plane dock, from town or from the bottom of the hill.

For more information, call 250-931-8000 or visit www.celticplace.ca.

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

BOOKS

SSI talent on BC Book Prize shortlists

Winners announced
April 21

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The excellence of local writers and publishing has been recognized once again with the recent announcement of the BC Book Prize shortlists.

Author Derek Lundy has been named as a finalist for the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction prize for *Borderlands: Riding the Edge of America*. For this book Lundy investigated the United States' growing efforts to ensure security along its borders with Mexico and Canada.

Travelling the length of each border by motorcycle, he witnessed drug running and immigrant crossings in the south and the giant walls being built to try to keep such problems out. He predicts the U.S. will be pursuing a similar tactic with Canada before long.

Also in the running for an award is Gurjinder Basran's

novel *Everything Was Good-Bye*, shortlisted for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize. Basran, a resident of Delta, was published by Salt Spring printing house Mother Tongue Press after being selected as the winner of its Search for the Great B.C. Novel Contest.

Basran's moving story of a Punjabi-Canadian woman struggling to balance tradition and modernity in the Lower Mainland was shortlisted by authors Kathy Page and Karen X Tulchinsky from 64 submissions.

Mother Tongue Press founder Mona Fertig said Monday that she and Basran were both surprised and thrilled by the news.

"It's very, very exciting. She's up against some big names [but] I think she has a good chance of coming through," Fertig said. Basran's competition includes Jack Whyte, author of many popular historic and fantasy novels, and Jack Hodgins, the author who chose her book as the contest winner.

Fertig said having Hodgins up for the same prize adds credibility to the contest, while for Basran just being shortlisted could make her career.

"She's thrilled. She is on Cloud Nine — it's just going to be huge because whatever she writes from now on, this will be in her credits. So it's great," Fertig said.

Lundy was on the road in Oregon when he first heard the news, via an email of congratulation from Fertig. He didn't actually know what the email referred to until some time later. He was returning from a trip back down at the Mexican border, where he was checking into the current situation pending the paperback release of *Borderlands* this fall.

Lundy's books have been hugely successful — *The Godforsaken Sea* was translated into nine languages — but this is only his second time to be shortlisted for a prize. (The first time was also a BC Book nod for *The Way*

of the Ship, a Globe and Mail Best Book for 2002.)

"It's very nice — it's like winning a mini lottery," Lundy said. "There's so many good books out there that don't get shortlisted, and only a few places to be on a shortlist. But it's nice to be chosen."

Lundy noted the stiff competition in his field, including Douglas Coupland for his biography of Marshall McLuhan and John Vaillant for *The Tiger* — the recent winner of the Governor General's Literary Award for Non-Fiction.

"I'm happy to be in their company," he said. "They always turn out to be interesting people, too."

The awards ceremony takes place April 21 at the Kay Meek Centre in West Vancouver.

As an interesting Salt Spring connection, the centre is managed by Paul Gravett, the former director of ArtSpring. Gravett's partner Mark Hand designed Basran's book.

HOSPITAL

Program helps recognize Lady Minto caregivers

Helping Hearts
links donations
with staff
recognition

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A new initiative at Lady Minto Hospital will make it easier to donate funds honouring the people who make health care happen: the nurses, doctors and support staff whose personal contributions make a difference.

The Helping Hearts Campaign, launched officially last Thursday at the hospital, is a homegrown effort of the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation to recognize staff and add to the regular fundraising program at the same time.

Diana Hayes, who is the foundation's

planned giving and development coordinator, said discharged patients and family members often wish to recognize the help they've received, and this campaign gives them a formal venue to do so.

"In a small hospital everybody is part of the team — and I think patients see that," Hayes said.

"We get letters every month mentioning the special care patients have received."

With Helping Hearts, donations will go towards the foundation's annual fund, which meets priority needs identified by the hospital each year.

The needs can cover items like new equipment, a nurses' education fund or renovations and capital project spending. Recent projects have included upgrades to the

Extended Care gardens and patios.

Hospital staff members of all descriptions can be recognized in the campaign.

Doctors and nurses may be on the front lines, but other important individuals are found doing the hospital laundry, creating dietary plans and in the pharmacy, among other areas.

Foundation board member Janine Fernandes-Hayden asks: "Did our admitting staff work to efficiently process your in-patient information, knowing how horrible you might have been feeling? What about our staff who provide activities, entertainment and care to enhance the living experience of our extended care residents?"

Any staff member who has a donation made in his or her

name will receive a letter of acknowledgment from the foundation, a lapel pin and recognition from managers and co-workers.

As Hayes observed, the program makes sense because, "We know at the foundation that people would not be donating without that core of good care. It's one of the building blocks of really creating trust in the community."

And the hospital benefits doubly by showing its staff that efforts are appreciated.

"I think it's really important that the people who are working so hard are noticed," Hayes said.

"All the staff so far have been quite thrilled. Things have been hectic and it's a nice boost of morale for everyone."

Brochures and posters on the program

TRANSPORTATION

Green transportation workshop gives wheels to inspiring action

CRD-led concept
explored in Ganges
March 24

Islanders are invited to join a network of green transportation educators through the Transportation Tune-up Train-the-Trainer program.

Presented by the Salt Spring Transportation Commission and the Capital Regional District, the free two-hour workshop is set for Thursday, March 24 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the portable room behind the school board office at 112 Rainbow Rd.

According to a press release, the TTU Train-the-Trainer pro-

gram "aims to educate citizens on fuel-efficient driving techniques, vehicle rebate programs and greener travel choices.

"The goal of the program is to inspire action at home, work and play to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through driving smarter and shifting how we get around."

The workshop, which aims to train 700 individuals in the CRD, will teach how transportation choices impact the environment and how people can save money through driving smarter.

"Leave with the tools and information to deliver presentations and spread the word to your peers. We equip you with

a toolkit and the knowledge to capture any audience — from drivers to walkers — in any sort of setting."

To encourage the trainees to spread the word far and wide, great prizes and incentives are offered, including bus passes, new bicycles, helmets, locks, car share credits, taxi vouchers, vehicle tune-ups and more.

"The more people you tell and who pledge to tune up their behaviours, the more chances you have to win. Think of this as an eco-friendly pyramid scheme."

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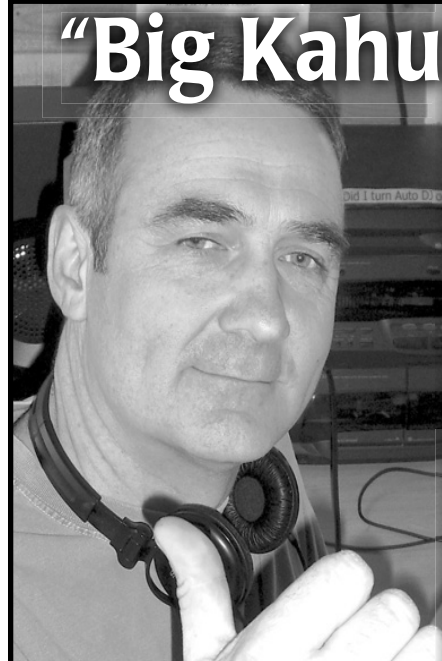
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MEN'S SOCCER

Salt Spring FC squad moves up division ranks



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Salt Spring FC's Gord Akerman gets by the Castaways keeper to score for Salt Spring in a 3-0 match.

FC Alumni upset in quarterfinal

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

FC Alumni was turfed from the Tony Grover Masters Cup after losing a 3-0 decision to the Castaways Juniors squad in Victoria on Sunday afternoon.

The loss came in spite of two impressive FC Alumni victories over the Castaways earlier this season.

FC Alumni had defeated Gorge FC 5-1 earlier to qualify as the lone Salt Spring team left in the tournament.

The Salt Spring Old Boys were eliminated from cup play after a 3-0 opening-round loss to Gorge FC.

The Old Boys resumed regular season by posting a 4-1 loss in a match against a mighty Vic West squad on Salt Spring's boggy high school field.

Old Boys players found themselves playing catch-up only five minutes into the game as poor marking cleared the way for Vic West's opening goal.

"Things didn't improve as Vic West piled on the agony to score through a miss-hit, a deflection and another soft goal, to leave the Old Boys 4-0

down at half time," said player Richard Steel.

The Old Boys got vengeance of a sort in the second half by striking soon after kick-off. Several chances near the Vic West goal finally paid off when Mark Aston connected with a pass from Alvaro Sanchez to score his second regular-season goal of the season.

"A poor performance in the first half was punished, but it was a case of too little too late as we stepped it up in the second half," Steel wrote in his post-game report. "We had the chances to tie the game, but overall were just not quite good enough."

In Div.-2 action, Salt Spring FC (8-7-5) continued its resurgence with a 3-0 weekend victory over the third-place Castaways FC (10-6-3).

Making a rare appearance in goal, Jeremy Morrison got the shutout as Jason Moulton notched two goals and Gord Akerman scored another.

The victory moves Salt Spring into sixth place, only four points out of third spot in its division.

Salt Spring's next match is a huge game against the fifth-spot Prospect Lake Lakers (10-8-1) on Saturday, March 19 at 2:15 p.m. at Portlock Park.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

United advances to Shergold Cup semi-finals

3-0 win seals place

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring United Div.-2 women fought poor weather and even poorer field conditions last Sunday to secure a win against Cordova Bay and advance toward the Shergold Cup.

"We knew that we needed a good result in this game to keep our chances of advancing to the semi-finals alive," player Sue-Anne Donaldson said.

"We started out strong with lots of nice passing and movement, and had a ton of quality chances, but we just could not capitalize on any of them and we ended up going into the half tied 0-0."

The second half was starting to look like it could have been one of those games where one team dominates but can't find any luck when it comes to putting the ball away. Luckily for United, that feeling wouldn't last all game.

With only about 20 minutes on the clock, Liz Wilson capitalized on the play off a corner kick.

"It was played to the near post and flicked on, and Liz was just waiting at the back post to finish it off and give us



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Val Cunningham steals the ball from a Cordova Bay player in Salt Spring United action last week.

the well-deserved lead," Donaldson said.

"I think Liz's goal gave us the confidence that we can

score and we were going to get more, and soon after that we added another one to make it 2-0."

That opportunity came when Valri Cunningham shot a through ball to Donaldson, who then shot it past the keeper's reach. As she described, she soon made another contribution to the score card.

"The third goal came when Joelle Morrison beat three defenders, making them look quite silly in the process, before she set me up with a easy chance in front of the net and I managed to slot it away. It was a very nice play by Joelle and she definitely did the hard work on that goal," said Donaldson.

"We all played great out there considering the field conditions. Our back line played a lot of nice little passes to get themselves out of trouble when they had to, which was nice to keep possession instead of just booting it to the other team or out of bounds.

"Tami Benoit made the saves we needed to get another shut-out. Val Cunningham played a fabulous game in midfield, and Joanne O'Connor and Lorna Walde were both awesome in the back together with lots of composure."

Having sealed the win, United has a short break before moving on to the cup semi-finals on Sunday, April 3.

Hope for spring eternal as bridge players roar into March

Tables should fill up in months to come

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

TGIF doesn't refer to February, what with the fog and the rain and the fear of snow and the ominous Arctic outflow, but at least it's the shortest month. It's also the month when several local bridge fans escape to southern warmth, resulting in fewer tables than the ideal. But we must also remember it's the month of

BRIDGETRICKS

snowdrops and crocuses and occasional chilly sunshine.

On Feb. 21 there were only four and a half tables and a tie for first place with Liz and Oleh Mycyk equalling Prem Margolese and Paul Retalack in skill. The sun peeked out on second placers Joanne Elizabeth and Jill Evans, as well as Lynn Thorburn and Jean Elder in the third spot.

Feb. 28 saw the Mycyks

finally turning the five full tables on the Retalack-Margolese combo and beating them out to first place in a blaze of glory. Third were Flo and George Laundry, closely followed by Ian Thomas and Jelly Taylor.

So enter March, roaring windily like a lion, and on the 7th only three and a half tables blew in. Whirling up to the top, alone this time, were the Mycyks, with the Laundries just below. Intertwined in third place were the Vic Parks-John Flannagan pair

and the Thomas-Taylor partnership.

And blustery March proceeds, but with the promise of daffodils and hyacinths and Rufous hummingbirds and lambs and daylight saving and hope for a spring full of good cards and good play.

For more info please contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorage@shaw.ca, and remember that gathering time at Seniors is 6:45 p.m. for a prompt 7 p.m. start and the goal of finishing by 10 p.m.

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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:** Rug Huggers Baby & Parent Drop-In: Mon. 10-1, Stay & Play: Tues. & Thurs. 12-3, 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 4 pm 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.

DRIFTWOOD Classifieds

250-537-9933 or 310-3535

www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com OVER 20,000 CLASSIFIEDS ON-LINE UPDATED DAILY

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 By telephone 310-3535 or 250-537-9933 or fax 250-537-2613
 By email to classified@gulfislands.net
 By post to Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3

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 Display deadline: **Monday 4 pm**
 Word ad deadline: **Tuesday 10 am**

Driftwood WEEKENDER

Published FRIDAYS
 Display deadline: **Wednesday 10 am**
 Word ad deadline: **Wednesday 4 pm**



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 All ads are posted to BCClassified.com

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 3 line rate \$14.96 - additional lines 1.25¢ ea
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IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM

COMING EVENTS

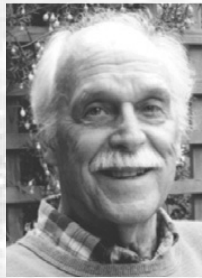
COMING EVENTS

IN MEMORIAM

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

An event to remember Tom Wright



Saturday, April 26, in Meaden Hall (Legion on Blain) Noon to 3 p.m.

Consistent with the kinds of events Tom appreciated: a potluck lunch, a few comments by family and friends about Tom, followed by a toast in his memory.

Photos and other memorabilia will be on display. There will be a hosted bar, coffee, tea and juice.

Thank you to everyone who made donations to Fernwood School Library, the Water Preservation Society, the NDP and others.

ISLAND COMFORT QUILTS Quilting Bee



Sunday April 3, 2011 9:00 am — 4:30 pm
Farmers' Institute Hall

To Volunteer:
 Phone: Marguerite Lee 250 537 5302
 Or email: islandcomfortquilts@shaw.ca

Memorial for Kim Hoban

March 27. Lions Club 12-4pm. Potluck finger foods appreciated.

Everyone welcome to celebrate this wonderful woman's life.

Volunteers, etc call Pat 250-537-1263 or Lynn 250-931-4485.



March Sale!

- Metal Gates
- Garden Gates
- Hand-Carved Buddhas
- Pottery
- Mirrors
- Wind Chimes

Discover Indonesia at **AI's Asian Treasures and Imports**
10 am - 4:30 pm Tuesday - Sunday
 250.324.4444
 #7 9360 Smiley Rd., Chemainus (just off Henry Rd. & Trans Can. Hwy.)

BCSPCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY MARCH 23rd, 2011
4:30 - 6:30 PM
 @ **LION'S HALL**


UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP
 Jamie Capranos shares insights and reflections on Paganism and the spring "Equinox". Sunday March 20, 11 am at S.S. Seniors' Centre
www.saltspringunitarian.com

Salt Spring Island Public Library Association

NOTICES

The annual general meeting of the members of the Association will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday March 29, 2011 at the Upper Hall of the Salt Spring Island United Church, 111 Hereford Avenue, Ganges.

Holmes, Barry Marcus



(Retired from Southam News & Owner of Apple Route Bed & Breakfast in Smithfield, Ontario) - passed away suddenly at the Trenton Memorial Hospital on Monday, March 7th, 2011 in his 73rd year. Survived by his stepmother, Jean Holmes, of Salt Spring Island, BC. Son of the late Marcus and Gertrude Holmes. Beloved husband and best friend for 47 years of Jane Marion (nee Cook). Loving father of Pamela Buttery (Brian) of Castleton, and Marcus Holmes of Toronto. He will be missed by his grandchildren Claire and Anna Buttery. Survived by his brother Donald Holmes (Judy) of Duncan, BC. Predeceased by his brother-in-law Douglas A. Cook. Fondly remembered by his cousins, nieces, nephews and their families. Barry was a professional trade publication writer (Editor and Publisher of Motor Truck Magazine), an avid gardener and family man, who had a love of travel. In keeping with Barry's wishes, cremation has taken place. Family and friends are invited to celebrate Barry's life at Smithfield United Church, Ontario on Saturday, April 2nd, 2011 at 3 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Trenton Memorial Hospital or to The Friends of Prequ'ile Provincial Park, would be appreciated.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SSI SEARCH & RESCUE

April 5, 2011 at 7pm
 Search & Rescue Hall
 261 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

CALL FOR ENTRIES 9TH ANNUAL
 Kitty Coleman Woodland Art & Bloom Festival. Fine Art and Quality Crafts Juried Show. Presented in a spectacular outdoor setting May 21, 22, 23. Applications for Artisans are available at woodlandgardens.ca or phone 250-338-6901

FABULOUS FLEAMARKET
 Sat. Apr 2, 10am to 2pm at Fulford Hall. Table rental 8ft \$20 or 4ft \$10. Delicious homemade food available. 250-537-5482.

G.I.S.R.A. Gulf Islands Seniors' Residence Association

A.G.M.
 Saturday, March 26 10am at Meadowbrook

HOMEOPATHY STUDY GROUP
 starting Mon March 28 9:30-11:30am. 6 classes every two weeks. Learn to treat yourself and your family with confidence. Small group size for focused learning. \$200 includes textbook. Contact Tami 250-537-4728 ext.1 www.arbutustherapy.ca

PIANO TUNER coming to Salt Spring March 18 to 20. Book appt. 604-732-7863 or email silverwoodpianos@shaw.ca www.silverwoodpianos.com

WORLD WATER DAY "Let's Talk about Water" Potluck Dinner, Discussion, Q&A on Mar 22 @ All Saints 6-9pm. RSVP: waterprotection@telus.net by Cusheon Lake Stewardship C.

Tell us your story!

SAVE OUR SURGERY
 Ad Hoc Committee
 Salt Spring Island, BC
info@sossaltspring.ca
www.sossaltspring.ca

SOS invites islanders and island visitors to share personal stories of Lady Minto Hospital, then and now. Your voice matters. With your permission we will bring your stories to all our official meetings.

Thank you from SOS
 Save Our Surgery
 Share Our Strength to Save Our Surgery

3rd AUTISM Vancouver Biennial Congress, April 7-9 2011, Early Bird Rates! Learn from 18 renowned autism experts presenting new information that can help immediately! www.AutismVancouver.com


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HOST AN event for the 12th Annual Arts and Culture Week! April 10-16, schools & arts councils across BC are presenting arts events. www.bcartsweek.org.

DEATHS

DEATHS

Penelope Jane George



passed away February 25 2011 after a short battle with Cancer. Penny was born in Toronto, Ontario March 17th 1950. Penny graduated Sheridan Art College in Oakville, Ontario where she met the love of her life Ron. Penny and Ron had their son Arjuna in 1975 in Victoria BC and soon after moved to Salt Spring Island where she fell in love with the island and the community. Penny was involved in the Art community from her involvements at Artcraft, and Pegasus as well as following her own passion of weaving, digital art and photography. Penny leaves behind her love of 37 years Ron, her son Arjuna (Cathy), grandchildren Billy and Monica, and Sister Elisabeth (Len) along with the friends she has made over the years on Salt Spring Island. A celebration of Life will be held March 19th (1-3pm) at her son's residence (233 Beaver Point Road). In Lieu of flowers a donation can be made to the Victoria Easter Seals House in her name. Easter Seals made this challenging time more comfortable for our family. A huge Thank you to the Salt Spring Fire Rescue and our Firefighters, the entire Lady Minto Hospital Staff, the Salt Spring BC Ambulance paramedics, Dr Karen Berg, Dr Bob Crossland, BC Cancers Agency, Royal Jubilee Hospital, and most of all our family for helping us through this difficult time. We all miss you. Rest in Peace my Love, my Mom, my Grandma, my Sister. *LOVE IS GOD, GOD IS LOVE*

CLIMATE CHANGE, KIDS AND CARIBOU:

How living systems in our connected world are endangered - and what we need to do about it.

Help three Islanders save the world!
 Dr. Andrew J. Weaver
 Jack Woodward • Raffi Cavoukian

Join three brilliant minds for an enlightening discussion on the most pressing issue of our time. The challenges - global warming, habitat destruction and our children's futures. Solutions are at hand; find out what they are!

at ArtSpring Theatre
Friday, March 25, 2001 • 7-9pm

Tickets at the ArtSpring Box Office:
 \$15, \$8 students and seniors
 250.537.2102 • www.artspring.ca

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

BINGO MEADEN HALL
 Royal Canadian Legion

7PM THURSDAY March 17, 2011
Early Bird, 6:30 pm

Sponsored by Ladies Auxiliary Royal Canadian Legion Br. 92

Everyone Welcome
All proceeds to bursaries for Salt Spring Students

Read it off-island on-line.
gulfislandsaqua.com

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

DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ISLANDS IN TRUST
Trust in Islands
In Islands Trust

SAVE OUR SURGERY
We are gathering signed SOS postcards until Mar 20, 2011. If you haven't had a chance to sign the card please contact us at: info@sossaltspring.ca Thank you.

PERSONALS

DATING SERVICE. Long-term/short-term relationships, call now. 1-877-297-9883. Exchange voice messages, voice mailboxes. 1-888-534-6984. Live adult casual conversations, one-on-one, 1-866-311-9640. Meet on chat-lines. Local Single Ladies. 1-877-804-5381. (18+).

DENIED CANADA Pension-Plan Disability Benefits? The Disability Claims Advocacy Clinic can help. Call Allison Schmidt at 1-877-793-3222. www.dcac.ca.

LOST AND FOUND



STILL MISSING
female 2 year old tabby named Cheetah in or around 105 Beddis Rd area. Please contact Marion Bankes at 250-537-0238 REWARD

TRAVEL

GETAWAYS

LONG BEACH - Ucluelet - Deluxe waterfront cabin, sleeps 6. BBQ. Winter Special. 2 nights \$239 / 3 nights \$299. Pets Okay. Rick 604-306-0891

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

FAMILIES EARNING more. Work from home part or full-time. No selling. No inventory. No parties. No large investment or risk. Visit www.familiesearningmore.com.

Vibrant Contemporary Floral Business for Sale

This is an established home based business with a loyal client base developed over 18 years...a substantial portion of which is off island repeat customers ordering for friends and relatives on Salt Spring. Niche market is well developed and would suit someone who has skills to take advantage of quality and service oriented goodwill. Includes all equipment, rentals and gift ware. 250-537-9252

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

FAIR REALTY has openings for agents on Vancouver Island. We offer 100 percent commission with monthly fees, starting from \$50.00/mo. Contact Bob Wilson bob@fairrealty.com

DRIVERS/COURIER/TRUCKING

DRIVERS/OWNER operators wanted. truck contractors need drivers with log haul experience and clean driver's abstract. Owner operators needed with 6, 7, 8 axle log trailers. visit: www.alpac.ca or call 1-800-661-5210 (ext. 8173).

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APARTMENT/CONDOMINIUM MANAGERS (CRM) home study course. Many jobs registered with us across Canada! Thousands of grads working! Government certified. 30 years of success! 1-800-665-8339, 604-681-5456. www.RMTI.ca

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INFORMATION

BCjobnetwork

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

STUDY ADVENTURE tourism! Train to be an adventure guide in just nine months. Outdoor Recreation & Ecotourism Certificate. College of New Caledonia, Valemount, BC. 1-888-690-4422; www.cnc.bc.ca/valemount

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DELIVER RV trailers for pay! Successful RV transport company seeking pickup owners to deliver RV's from US to Canada. Paying top rates! horizontransport.com/Canada.

EXPERIENCED FINISH grader operators required by Knelsen Sand & Gravel Ltd., a successful well established company. Send resume to: bernardw@knelsen.com or fax 780-928-3656.

FULL-TIME CERTIFIED Heavy Duty Mechanic required by Bailey Western Star & Freightliner. Experience in service & repair of trucks, trailers & equipment. Fax resume to 250-286-0753 or email: employment@baileywesternstar.com

FULL TIME sales position at Paint Plus. Experience preferred but full training will be given. Drop resume at Store 346 Lower Ganges Rd or call 250-538-5555.

HEAVY DUTY Mechanics required for busy Coastal Logging company on Northern Vancouver Island. Must have extensive mechanical experience, certification an asset. Above industry average (wages), very excellent benefit program. Email or fax resume to: office@lemare.ca or 250-956-4888.

JOURNEYMAN AUTOBODY refinisher required for Southern Alberta's most progressive collision centre. Full benefits, cleanest working environment in the industry, production bonus, factory training. Fix Auto Lethbridge. Ph 403-328-1020.

LEMARE LAKE Logging is seeking individuals with coastal logging experience for the following positions:

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 - Grapple Yarder Operator 144/044 (double mains)
 - Off Highway Logging Truck Drivers
- Union wages, full benefits, local/camp settings. Level 3 first aid an asset. Please send resume to office@lemare.ca or fax 250-956-4888.

LOG TRUCK mechanic for Kurt Leroy Trucking LTD. Welding an asset. Ben. inc. To start immed. Campbell River. Fax resume to 250-287-9914.

MEDICAL OFFICE Trainees Needed! Hospitals & Dr's Need Medical Office & Medical Admin staff! No Experience? Need Training? Local Career Training & Job Placement also Available! 1-888-778-0459

NANNY/MULTI-TASKER req'd. Work on SSI, US and UK. e: robinrudgley@hotmail.com

POWER ENGINEER 2nd Class Certificate mandatory. West Coast Reduction Ltd. Vancouver has full-time opening for Steam Plant Shift Engineer. Competitive wage/ benefits. Resumes or more information: careers@wcr1.com

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

HELP WANTED

COOK POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Meadowbrook Seniors' Residence is seeking applications for the positions of cook, both full-time and casual.

Meadowbrook offers competitive wages, a benefit package and excellent working conditions.

Please contact Meadowbrook at 250-538-1995 or drop your resume at the front office at 121 Atkins Road. You may also fax your resume to 250-537-2719. Meadowbrook is an equal opportunity employer.

Meadowbrook
SENIORS' RESIDENCE

HELP WANTED

Nechako Northcoast Construction, Terrace, B.C. Has an opening for Road Superintendent

- Requirements:
- 3 Years in Superintendent role
 - Thorough knowledge of the road and bridge maintenance industry
 - Strong communications skills
 - Team Management/Leadership experience
 - Excellent time management & planning abilities
 - Valid BC Drivers License (min Class 3 with air)
 - Ability to demonstrate good judgment

Applicant will be responsible to lead and manage operations, including crew. An understanding of all aspects of the work including Work Safe and Quality Management. Coordinate and schedule projects, equipment requirements, materials, supplies and sub-contractors with the assistance of Senior Road Foreman. Manage each project to ensure contract specifications and standards are met. Ensure timely paper flow to clients, and corporate office. Please fax or email your resume to Debbie Russell, Manager of Human Resources drussell@nechako-northcoast.co Fax: 250-638-8409 Only those short listed will be contacted

PROFESSIONAL/ MANAGEMENT

BOOKKEEPER REQUIRED April 1, 2011. Must be experienced in non-profit fund accounting and QuickBooks accounting software. please send resume and wage expectation to ginas8@telus.net

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CARON CARPENTRY Serving Salt Spring Island for 26 years. Construction, renovations, property maintenance. John Caron. 250-537-9397, jcaron@telus.net

CARPENTER/ CONTRACTOR

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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.

HELP WANTED

PERSONAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL SERVICES

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ISLAND WHEELS
PAGE 25

GARDENING

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CLEANING SERVICES

NEED GARDEN HELP?

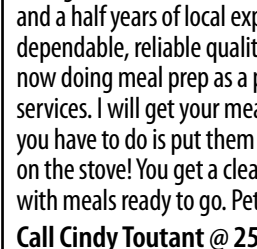
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Planting Bed Prep. & More!

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Taking a Bite out of Grime
Formerly "Partners In Grime" is now taking new clientele. I have more than three and a half years of local experience with dependable, reliable quality service. I am now doing meal prep as a part of my services. I will get your meals ready and all you have to do is put them in the oven or turn on the stove! You get a clean house along with meals ready to go. Pet friendly!

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Seven 10 acre shares, water views, garden sun. 2 of 7 sites on deposit. \$80,000 per share. Dick Hayes 250-935-6612.

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GARDENING

2 BDRM mobile home. Newly renov. large bedrooms, private patio, avail. April 1. \$860/mo incl. propane for furnace and range. Call 250-537-6860.

GARDENING

2 BDRM, Oceanview home 1200sq ft. on acre. Steps to beach. 5 Appl, lg deck. NS, Pets neg. \$1450 incl Util. Min 1-yr lse. Ph 250-537-5013

2 BDRM ss duplex in lovely rural setting overlooking lake southend \$900. Possible additional workshop/studio, horse accom. 250-655-9427

2 BEDROOM avail now. Clean bright house in North End, partially furnished, all new appliances including laundry, large bedrooms, very large kitchen, 5 mins to ocean, shared satellite, NP NS, suits single or couple, 6 month lease with option to renew. references required. \$1000 per month + util. 250-931-1106.

3 BDRM house avail Apr 1, Fulford village, \$1500/mo. + utils. No cats. 250-595-6002.

3 BEDROOM mobile home. Newly renovated, four appliances, fenced deck & yard with irrigation, covered deck. \$880 per month. Available March 1. 250-537-6860

AVAIL MAY 1. 4 bedroom home in a quiet neighbourhood, Vesuvius area, on bus route, \$1200 per month. NS. Call 250-537-5657.

BEAUTIFUL GANGES harbour view, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2100 sq. ft. furnished townhouse in adult oriented complex. End unit with attached garage. NS, one small pet ok. 1 year lease. \$1975/mo plus util. Contact Royal Property Management Ltd., 250-537-5577.

REAL ESTATE

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For for details.

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RENTALS

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

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1100 sq ft room located beneath Lady Minto Thrift Shop. Interested parties please phone 250-537-5528 or 250-537-2239.

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1 bath, W/D, N/S, N/P, Inc Hydro & Water long term, available immediately.....\$700

1 Bedroom Walk to Town
Lower Level of House, W/D, N/S, N/P, Avail Immed, long term.....\$800

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Approx 600sf, wood & electric heat, N/S, N/P, long term, incl hydro\$950

3 Bedroom Vesuvius Home
2 1/2 bath, Long term, N/S\$1600

Lake & Farm View in Vesuvius Area
1 bedroom with loft on upper level and separate bachelor suite on lower level, W/D, wood & electric heat, Available March 1st.....\$1600

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SPORTS & REC

EQUESTRIAN

Auditors welcome to watch Baucherist dressage training

At Blennerhassett on March 25-27

Susan Norman is returning to Salt Spring to continue teaching and educating her group of students in classical French Baucherist dressage.

According to press material, Baucherist is "a type of classical riding that is interested in a sincere invitation to the horse to respond to aids, as opposed to a training that basically forces the horse into certain positions.

"This enables the horse to perform his tasks for his rider with more flexibility and flow.

"Ultimately, Baucherism teaches the horse to lift his great mass literally onto his toes and dance, with arched neck and delicate swaying to and fro."

The tasks are achieved by following the teachings of François Baucher, who in the 1800s perceived how horses respond with relaxation and submission to "jaw flexions" or gentle chewing motions that the rider can ask for at any moment, which enables the horse to relax any and all the muscles in its entire body.

"Baucher observed that the horse comes into perfect balance (which he called 'lightness') when it is gently chewing the bit in its mouth.

"This method has proven itself over centuries and, although never taken up by the masses, top riders in all disciplines of equestrianism agree that it works, including Western riders and jumpers."

"Ultimately, Baucherism teaches the horse to lift his great mass literally onto his toes and dance, with arched neck and delicate swaying to and fro."

Norman has studied this method meticulously for many years. She is considered to be the most advanced pupil of Jean-Claude Racinet, who was recognized as the "world's authority" on Baucherist dressage.

Despite the high level of Norman's training, she welcomes all horses and riders, even those who do not necessarily wish to become dressage riders.

She is described as "a joy to learn from."

Riding spaces are filled, but auditors are welcome to attend for a cost of \$10 per day.

The clinic will be held at Blennerhassett Equestrian Centre, entrance on North End Road, just north of the Central intersection, on Friday, March 25 through Sunday, March 27. The clinic runs from 9:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

GYMNASTICS

Gymnasts qualify for B.C.'s

Island girls set to compete in Langley in early April

Three Salt Spring gymnasts are off to provincial championships after their performances at the Zone 6 qualifiers held in Port Alberni on Sunday.

Taylor Akerman, who trains with the Duncan Dynamics, earned first place overall in the Level 2 Argo division at the event, with a third place result on bars and vault, second on beam and first on floor.

Darby McIntyre, a Level 2 Tyro gymnast who trains on Salt Spring, came third on vault, tied for fourth on bars, tied for first on beam and was eighth on floor to take second place overall.

Alex Murphy MacDonald, also on the Salt Spring team, placed fifth overall in the Level 2 Novice division, earning fifth on vault, a 10th-place tie on bars, a tie for second on beam and a tie for seventh on floor.

Provincial finals are set for Langley from April 8 to 10.

This Week's

Horoscope by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastrlogy.com
sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Spring is here and the momentum is quickening. You are in an expansive mood and your focus is sharp. Confronting any inner blocks, fears or desires to escape feels easier than usual. Giving direction to a growing feeling of readiness to commit is on your mind. Reaching out to meet new people feels good as does deepening bonds with best friends.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)

You will be busy behind the scenes over the next few weeks. You are in a rebellious mood and are determined to win; deciphering how best to proceed is on your mind. As if suddenly, you are interested in subconscious elements and are ready to realize and break free of old patterns. Private meetings to obtain key information are important.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)

Changes on friendship fronts are a growing theme. You are ready and willing to do things differently. You are interested in increasing your network and expanding your scope of involvement. You may not be sure where you belong anymore, yet the arts hold appeal. Whether a performer, a spectator or both, you want to share it all in good company.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)

Big changes on public and professional fronts are evident now. You may feel cautious about your approach yet you are compelled to advance, expect this theme to continue. Pushing through resistances, especially those within you, feels necessary. This could prove to be a big move perhaps even a promotion. If you feel you can reach higher, the time to do so is now!

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)

A burst of creative energy is washing in. There is a lot of excitement and drama in the air and you are likely being swept along in it. You are ready to be seen, heard and acknowledged. Expressing your excitement and enthusiasm is unavoidable. To succeed you must be willing to learn. Outline a bright vision of your future ideal and go for it!

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

Out with the old and in with the new is a strong current theme. What constitutes the old and whether this change is welcome or not, is another story? Your financial situation could change suddenly drastically, for better or worse. Either way, the change will push you to stand more solidly on your feet and 'keep it together'.

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)

Big changes on relationship fronts have been rolling in and a bigger surge yet is here now. You are ready to begin anew. Beyond outer relationship ties, you are ready to deeper the connection you feel within, your own body, mind, heart and soul. This may prove hard for significant others to handle and they may retaliate soon. Explore new perspectives of you!

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)

Everyone is feeling the push now and for you it is in your overall lifestyle. There is reason to believe you are on a creative roll. Eager for information, answers and knowledge, you are willing to do some research. Playtime is about done, it is time to roll up your sleeves and get to work somehow. New employment is a distinct possibility.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)

The time has come to explore new facets of your own being and new angles of creative self-expression. This could be a time of mixed returns - some bitter, some sweet. Establishing a healthier foundation in your life may be necessary. Asserting your will to take a strong lead is good but all attempts to control others will probably fail. The work includes honest dialogue.

Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)

Everyone is feeling the shifts and not least of all you, especially on the home front. Ready or not some big and probably complex issues are being stirred. You may wonder who you are now and what is next for you to do. You will be especially successful if you aim to offer some form of service, like to share knowledge and/or experiences with others.

Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)

A tidal wave of new perspectives is changing your usual perceptions. Exploring new subjects and perhaps places is on your mind. Your sights are set on the future. You may feel challenged not to scatter your vision. A lot of learning about your self and others and what you want and need in relationships is underway. Everything seems bigger than ever.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

Big and noticeable changes are rolling in now. These may well be affecting your financial status. Whether for good or bad, this change is pushing you to explore new options. Self esteem may be an issue so you are wise to acknowledge and vote for your self. Your daily rhythms and relationships are changing and could mean you are on the road to getting healthier.

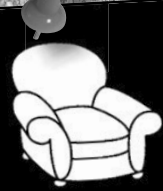


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Cruze gives Chevrolet a real contender in the compact class

BY LORNE DRURY
METROLAND MEDIA CARGUIDE MAGAZINE

At the lower end of the price scale, automotive consumers often have to make sacrifices.

And they may have to give up a bit when it comes to performance, quality and comfort in their vehicles.

But that's not the case with Chevrolet's new entry in the compact segment, the all-new 2011 Cruze sedan.

The replacement for the aging Cobalt, the Cruze is undoubtedly the best compact that Chevrolet has offered in years, and it may be their best ever.

The Cruze was recently named winner of the 2011 Best New Small Car (over \$21K) in the Automobile Journalists Association of Canada (AJAC) Car of the Year awards.

It was one of three finalists for 2011 Canadian Car of the Year along with the Ford Fiesta and Volkswagen Jetta TDI.

The success of the Cruze is crucial for General Motors because the compact market is perhaps the most important in Canada, making up more than 20 per cent of all car sales here.

With a strong entry like the Cruze in that class, Chevrolet hopes to increase

its market share with segment leaders like the Honda Civic, Toyota Corolla and Mazda3 clearly in its crosshairs.

The Cruze is the newcomer in the segment, but both the Civic and Corolla have new models in the offing and Ford's revamped Focus will be introduced shortly. Meanwhile, Hyundai has high hopes for its redesigned Elantra and has designs

CRUZE continued on 26

Chevrolet's new entry in the compact segment: the 2011 Cruze sedan.

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CRUZE

continued from 25

on taking over the sales lead in the compact class by the end of this year.

The Cruze is truly a world car for General Motors (it is already sold in more than 130 countries) and thus it is much more than just a car for the North American market).

It was designed by the Korean firm Daewoo and is the first of many new cars that will be built off the Delta II platform for worldwide consumption. While designed in Korea, North American models are built in Lordstown, Ohio.

Like a number of new cars in the automotive marketplace, the Cruze has a coupe-like profile, yet it has **CHEVROLET** continued on 27

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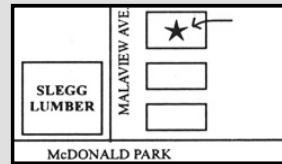
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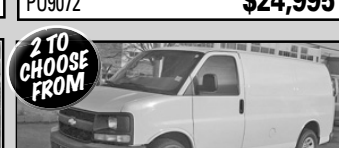


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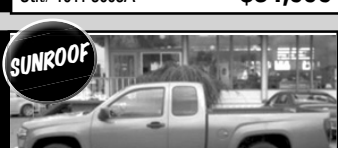


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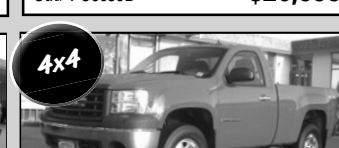
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CHEVROLET
continued from 26

more interior space and cargo volume than both the Civic and Corolla. In fact, GM touts the Cruze as having the spaciousness and amenities of a midsize car with the fuel economy of a compact.

However, to my eyes it doesn't make much of a breakthrough from a styling standpoint. It is an attractive car, but it's not one than has that 'wow' factor that many consumers want in their vehicle.

Nevertheless, it is head-and-shoulders better than the car it replaces and that certainly bodes well for The General on the world stage. Fit and finish is excellent, again much better than previous Chevrolet compact models.

Two inline four-cylinder engines are offered in the Cruze. My LT Turbo tester had the Ecotec 1.4-litre DOHC turbocharged engine, mated with a six-speed automatic transmission. That same engine also comes in the Eco and LTZ Turbo models, while a 1.8-litre Ecotec engine is featured in the LS model.

Both engines make 138 hp, but the turbo has more torque, 148 lb/ft compared with 125 lb/ft. A six-speed manual transmission is standard on the Cruze Eco and LS models. The others get the six-speed auto as standard fare.

Starting at \$14,995, the Cruze has standard features that are unheard of on most economy cars.

For example, it has 10 standard airbags as well as anti-lock brakes, traction control and stability control. Even the six-speed transmissions are something that wouldn't have been found on an economy car a few years back.

Inside the cabin, the Cruze has what GM calls a twin cockpit design.

While hard plastic is still in evidence, the interior has an interesting look to it with a two-tone colour scheme. Cloth inserts in the dash help add a touch of colour.

Up front, there's plenty of legroom and the seats are comfortable and well bolstered. They are easy to adjust and with the tilt/telescopic feature on the steering column, it is easy to find just the right driving position. The Cruze is wider than many rivals (1,796 mm or 70.7 in) and that pays dividends for passengers who will find lots of elbowroom. Rear seat leg room is a bit cramped when the front seats are pushed



Interior dashboard of the 2011 Chevrolet Cruze.

back, but there is ample room in the Cruze for four passengers to ride in comfort.

The rear seats can be folded down for added cargo space, but the trunk is quite large on its own with a capacity of 425 litres (15 cu ft).

My LT Turbo test car (base price \$19,495) priced out at \$22,615 with the \$1,375 Preferred Equipment Group and a freight and PDI charge of \$1,450. That Preferred Equipment package includes Bluetooth, a six-month subscription to OnStar, leather-wrapped steering wheel with audio controls and 16-inch alloy wheels.

The base LS comes fairly well equipped, but if you want air conditioning you have to move up to the LS Plus, priced at \$16,750. The base LS, priced at \$14,995, features a six-speed manual transmission, 16-inch steel wheels, power windows/door locks, remote keyless entry, tilt and telescoping steering column, manual six-way reclining cloth front bucket seats, 60/40 split folding rear seats, AM/FM/CD six-speaker sound system and manual folding exterior mirrors.

Moving up to the LS Plus adds air conditioning and a 12-month subscription to XM satellite radio.

Top-of-the-line is the LTZ Turbo (\$24,780) that includes 17-inch aluminum alloy wheels, sport tuned suspension with lowered ride height and four-wheel disc brakes with ABS, heated front bucket leather seats, power six-way driver's seat, Pioneer premium audio system with nine speakers, automatic climate control, rear parking assist, remote starter, up-level analog gauge cluster and auto dimming rear view mirror.

Where the Cruze shines is in the fuel economy area. My tester has an excellent Natural Resources Canada fuel economy rating of 8.5L/100 km (33 mpg) city and 5.5L/100 km (51 mpg) highway.

Over the years, Chevrolet has been able to compete in the com-

compact class based largely on price.

Now, with the Cruze, it has a car that can go head-to-head with the best in class based on performance and quality as well.

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