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# Driftwood

Wednesday, February 9, 2011 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 50TH YEAR — ISSUE 6 **\$1.25** (incl. HST)

**BC FERRIES**

## Huge ferry fares loom without more \$\$\$

\$25 million needed from province, says Hahn

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The campaign to get more government funding for BC Ferries in the next performance term is getting renewed attention as the deadlines for two decisions loom nearer.

Ferries CEO David Hahn made headlines last week after his warnings about large fare increases were broadcast on the Shaw television program Voice of B.C. Catching most people's attention was his suggestion that unless the provincial subsidy is increased by \$25 million, fares would have to rise between 20 and 100 per cent over the next four years, depending on the route in question.

"You could be looking at somewhere between a four and five per cent per year price cap increase for each of the years on the major routes, and it could be somewhere between 12 and 14 per cent on the minor routes, and in the north — this'll blow everybody away — it's 26 per cent . . ." Hahn said

**FERRY FARES** continued on 4



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**ON THE LAMB:** Aki Okubo is spotted walking with lambs in Ruckle Park. Marjorie Lane reports that Ruckle Farm had 108 lambs, with 37 ewes still to give birth, as of Tuesday morning.

**FERNWOOD DOCK**

## Fernwood requisition before CRD board

Decision to be made at Feb. 16 meeting

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Capital Regional District Board will decide whether to support Fernwood Dock with a tax requisition or scrap the facility completely at its upcoming meeting on Feb. 16.

CRD staff, working on recommendations supplied by the Fernwood Dock Management Commission and Salt Spring CRD director Garth Hendren, proposed a new bylaw to implement the requisition in a Feb. 2 report to the Electoral Area Services Committee.

Bylaw 3761 would amend Bylaw 2730, which established the small craft facility and the commission, to include a maximum tax requisition of \$162,800 per year or \$.05 per \$1,000 of property tax value.

The report explains that \$280,000 in federal funding was sufficient to meet the dock's expenses for the first nine years after being divested by the government, but upcoming costs, including its replacement within 15 years, will require "a secure revenue stream."

Peter Lake, chair of the FDMC, said that only \$100,000 remains from the divestiture funds. That will cover some of the ongoing overhead, including administration, electrical costs and routine maintenance.

**FERNWOOD** continued on 2

**WATER ISSUES**

## Regional district opens new water filling station

Highland water warning in effect until further notice

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As the water advisory issued to residents on the Highland Water District system enters its third week, staff at the Capital Regional District still can't predict when microcystin levels will return to normal.

Highland customers can now fill water contain-

ers from a tap located outside the North Salt Spring Waterworks office at 761 Upper Ganges Rd. until the advisory is lifted.

The new filling station replaces a water tanker that had been distributing water from the parking lot at Portlock Park.

Stewart Irwin, a water quality expert with the Capital Regional District, said the switch is expected to drastically reduce water-distribution costs to residents of the approximately 250 affected properties.

The tap is located near the fence between the waterworks office and highways yard.

The new water comes from the NSSWD's system, which continues to draw water from Maxwell Lake. Despite the equipment's ability to handle the toxin, NSSWD manager Trevor Hutton ordered that the district's St. Mary Lake treatment facility be shut down as a precaution.

Irwin said tests to determine the levels of microcystin concentration in the lake show little change from when the advisory was implemented on Jan. 26.

The CRD will issue an update on the longer-term outlook later this week.

**WATER** continued on 2

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**FRI:** Steep ferry fare hikes predicted  
**FRI:** Possible LH ferry delay Sunday  
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| Harbour House Hotel | Seabreeze Motel        | Terminal                |
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# NEWSBEAT

## WATER

continued from 1

Irwin said the toxin stems from a blue-green algae bloom in the lake. CRD tests obtained from water samples collected on Jan. 24 indicated microcystin levels of seven micrograms per litre.

Health Canada guidelines stipulate that individuals should not consume an average of more than 1.5 micrograms per day over the course of an entire lifetime.

Customers on the Highland system are advised not to use tap water for drinking or food preparation until further notice. Tap water can be used for showering, bathing, washing dishes and brushing teeth.

This notice does not apply to the Fernwood or North Salt Spring Waterworks drinking water systems as the treatment process in those systems can remove the microcystin toxin.

## PLUMPER SOUND

# Plumper freighters hushed

Captains asked to respect islands' tranquility

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A North Pender Island couple is optimistic about new developments purported to end the high level of industrial light and noise pollution in and around Plumper Sound.

Keith Smith said he feels reassured by the Pacific Pilotage Authority's renewed commitment to ensure that ship masters behave in a "more neighbourly" manner while anchored in Plumper Sound.

On Feb. 2, the PPA released a new shipping advisory that calls upon captains using the area to minimize noise of all forms by limiting the use of ship whistles, power tools and power generators.

The note also calls upon captains to ensure deck lights are

used only when necessary and not pointed towards residents' homes.

"The residents on the surrounding islands have brought to our attention the issue of noise and light pollution that affect their peaceful surroundings, especially at night," reads part of a notice that will be issued to the captain of any ship moored in the sound.

"The marine industry is sensitive to these issues and wishes to be a good neighbour to the local community."

In January, Smith raised concerns that ships moored between Mayne, North Pender, South Pender and Saturna islands had continued to disrupt the tranquility of the area's residents in spite of numerous advisories and technological upgrades.

Vessels routinely use the area as an anchorage while en route to the Port of Vancouver. The area is often used to transfer gypsum from freighters to

barges headed for processing facilities in Washington State and the Lower Mainland.

On Feb. 1, the Islands Trust Executive Committee passed a resolution calling on the Chamber of Shipping, PPA, Port of Vancouver and Transport Canada to pay close attention to residents' concerns.

Smith said he is reassured by the PPA's apparent willingness to work with Gulf Islands residents.

Individuals with any concerns have been asked to contact the Pacific Pilotage Authority Dispatch office in Victoria at 250-363-3878.

The Islands Trust's Clare Frater has requested public comments about noise and light concerns, as well as any updates on whether gypsum dust problems have been resolved through changes implemented by Canada Steamship Lines International last year.

Frater can be reached at [cfrater@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:cfrater@islandstrust.bc.ca).

# Fernwood dock considered important amenity

## FERNWOOD

continued from 1

"But eventually everything will have to be replaced — ideally within 10 years — by which time we'll have the capital [with the tax requisition in place]," he said.

The only other alternative to the funding is to get rid of the dock completely, and if that happens, the decision needs to be made while there is still the money required to decommission it, Lake said.

But, as the report points out, public support for having the dock was already established in the 1999 referendum that

allowed the transfer from the federal government to the CRD.

"Decommissioning the dock would draw strong opposition from the community; the dock is considered an important amenity and is identified as an emergency access point."

The proposed bylaw does not require an alternate approval process, since the provision for a tax requisition was included in the original bylaw.

If passed by the CRD Board and approved by the provincial Minister for Community, Sport and Cultural Development, the bylaw will add approximately

\$25 to the average household's property tax bill at 2011 assessment levels.

A second proposed amendment would change the requirements of the commission, which is currently designated at seven members, including two people from the other Gulf Islands.

Bylaw 3762 would change the membership criteria to five people in total, all from Salt Spring. Lake said the current requirement makes a quorum difficult to meet. As well, he feels that since only the taxpayers on Salt Spring are responsible for the funding, only they should direct its management.

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		6.9		3.0
				9.8
WE	08:16	3.2	SU	06:14
		10.5		3.0
				9.8
	15:38	1.4		10:07
		4.6		3.1
				10.2
	22:57	2.5		19:05
		8.2		0.8
				2.6
10	02:06	2.4	14	04:05
		7.9		3.2
				10.5
TH	08:35	3.2	MO	08:12
		10.5		3.0
				9.8
	16:25	1.2		11:20
		3.9		3.1
				10.2
11	08:56	3.1	15	04:30
		10.2		3.2
				10.5
FR	17:16	1.1	TU	09:02
		3.6		2.9
				9.5
12	09:22	3.1		12:38
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# Newsbeat

## Heads up!

**SS Local Trust Committee**

Thursday, Feb. 10 at Lions Hall

10:30 a.m.; town hall etc. from noon

### BC FERRIES

# FACC to suggest service revisions from the keel up

Solutions sought for Route 9 riddle

BY SEAN MCINTYRE

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With so many unanswered questions about the future of BC Ferries' routes, fares and ridership levels, it's no wonder members of the Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee can envision scrapping everything and starting from scratch.

"I certainly don't want to guess right now, but I doubt [the result] will be the way it is right now," said Harold Swierenga, chair of Salt Spring's FAC, speaking about the ferry system's future. "It'll be different and something more useful."

Salt Spring's FAC is one of 12 such groups spread throughout regions served by BC Ferries. The committees were established as a way to gather perspectives from island residents who rely on ferry service.

Committee members, who are appointed in cooperation with local governments, the Islands Trust and First Nations, meet at public meeting throughout the year.

When the island's FAC reconvenes in March, Swierenga said, he anticipates members will have proposals to make routes serving Salt Spring more efficient, convenient and maybe even profitable.

"We are starting from scratch and looking at a clean sheet of paper," Swierenga said. "There's nothing sacred about Long Harbour. Certainly there will be service, but it may not be what we have right now or with the same size of ship."

While the blank-slate approach is only an exercise, findings will be forwarded to BC Ferries' head office in Victoria for further consideration.

How managers will react, Swierenga noted, is anyone's guess.

News that the island's FAC has even begun to consider alternatives to the status quo, however, is music to the ears of Kerry Butler, a retired BC Ferries employee who's spent nearly two decades trying to solve the conundrum posed by the company's revenue-losing minor routes in the southern Gulf Islands.

Butler's vision would have two vessels permanently moored at Long Harbour. A smaller vessel would travel to each of the major southern Gulf Islands on its way to Swartz Bay throughout the day, while another vessel would travel



Salt Spring's Kerry Butler

**"I developed a schedule that not only worked, it worked for 10 years into the future."**

KERRY BUTLER

Retired employee, BC Ferries

in the opposite direction.

A larger ship, comparable to Long Harbour's Queen of Nanaimo, would meet traffic from the feeder routes at Mayne Island while en route between Salt Spring and Tsawwassen.

"I developed a schedule that not only worked, it worked for 10 years into the future," Butler said.

The scenario, Butler said, gives travellers more flexibility to travel between the major Gulf Islands without losing service to the Lower Mainland.

The best part, Butler said, is that current infrastructure, minus a second dock at Long Harbour, is already in place.

While Butler's plan may not be perfect, it's that kind of thinking that can bring ferry service in the region up to date and more in line with current traffic patterns, according to Saturna Island's Brian Hollingshead, the chair of the Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee.

"I would like to congratulate Kerry Butler for offering this suggestion," Hollingshead said in an e-mail. "The more ideas BC Ferries receives from the public, the better the outcome is likely to be."

More community engagement, he added, will be necessary over the next decade as the Queen of Nanaimo nears the end of its life in the fleet. Untangling the knot of schedules and services already in place, he added, may prove more of a challenge.

"The southern Gulf Islands route maze is considerably more complex than most of us realize, even those of us who've lived on one of the islands for years," Hollingshead wrote. "We all tend to see solutions in terms of what would best serve our own island. In fact, each island has its own set of needs and service expectations built around existing service."

According to BC Ferries spokesperson Deborah Marshall, the company and its management encourage customer suggestions about how operations may be improved.

She asks anyone with route information, customer experience suggestions or any other ferry-related matters to make them known to a member of their local FAC.

"The advisory committees are really the voice of our communities," Marshall said.

BC Ferries staff meet with local advisory committees throughout coastal communities on an annual basis. The next meeting between BC Ferries and the Salt Spring Island FAC takes place this fall.

Swierenga said he and his fellow advisory committee members hope to have the results of their research for the Salt Spring FAC's March meeting. A specific date and location for that meeting has not been announced.

## News briefs

### Labour survey date extended

Organizers of the Salt Spring Literacy Labour Survey have extended the deadline for response to Feb. 13 with a plea for more input from business owners.

Project coordinator Gordon Handford said the number of responses has improved greatly, but the representativeness of the sample is now an issue.

"We have about 20 surveys to date from businesses, which is the thinnest representation we have," Handford said.

The turnout is especially disappointing, he added, because of all the people being surveyed, employers probably stand the most to gain. Survey results will potentially be used to create

programs for better trained employees and improve resources for managers.

"We could offer workshops and tutoring on such things as workplace culture and expectations, math and literacy skills specific to your business, coaching for your managers in interview practices and attention to human rights and privacy issues," Handford suggested.

Forms are available online at [www.saltspring-literacy.org/survey.html](http://www.saltspring-literacy.org/survey.html), from Handford by phone (250-653-0038) or by email ([agordonhandford@gmail.com](mailto:agordonhandford@gmail.com)) or in person from Rachel Scott at the literacy office, 126 Herford Ave. behind Cafe Talia. Phone number is 250-537-9717.

Completed surveys can be dropped off at 126 Her-

ford, mailbox #3. Surveys are completely anonymous.

### Hypothermic man rescued on Mayne

A man in his early 50s is recovering from hypothermia after searchers located him on Mayne Island late Saturday night.

Eleven Salt Spring Search and Rescue team members departed for Mayne Island by water taxi after receiving a call to assist from the Outer Gulf Islands RCMP detachment at approximately 8 p.m. Saturday.

Salt Spring SAR's Chuck Hamilton credited the effectiveness of Mayne Island's neighbourhood program for getting the word out and allowing searchers to hit the ground running.

"It was a strong and very organized response," he said. "There was a very active role played by the [Outer Islands] RCMP and [Emergency Social Services] on Mayne," he said.

The man, who lives on Mayne Island, was located in a wooded area and transported to a Victoria hospital by water taxi. Hamilton said the man was in good and stable condition.

Searchers returned to Salt Spring by approximately 3 o'clock on Sunday morning.

### Egg stands wanted

Do you sell farm fresh eggs on Salt Spring? If so, the Driftwood wants to put you on the egg-stand map.

One of the features in the paper's Agriculture section

running on Feb. 23 will be a free compilation of where islanders can buy eggs produced by local chickens.

Just call in your address, name of farm and phone number, if desired, to the Driftwood office at 250-537-9933; drop by the office at 328 Lower Ganges Rd.; or email to [news@gulfislands.net](mailto:news@gulfislands.net) by Sunday, Feb. 20.

### Vehicle mishaps

Salt Spring police attended a Friday morning two-vehicle collision at about 9 a.m. on Quebec Drive.

A 29-year-old female driver advised she had struck a parked vehicle after her bag fell on the floor of her vehicle.

While reaching for the bag, her vehicle veered to the right, colliding with the

parked vehicle. There were no injuries.

Also in police news, a road check on Rainbow Road on Wednesday, Feb. 2 resulted in a 39-year-old Salt Spring male being served with a notice to attend court as it was determined that he was a prohibited driver.

The vehicle was impounded.

During a routine foot patrol through downtown Ganges the same evening, two calls were received regarding an intoxicated male causing a disturbance.

Police located a 30-year-old Salt Spring male passed out on the sidewalk who was unable to care for himself.

He was arrested and detained until sober. Upon release the man was issued a violation ticket for being intoxicated in a public place.



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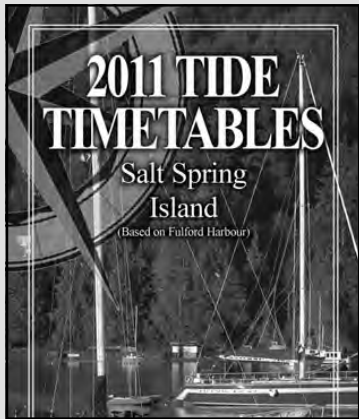
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## NEWSBEAT

# FACC agrees with ferry numbers

### FERRY FARES

continued from 1

on the Shaw TV show. A 14 per cent annual increase on Gulf Islands routes would equal a 50 per cent fare hike by 2016. Without the higher government service fee, Hahn said, the only other option is to cut service.

The proposal to increase fares is now before BC Ferry Commissioner Martin Crilly, who will make his ruling on fare caps in the 2012 to 2016 term based on the CEO's report by March 31.

The provincial government will in turn announce its service fee

contribution in June. Members of the Ferry Advisory Committee Chairs group are not surprised by the projected fare hikes since the issue was reported by Hahn and media outlets some months ago. According to information monitored by the FACC, BC Ferries is presenting an accurate assessment.

"The numbers that David Hahn handed out and the numbers that were sent to the ferry commissioner were pretty right on," said Salt Spring Ferry Advisory Committee chair Harold Swierenga.

"The FACC has

known about these figures for months."

The problem, according to the FACC, is that since BC Ferries became a private corporation in 2003, the government's funding to offset fares on the minor and northern routes has stayed constant at \$92 million, while inflation and costs have risen.

That's not what the province is saying. According to a fact sheet issued by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on Feb. 5, the government put \$200 million into the ferry system in the past year alone.

FACC opposes that version, however, since most of the funding didn't go toward subsidizing fares, and some of it didn't even come from the province.

"We don't dispute they're spending that money, but it isn't going to BC Ferries to help them reduce fares," said Brian Hollingshead, chair of the Southern Gulf Islands FAC.

"They include things in their numbers that we don't believe are appropriate for the setting of fares."

Included on that list is \$27 million of federal

funding. The FACC also objects to the inclusion of \$24 million in funding for student, senior and patient fares, which doesn't go to BC Ferries but directly to those individuals.

Swierenga observed the province's treatment of BC Ferries has changed considerably since W.A.C Bennett established the crown corporation in 1960.

"There's been a change in government attitude that's not good — that sees the ferries not as a generator of economic activity but as a nuisance, a utility that should be nickled and dimed to keep costs and services down."

The current Liberal Party leadership campaign may produce a favourable political climate for changing that attitude, FACC members said.

"Now that there's a leadership review, there's a number of issues on the table that weren't up for discussion, including the service fee," Hollingshead said.

"The people who would like to be premier are now obliged to put their ideas on paper for people to see

them." Swierenga agreed, "I think it's a good time to do it because it makes them take a position — whereas all they did before was repeat the mantra 'We put in \$200 million, what's your problem?'"

Swierenga and Hollingshead said they are cautiously optimistic the province will respond to the outcry from coastal communities and find a way to increase its contribution in some way.

"I think there are things that can be done to generate some economy and I think the government will do something about the service fee. But there's a lot of work to be done, no question," Swierenga said.

Hollingshead said he believes the commissioner will set the fare cap high enough that the government will be forced to deal with it.

"And I don't think service cuts will be the answer — I think the service fee will probably be adjusted somehow."

Post your comment to this story online at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

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### CONSERVATION

## Way to protect land and benefit at upcoming legacy presentation

Next Tuesday at Community Gospel Chapel

The Salt Spring Island Conservancy is hosting a free event

— called Leaving a Living Legacy — for landowners wishing to learn more about tax breaks for protecting their land.

The session that takes place on Tuesday,

Feb. 15 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Community Gospel Chapel will discuss various conservation options with participating guest speakers.

Those include:

Dave Cunnington (Canadian Wildlife Service) talking about the federal Ecogift program and income tax receipts for land that is donated for conservation purposes.

Nuala Murphy (Islands Trust Fund) will discuss the Natural Areas Protection Tax Exemption Program and how that can reduce property taxes.

Robin Annschild (Salt Spring Conservancy) will present information on conservation covenants based on her local experience.

There will be time after the presentations to mingle and talk with the speakers and other landowners who have already placed conservation covenants on their properties.

"The Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem covering Salt Spring Island is the rarest in the province," notes the conservancy.

"Because 90 per cent of the island is privately owned, conservation and stewardship really depend on private landowners."

*Island Natural Growers presents...*

**Salt Spring Island's 15th Annual Seedy Saturday**  
at the **Farmers' Institute**, 351 Rainbow Rd.

---

**Friday, February 11th**

6:30 The World According to Monsanto  
8:45 Tableland, featuring Salt Spring Island farmers  
Admission by donation to Island Natural Growers  
Salt Spring Ale, organic apple juice & popcorn for sale

**Saturday, February 12th, 10 am to 3 pm**

A full hall of Seeds, Plants, Farms, Seedy Café & Presentations by:  
**Linda Gilkeson:** 4 Keys to Growing your Most Successful Organic Garden Yet  
**Paul Linton:** Tree Pruning Demonstration (outdoors)  
**Owen Bridge:** Owner of new seed company, Annapolis Valley Heritage Seeds  
Kids workshops by the Victoria Compost Education Centre at 11 am & 1 pm  
Bring your seeds to the Seed Exchange Table  
Admission \$4 (kids free)

**Sunday, February 13th, 9:30 am to 5 pm**

9:30 - 12:30 Let's Grow More Food  
Panel presentation and facilitated networking sessions, including neighbourhood groups and island-wide projects; Fruit Tree Project; Crop Co-ops; Farm Stands; Garden Mentoring Project; Greenhouse Space-sharing; Land-sharing; and Community Gardening.

1:30 - 3:00 Save-a-Seed for Salt Spring  
**Dan Jason and Linda Gilkeson** offer a crash course in seed saving by addressing the how's, when's and why's of seed saving. Participants will be offered seeds and provided ongoing access to mentors to complete the seed growing cycle and strengthen our local seed bank.  
Admission Free to both Sunday workshops.

**Salt Spring Island Seed Sanctuary AGM to follow at 3:30**

For more details, go to the Events section at [www.transitionsaltspring.ning.com](http://www.transitionsaltspring.ning.com) or email [ssiseedysaturday@gmail.com](mailto:ssiseedysaturday@gmail.com)

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\* **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](mailto: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.

# NEWSBEAT

## ISLANDS TRUST

# N. Pender targets STVR operations

'Neighbourhoods for neighbours'

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

North Pender's local Trust committee has initiated bylaw enforcement activities against the owners of 27 properties who are operating allegedly illegal short-term vacation rentals.

"The community has said, time and time again, that neighbourhoods should be for neighbours and we want people to be aware that we

will enforce the community's bylaw," said Miles Drew, bylaw enforcement coordinator for the Islands Trust.

"This is an ongoing issue of concern that we have had many complaints about."

North Pender's land use bylaw prohibits property owners from using their residences for commercial guest accommodation. The bylaw provides for fines of up to \$5,000 per day for each day that an offence continues.

Property owners will receive letters in the mail notifying them of regulations and of

possible ways to bring their properties into compliance with the island's bylaw.

A press release distributed by the Islands Trust indicates that the bylaw does not have an impact on legal bed and breakfast, resort, hotel or motel operations in commercial zones.

"People may also continue to rent their homes as part of a bed and breakfast operation in most zones and to rent their residential properties for periods longer than 30 days as long-term residential use," states the release.

The Trust launched a simi-

lar campaign against STVR and bed and breakfast owners listed on the Accommodations Group of Salt Spring Island's website in 2010. Many of those property owners continue to work with Islands Trust staff to seek a resolution to the issue.

The release states that the Trust always attempts to seek compliance before resorting to formal legal action.

A spokesperson from the Pender Island Chamber of Commerce could not be reached to comment about the issue in time for the Driftwood's Tuesday afternoon deadline.

## TECHNOLOGY

# Gulf Islands pilot for BC Hydro wireless project

Remote devices tested through March

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands residents could see improvements to their power service after BC Hydro finishes testing a wireless technology pilot project.

The utility recently announced that it had selected the Ontario-based firm RuggedCom Inc. to create communication networks

using a wireless broadband technology called WiMax. The Gulf Islands and the Burnaby-Richmond area were selected to test the pilot project.

BC Hydro's telecommunications manager Adam French said the company will be testing the network's compatibility with a variety of intelligent devices to improve the overall reliability of the power network.

An example in the Gulf Islands area are reclosers, which French said act like a

circuit breaker on the distribution lines. Reclosers shut off power for an area of users in situations like wind or lightning storms.

"There are six reclosers out there that don't have two-way capability," French said.

"With wireless technology we can turn them back on without sending a technician into the field... If we have the capability to turn service back on remotely, power outages, when they occur, would be of very short duration."

Smart meters, which BC Hydro has said it will install across the province beginning this summer, will also be among the devices the wireless network would benefit.

French said the company will determine the findings of the project after it concludes next month.

"The test will run through March and that's when we'll look at the results and make decisions on how to deploy this technology," he said.

## CONSERVATION

# SSI Conservancy school program gets \$10K from Ducks Unlimited

Other groups also supply funding boost

The Salt Spring Island Conservancy started 2011 with good news for its Stewards in Training School Program following a new partnership and \$10,000 in funding from Ducks Unlimited.

The organization is a partial owner of Ford Lake and has previously allowed the conservancy to conduct its education programs for Grade 2-3 and 6-7 students on site. Grade 2-3 class members learn about wetland stewardship while creating a nature journal, examining freshwater invertebrates (insects) and weaving with natural wetland plant material. Grade 6-7 students go to the lake to learn about beaver ponds, marshes and how to tell if a creek is healthy.

A press release issued by the conservancy calls wetlands one of British Columbia's greatest resources, providing habitat for more than 300 species of birds, millions of salmon and many other wildlife species.

"Ducks Unlimited believes wetland conservation is essential in maintaining British Columbia's rich natural heritage and these wetlands play a critical role in replen-

ishing groundwater, absorbing floodwater and purifying surface water," school committee chair Jean Gelwicks said. "Wetlands and their associated habitats continue to be threatened by human activity. That's why Ducks works so hard to ensure wetland habitats remain a part of B.C.'s landscape."

Ducks Unlimited's priority of making students more aware of the value of healthy ecosystems and giving them first-hand experiences through field trips to local wetlands makes them an ideal partner, Gelwicks said. The \$10,000 grant will ensure the school program continues in 2011.

The Stewards in Training program received further good news due to funding from The Hamber Foundation. The foundation is a legacy of Eric Hamber, B.C.'s Lieutenant-Governor from 1937 to 1941 and a previous chancellor of the University of British Columbia.

"Once again we could not be more pleased, especially in these times of more organizations going after dwindling funds," Gelwicks said.

The Salt Spring Island Foundation, a long-time supporter of the conservancy, additionally granted funds for a new kindergarten/

Grade 1 Stewards in Training pilot project.

"This year, kindergarten students in the province are going to start attending school full days like the other grades, instead of the traditional half day," Gelwicks said.

"We have been combining grades 1, 2 and 3 together and have realized for some time that what we really needed was a kindergarten/Grade program. With full-day kindergarten the time is right."

The school committee welcomes two new members in David Paine and Jean Wilkinson. Both have had kindergarten experience and will help develop the new program.

Gelwicks noted that in addition to the donors, the school program would not be possible without the volunteers who teach all the grades up to and including Grade 8.

"We absolutely could not run this program without their support. New prospects are more than welcome to join us for a day in nature, to learn more about our program before committing," she said.

For more information or to volunteer, call the SSIC office (250-538-0318), school coordinator Kris Fullbrook (250-653-9870) or Jean Gelwicks (250-537-4859).

## RCMP NEWS

# Failure to stop causes North End car crash

Two drivers and dog injured

The drivers of two vehicles were injured and their cars towed following a collision at Fernwood and North End roads on Friday afternoon.

After responding to the call, Salt Spring police determined

a 64-year-old female driver had been travelling northbound on North End Road approaching Fernwood Road when another vehicle failed to yield or stop at the stop sign on Fernwood Road.

The northbound vehicle was unable to stop in time and collided with the driver's side of the second vehicle. Both driv-

ers were injured and taken to hospital. The second vehicle's dog sustained unknown injuries after hitting the dashboard on impact.

The 64-year-old female driver of the oncoming vehicle was issued a violation ticket for failing to yield after a stop. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

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## NEWSBEAT

### HEALTH CARE



Nurse Veronica Hylands and Dr. John Morse in the endoscopy room at Lady Minto Hospital.

PHOTO BY KAREN MOUAT

## Visiting specialist boosts endoscopy service at LMH

Wait list now shrinking thanks to Dr. John Morse

BY KAREN MOUAT  
LADY MINTO HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Walk into the endoscopy room at Lady Minto on a Tuesday and you'll find yourself in the midst of bright lights.

The procedure is an endoscopy, which includes colonoscopies and gastroscopies. The cast includes the great operating room team of Lady Minto Hospital nurses and doctors. The leading man... Dr. John Morse, is the specialist behind all this activity.

How did Salt Spring Island end up so lucky as to have access to his services? John Morse and his family had been living up in Yellowknife for the past 18 years. During this time, Dr. Shane Barclay was working part time in Fort Simpson and they became friends. Apparently, the conversation went something like, "If you ever get tired of working in the north and want to work in B.C., let me know." Eventually a move south became very appealing and the Morses moved to Maple Bay. Thus began the talks about endoscopy at Lady Minto Hospital.

Salt Spring has kept Dr. Morse very busy. A year ago, he began commuting from Maple Bay every Tuesday. However, two clinic days and two procedure days per month still could not meet the demand. There was a growing wait list as previously, people had tended to put off the procedure since it required off-island travel.

The great news is now they don't have to cross the sea. So full are Dr. Morse's days on Salt Spring that, as of this January, VIHA added two additional endoscopy days to Lady Minto's OR schedule. This has increased the monthly statistics for endoscopy from approximately 20 procedures per month three years ago to 44 per month in 2011 — more than double the number.

Dr. Morse comes from a family of doctors, following in his father's footsteps as an internist. He was always interested in physiology and research, but found he gained more pleasure in helping people. Dr. Morse has been an internist for 31 years and has a special interest in gastroenterology. He started his schooling at Dalhousie and completed it at the University of Alberta.

As a gastroenterology fellow at the U of A, colonoscopies were new, still reserved for abnormalities, so he did

not do them until three years later after working with a Halifax endoscopist to learn the procedures. Since then, diagnostic tools have changed a lot. The fiberoptic telescope was replaced about 15 years ago with video scopes and TV screens. The new scopes are slimmer and flexible, which enables more adaptability according to each unique situation. Another development in the area is narrow band imaging, an optical filter technology that radically improves the visibility of capillaries, veins and other subtle tissue structures such as polyps. All of this new technology is at the fingertips of the operating room team at Lady Minto.

According to this amicable specialist, endoscopy is very much about intervention and reacting to findings. Patients are always made aware of the risks as well as the benefits of endoscopies at their clinic visit with Dr. Morse. After a recent visit, an impressed patient remarked, "I walked into the room, he shook my hand, called me by my name, asked if I knew why I was there. He sat beside me and we talked through the possibilities we might find. He was thorough. I found him so personable."

There are national guidelines on the use of colonoscopy screenings. Dr. Morse sees people daily who ask to be screened because of their age, genetic predisposition to disease and family history, particularly with cancer. According to Dr. Morse, screening without symptoms is almost always the best time to do an examination.

When asked how he feels about his team, Dr. Morse describes them as "exceptional people, very experienced and they care about their patients." He also commented that the OR space is "amazing and equipped with first-class equipment." He is particularly pleased with the cleaning process as that gives him confidence that the scopes are safe.

He points out that his opinion is echoed by external evaluations that have also shown that our endoscopy room exceeds Vancouver Island Health Authority requirements.

At the end of the day, all of this gives patients the confidence to know that they are being provided with an exceptional service by very capable and caring hands, right here on the island.

The above article was submitted to the Driftwood by the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation.

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Islands Trust

### Secondary Suites and Cottages - Land Use Bylaw Update

The SSI Local Trust Committee invites you to a public discussion

**Monday, February 21, 2011 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

**At the Lions Club**

(Hart Bradley Hall, 103 Bonnet Avenue)

featuring

**Tim Wake, Affordable Housing Consultant**

Are secondary suites and cottages part of the solution for helping resolve the affordable housing dilemma on Salt Spring Island? If so, how should they be regulated?

Tim lives on Bowen Island and has many years experience advising governments on how to address affordable housing issues in their communities. Tim also has experience as a local politician and as a manager of a housing authority in a resort community.

Other panel members will include Janis Gauthier (Community Affordable Housing Strategy) and representatives from the Capital Regional District and the North Salt Spring Water District.

For further information on the LUB Update project or to provide comments go to: [www.islandstrust.bc.ca/lc/ss/lubproject2010.cfm](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/lc/ss/lubproject2010.cfm)

# NEWSBEAT

## IDEAS

# Salt Spring Forum ready to launch

New organization has stellar line-up of speakers

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A movement of enlightened dialogue hosted by expert speakers has been rippling over the island during the past year and is now set to open the floodgates with the launch of the Salt Spring Forum next weekend.

The prototype developed by island scholars Michael Byers and John-Michael McColl had speakers and guests meeting in living rooms donated for the evening, such as award-winning Globe and Mail columnist Michael Valpy's visit to the home of author and philosopher Ronald Wright last August.

Valpy was fresh from following Michael Ignatieff on his summer campaign trail by bus and shared valuable insights into the national political climate.

With the continued success of such gatherings and a growing numbers of participants, along with some

high-profile names on the list, the dialogue is about to become an institution.

Byers and McColl, along with a board of directors, are expanding the idea as a "non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting education, literature and the discussion of new ideas."

The series launches Feb. 13 at ArtSpring with Globe and Mail national affairs columnist Lawrence Martin, who will discuss his new book Harperland: The Politics of Control.

David Suzuki, Amy Goodman, Maher Arar and Stephen Lewis are all on the list for this spring.

Byers, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Global Politics and International Law at UBC and is the author of several books on sovereignty and the law, said the island shows a healthy appetite for informed dialogue and debate.

"After the huge turnout for Gwynne Dyer's lecture at ArtSpring last year, we thought 'Salt Spring is one of the most intellectually engaged communities in the world — we should be having more discussions like this.'"

Byers added that the Salt Spring Conservancy and other organizations have typically brought speakers like Dyer on an ad-hoc basis, usually to address a specific topic.

The forum, in the words of fellow board member George Sipos, will act with a broader focus: "The idea being to engage the mind, engage each other and build community."

**"Salt Spring is one of the most intellectually engaged communities in the world ..."**

MICHAEL BYERS  
*Salt Spring Forum*

McColl, who is the new organization's executive director, said he was excited to return to Salt Spring and bring the program together. Like many other young people, the 26-year-old had left the island for his university education and other opportunities.

"I was working on Parliament Hill and feeling pretty disillusioned by the level of debate," he recalled.

"I wanted to take part in more thoughtful conversations about the critical issues that humanity is facing. And they say if you want to create change, start at home."

McColl and other Salt Spring Forum founders see potential for Salt Spring to become a world-leading location for the development of new ideas and solutions.

"Salt Spring has an international reputation for being an accepting and creative community," said Nancy Macdonald, a former principal of GISS and another board member.

"We also have superb venues, restaurants, and accommodations. In many ways, the island is the ideal place to host workshops, conferences and individual speakers."

There are also future plans for a literary festival.

"I see a lot of potential, but we'll let it grow organically," said author and board member Derek Lundy.

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## PARENTING

# Nature deficit disorder talk at parents' retreat

Fourth annual DPAC event has Feb. 18 registration deadline

The Gulf Islands School District Parents Advisory Council has arranged for an exciting guest speaker and a high-profile topic for its fourth annual parents' retreat set for Friday, Feb. 25.

Bob Peart, chair of the Child and Nature Alliance and a senior associate with the Children and Nature Network, will give a presentation on Nature Deficit Disorder: Linking Behaviour, Mental Health and Personalized Learning.

Other workshops will also be offered throughout the day. Experienced presenters will provide insight on the following topics: PAC Beyond Fundraising — What is PAC, and What Can We Do About It?; Play Again, a workshop led by Cate McEwen and Michael Dunn; and Personalized Learning, led by Jeff Hopkins.

The event will take place at Gulf Islands Secondary School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Although registration for the event is necessary by Friday, Feb. 18, the DPAC offers this learning opportunity for parents across the district at no cost.

Child care and lunch are provided to ensure that parents with

small children can participate.

A small donation will be asked of those who can afford it to help cover food and child care costs. Water taxis for parents from the outer islands will be running, but registration is necessary to ensure there is a space for everyone.

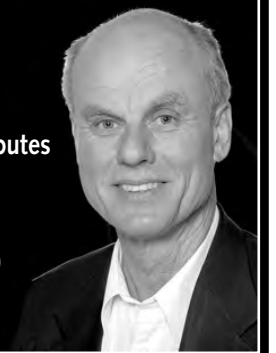
"This annual retreat is an initiative from DPAC as an opportunity to come together as a district to talk about the different issues that concern us all as parents and to share this wonderful learning opportunity," explains a press release about the event.

To register, email dpac64@telus.net or phone Tania Aguila at 250-537-6476.

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# Opinion



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 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

## Fending off fare hikes

**B**C Ferries CEO David Hahn reminded everyone last week that huge ferry fare increases are roiling in our future if something drastic isn't done.

While this issue was already put on the public radar a few months ago, this time Hahn attached some unpleasant-sounding figures to his predictions: By 2016 Gulf Islands travellers could pay 50 per cent more than they do now; major route travellers could be dinged 20 per cent and northern-route users could be awash in a 100 per cent increase.

The two obvious choices to fend off such hikes are to cut services — i.e. sailings or routes, which is where the "kill Route 9" scenario comes into play — or to receive more funds from another source — i.e. the provincial government in the form of an increased annual service fee.

The Ferry Advisory Committee Chairs, a group representing a dozen committees up and down the coast, has spoken out strongly for a need to increase government support for the public ferry system.

**THE ISSUE:**

Predictions of huge increases

**WE SAY:**

Now's the time to state case

FACC members point out that the \$92-million service fee paid by the province to subsidize the system has not changed since 2003, adding that the province's press release on the issue used misleading figures that make it appear government support has risen substantially since 2001.

Hahn estimates an extra \$25 million per year is needed to fend off the big fare hikes. Considering how much some other expenditures have risen since 2003, a 27 per cent increase in funding for an essential service, to kick in for the 2012 year, would not be unreasonable. According to FACC, ferry fares have jumped an average of 60 per cent, and in some cases more than 100 per cent, since 2003, with inflation at only 11 per cent.

But don't expect the provincial government or any Liberal leadership candidates to jump in now and commit to a higher service fee of any amount.

The process sees Ferry Commissioner Martin Crilly first making a decision on how much BC Ferries should be allowed to raise rates, with a government response coming after.

Fortunately, ferry fare price caps is one topic area where the public is allowed to communicate directly with Crilly. Now would be a good time to do that. (See [www.bcferrycommission.com](http://www.bcferrycommission.com).)

To put pressure in the right spot about the service fee level, contact MLA Murray Coell and Transportation Minister Shirley Bond.



## Current model better than 'smart' option

BY DAVID BORROWMAN

Peter Vincent's Jan. 26 column on the Riparian Areas Regulation starts out well, but the mean spirited carping about the current trustees, and a strange ad for the "smart, vocal, well organized opposition" reads like the Islanders for Self-Government creed and needs comment.

Peter is right to point out that the RAR is the product of the provincial (and federal) governments, and that they are being downloaded to local government. In fact, Salt Spring is the last place in the province to get theirs in place. Refreshingly, Peter describes the joint APC and Environment committee members (appointed by the current trustees) as "anything but Trust lackeys." Thanks, Peter (blush). But why would they be lackeys? All are highly qualified. The chair of the Environment Advisory Committee is a Ph.D. forester, and I would try out the term "lackey" on her with considerable trepidation. The committees' critical input is precisely what the trustees asked for when they appointed them.

It was also helpful to have some of the limitations on mapping publicized and thus hopefully better understood by the public. And, there is indeed a map which shows about 60 per cent of the island affected by the regulations. But it was made very clear that this map is not an Islands Trust map, it is a provincial Ministry of Environment Map, and it is not being used by the consultant, or the advisory committee.

The "smart, vocal, well-organized opposition" was indeed there. Strange, however, that they should be recording the meeting. No one asked permission to do so. Jill Treewater, an ISG board member, who videotapes the Trust meetings, was photographing the committee meeting, again without asking a by-your-leave. Smart? It is true that there was no microphone grabbing or histrionics, and no one read a long confession for George Ehring to sign onto, as happened on Jan. 14. There were sensible questions from the public.

One was from Elizabeth Nickson, who asked if there was evidence that regulations were needed. She is presumably one of the "smart, vocal . . . etc." But she also contributes to an anonymous blog which lists contributors to the George Ehring and Christine Torgirson election campaigns in 2008. Over her own signature, Nickson goes on to describe these people as fascists, and then asks, "Can we

**VIEWPOINT**

boycott their shops, ruin their businesses and restrict access to their property the way they do to us?" Is this "smart?" Or is it hate?

Remember, ISG does not disclose its membership list. Yet they "demand transcripts, names, they insist on recording meetings . . ." Smart? Or do we now have an unofficial, self-appointed private police force? Would Peter Vincent regard the majority of islanders as "smart, vocal . . ." if they demanded to see the ISG list? Just asking.

And why would the "smart, vocal" opposition advertise vacation rentals? These have never been legal on Salt Spring. I know to my own pain that the last suggestion that there be limited legalization, in the 2002 election, was resoundingly rejected. (My proposing the idea was one of the no doubt many reasons that the electorate decided to bid me adieu). Vacation rentals are a favourite with right-wing property rights advocates, as they often amount to subsidizing second and third homes for those who can afford them, by means of free commercial zoning in residential neighbourhoods. Smart? Or staggeringly self-serving?

And using the national press? If you can't make your case at home, find a tame journalist off-island who will trumpet your case for you?

And for all the fuss over George Ehring's presumed damping of free speech, both the aggrieved Bowen Island counsellors supported Ehring's motion at Trust Council. Alison Morse voted for it, Peter Frinton (who does not vote at council) later wrote in favour of it.

"Mad as hell and they aren't going to take it any more." Not going to take what any more: stream protection? Obeying bylaws on vacation rentals identical to those in virtually every part of the province? Due process?

ISG, which started out to advocate for incorporation, is becoming our tea party. In the cacophony, steady, sound, legal, principled government on the current model, with all its admitted limitations, is looking awfully good.

*The writer is a former islands trustee and an Advisory Planning Commission member.*

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:**

**Do you support a round-about in Ganges?**

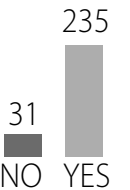
Yes  No

Cast your ballot online at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) before

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

**LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:**

**Should VIHA revisit its Lady Minto OR decision?**



## Driftwood

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# IslandVoices

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**

**"The people who would like to be premier are now obliged to put their ideas on paper for people to see them."**

BRIAN HOLLINGSHEAD, SGI FAC CHAIR

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked: What is the 2010 Winter Olympics' greatest legacy?**



**SANDI POYSTILA**

*It's awesome. It's great. I think everyone did a great job and we should be proud of what the future will bring.*



**RICK WILSON**

*It was good to bring us all together.*



**DOUG HUNTER**

*I think, particularly here in B.C. and in Vancouver, there was a big boom. Beyond the Games, it remains to be seen what will happen from a financial point of view.*



**SARAH SMITH**

*I think it was a flash in the pan.*



**KELLY THOMPSON**

*I remember the great feeling of pride that people felt; they're still talking about it.*

## Letters to the editor

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

### Needle stuck

I am really tired of reading Peter Vincent's angry anti-Trust rants in his column.

I am also tired of hearing about the loss of the Salt Spring Coffee Company and how green and clean it was going to be.

No, I am not glad they left the island, but yes, I am very happy that they don't cook their beans down the street. For the first time in many, many years I will no longer have to breathe the headache-causing chemical roast on my hikes in Mouat Park, Mount Belcher or to town.

Imagine a wonderful hot July evening and before you go to bed you open your windows wide to inhale the lovely tropical sea air, and it's not summer you smell but an acrid stink. The odour is

so bad you have to sleep with all your windows closed.

I think Vincent should take a vacation and the Driftwood should try a new writer. We have so many.

**MONA FERTIG,  
GANGES**

### Newcomers' whining

I watched in amazement and disgust the "protesters" at the Mark's Work Warehouse store on the TV news last weekend.

I don't know why they don't want to see affordable clothing available on Salt Spring. Nor do I understand their lack of knowledge or acceptance about required upgrades. It is pretty obvious that most of them know very few of the facts.

These people claim they

don't want to change the character of the downtown core of Ganges. Do they not realize that they, themselves, are part of the cause of those changes? Do they remember when the water came up to the road in front of where the fire hall now stands and where Centennial Park is situated? Do they remember when the Cenotaph was in the centre of the intersection dividing the road that goes towards Mouat's and the road that goes to the north end? Do they remember when those buildings that now require updating were built? The character of the village of Ganges was lost long before any of them came to Salt Spring Island.

Those of us who have lived here longer than 50 years get pretty tired of the "drawbridge" mentality of

newcomers. Especially when those same new comers take no responsibility for all the changes taking place that they see fit to whine about.

**MARILYNNE  
CUNNINGHAM,  
SALT SPRING**

### Nightmare healthcare

I am one of the "lucky" ones who has had to be transported off-island for emergency surgery. I had appendicitis, and at that time, although we had a surgery and surgeon on the island, the anaesthesiologist was off-island on holidays, so I was transported to Duncan on the ferry.

The ambulance attendants could not have been kinder or more efficient — they were excellent! However,

er, they could not control the climate, or the time it took to get to Duncan. We arrived in Crofton in the pouring rain, and I had to be moved from the Salt Spring ambulance to the one that arrived at the ferry terminal to pick me up for transport to Duncan, in the pouring rain, with all the rubber-neckers overseeing my embarrassment.

By the time I arrived in Duncan, my appendix had ruptured, requiring me to spend over a week over there to be assured that I would not die of an infection.

It is very difficult for family and friends to visit you if you are in a hospital in Duncan or Victoria, and very demoralizing. It is bad enough when you have a life-threatening event and there is no other choice (as was in my case), but I can

only imagine how it would feel to be someone undergoing cancer treatment, or having a seriously ill child shipped to Victoria or Duncan just because we don't have a facility on Salt Spring Island to care for them.

Does VIHA factor in the cost to the taxpayer who must be there to oversee the care of a sick child or elderly parent when they must either stay in hotels or take the ferry every day? I think not!

We have a relatively large population here and are entitled to appropriate facilities to care for our sick, injured and elderly. As taxpayers it is our right!

**MARGARET GABEL,  
GANGES**

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 10

## Who's minding our water? You don't want to know

I can't drink my water. Well, actually I can, but there may be consequences in the form of headaches, fever, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting. Picture your worst hangover. Fold in the long-term effects to my already beleaguered liver and it's not a pretty picture.

My water comes from St. Mary Lake. I am one of the 254 households making up the Highland Water District. St. Mary Lake is in the midst of a winter blue-green algae bloom, an event so rare that the experts only test the water once a month during the winter months. It is an event so rare that those in charge of our water turn off the giant aerators in the middle of the lake from October 'til May, deeming them unnecessary. Algae blooms never happen in the winter. Well, almost never, apparently.

Word of the algae bloom reached me via a frazzled volunteer in a bright yellow rain jacket. There he was, banging on my door Jan. 26 at 9:30 p.m. brandishing a CRD bulletin and a case of Costco water.

My neighbour Sharon Bywater, who is a Highland water district board member, was quoted in this newspaper as being "impressed with the CRD's rapid response." Me? I'm decidedly underwhelmed. Here's why.

The guy in the yellow rain jacket banged on my door on Wednesday night. According to the Driftwood, the water test results came in on Monday, a full two days before we were notified of a toxin in the water that is five times above the acceptable levels. From what I can gather, the water was test-

ed on Jan. 19. That means a full week of poison. And given that they only test once a month this stuff might easily have been in our drinking water for over a month. Rapid response?

The guy in the yellow rain jacket handed me a CRD sheet detailing the whys and wherefores. There is a large headline in full capitals stating "DO NOT CONSUME." Further down it tells me that "Tap water can be used for showering, bathing, washing dishes, brushing teeth, etc" and it was OK for pets and livestock.

Well, surprise. According to the Health Canada Drinking Water Guideline, you shouldn't bathe in it, brush your teeth with it, or give it to your pets. Who should one believe? Given the chequered past of the CRD concerning all things aquatic, I'll go with the feds on this one, and I advise my neighbours to do the same.

Underwhelmed? You bet. I'm pretty sure the 127 users connected to the Beddis Water District would agree. Lured by the prospect of free provincial/federal infrastructure grants, they jumped on the CRD bandwagon. Their personal costs were to be \$825,000, which quickly ballooned to \$1.2 million, and by some estimates the final tally will be \$2 million. Michael Friedman, one of the people on the hook, stated in a letter to this paper that the CRD has charged as much as \$300,000 in "contract administration fees." The CRD maintains the number is only \$36,000.



**Peter  
Vincent**

### HEAD TO HEAD

It is difficult to get exact numbers. The CRD is very tight lipped about all this. The CRD did their own work, which means no tendering process, which means fuzzy estimates. The CRD has a little clause in their paperwork that absolves them of any responsibility for errors or mismanagement. They get a free pass. The expenses are passed on to the users.

It's a twice told tale. The 95 users in the Fulford Water District went through the same thing with the same cast of CRD characters. Their project costs jumped from approximately \$1.5 million to \$1.8 million. That's a minimum of \$300,000 split 95 ways. Their annual user charge has jumped 60 per cent in the past six years to over \$1,000 in 2011. The upgrades add another \$638 to individual water bills. The usually implacable Stan Shapiro sharply suggested finding a new provider and selling the \$60,000 worth of water meters lying fallow back to the CRD. Coming from Stan, them's fightin' words.

As a probable act of contrition, our CRD director Garth Hendren threw the Fulford group a \$75,000 bone, and the Beddis group got a reported \$142,000, both taken from Salt Spring's share of the federal gas tax grant. From what I can gather, that money was earmarked for projects to benefit the entire island, not for these relatively small groups that have been worked over by the CRD. How fair is that?

And now it's our turn, up here in the

Highland district. Our share to upgrade and join our neighbour's water system was to be \$739,000. We held our noses and voted to proceed. By all accounts, the work was to be just about complete by now. Here's a surprise. The company that won the bid, Ridgeline Mechanical, wants more money to compensate for extra work not accounted for in the original contract. Apparently the CRD didn't do its homework. There are "boundary issues and engineering details."

Boundary issues? According to CRD guy Gary Plevins, the plans for the existing building were out by two feet, which means everything needed to go back to the drawing boards. The CRD asked Ridgeline to stop work. Ridgeline sent them a heart-stopping invoice, and now everyone is at the table surrounded by lawyers trying to iron out an agreeable number.

Given the nasty experiences of the Beddis and Fulford water groups, I predict that the additional \$500,000 needed for my area will fester to twice that number, with the inevitable increases in user fees and parcel taxes. It is particularly ironic that on the one hand, they are calling on us to conserve our dwindling supply of precious (albeit toxic) water, and on the other hand they need us to open the taps to increase the water revenues to pay for the stratospheric plant upgrades. I can only hope that Mr. Hendren has not put away his wallet.

It's all enough to leave a bad taste in my mouth, worse than the mystery coming out of my taps.

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**OPINION****MORE LETTERS**

continued from 9

**No increase, please**

The following letter was sent to Islands Trust Council and forwarded to the Driftwood for publication:

We live on Salt Spring Island and are responding to the Islands Trust's invitation to comment upon the 2011 budget.

We strongly object to any percentage increase in the property taxes be it for the Islands Trust or any other department.

Governance in North America at all levels — federal, provincial, and municipal — are experiencing financial challenges. Many of these public jurisdictions are verging on bankruptcy. The private sector has seen revenues fall dramatically, and the incomes of many individuals have tumbled.

We're certain that all the programs, activities and salaries of the Islands Trust are deserving; however, at this time, any increase is a luxury that should

be denied. And such an action would set an example to governing bodies elsewhere in the province and country.

It is time that our government take leadership in at least holding the line on expenditures. We support a zero percentage increase in the Islands Trust 2011 budget.

**PAT AND ROSEMARIE KEOUGH,**  
MEYER ROAD**Goodbye, thank you**

Although it was with some sadness that I made the decision to resign, for personal reasons, from my position as the shelter supervisor of the BC SPCA Salt Spring Island branch, I am happy to take with me the many experiences of this work.

Animal welfare is a passion I will carry with me always. I have been proud to work for the BC SPCA, and believe so much in the work they do. I hope to always be a part of that, in some way.

I would like to acknowledge, and

express my gratitude to all the people in this community who give so much to support our local shelter. Without the donations made by community members, and the many, many hours put in by volunteers, the shelter simply could not continue. I thank you myself and on behalf of the animals.

I hope that all of Salt Spring will join me in welcoming Leanne Brusatore as the new shelter supervisor. She brings much experience to the position, and will no doubt continue the great work of the organization.

Sincere thanks, again, to all the donors and volunteers at the Salt Spring BC SPCA. If you have not yet had the chance to do so, I would urge you to get involved, and lend whatever support you can to this organization whose mission is to protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals.

To learn more about the BC SPCA, Salt Spring Island branch, please visit [www.spcabc.ca/saltspring](http://www.spcabc.ca/saltspring).

**BRANDY GLOVKA,**  
FORMER SUPERVISOR,  
BC SPCA, SALT SPRING  
ISLAND BRANCH**Elephant in the room**

I would like to thank those people who have written in response to my Jan. 26 opinion piece "Operating room goal not feasible" about the current controversy surrounding the push to restore surgical services at Lady Minto Hospital.

There, I pointed out the great difficulties involved in getting a surgeon for LMH and the fact that the operating room and the new

equipment at LMH have been put to good use, even without a new surgeon.

My friend Dr. Roy Preshaw wrote about the lack of patients from the other Gulf Islands for surgery at LMH, yet this is a question that involves the ferry schedules that often make it easier for those people to seek treatment in Victoria than LMH. And Phyllis Bolton of SOS didn't mention that the LMH operating room is in use and is the place where more endoscopic procedures are done now than when LMH had a full-time surgeon. She didn't ask the question that many patients ask: whether they would rather be operated on by a surgeon who does one similar case a week, or one or two similar cases a day. In the past year, LMH has seen a new psychiatrist join the staff, new state-of-the-art x-ray equipment, and continued work on the new helicopter landing pad.

I'm not writing again to answer individual arguments but to discuss another issue which I didn't mention in my earlier piece. It is the proverbial elephant in the room when it comes to health care on Salt Spring and elsewhere. I'm referring to the reality that the majority of patients occupying the 19 active care beds and 31 complex care beds at LMH are usually people with mental health issues or people, usually seniors, who require placement in long-term care beds that are not immediately available. When a large proportion of the beds at LMH are being used for these reasons, it is more difficult to ensure that beds are available to support surgical services.

In the last few years, Salt Spring's population has stood at about 10,000. Due to high real estate prices, many younger people are moving off the island and seniors are making up a larger proportion of the island's population, putting increasing pressure on LMH and other facilities that provide care for seniors. In and around Ganges, there are about 340 seniors and spouses living in a whole variety of seniors complexes, including facilities such as LMH. As well, we are also facing a growing problem with younger people suffering from mental health and substance abuse issues.

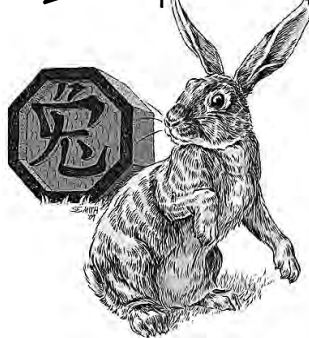
An obvious solution to this problem would be to build more facilities like Meadowbrook, Greenwood and Braehaven, and moving the patients in LMH's 31 complex care beds into these new facilities, which would free up those 31 beds for other purposes such as surgery.

But even if new money was readily available for this purpose, a big if, building new facilities is complicated by the limited area available for such buildings in the Ganges sewer area, the cost of property and the limits imposed by the Islands Trust on buildings taller than a couple of stories.

Making LMH a place where surgery is viable will require much more than a bit of fundraising or hiring one surgeon. It means a great deal of money, and it requires that we talk about the future shape of our hospital and indeed our community. I hope everyone on all sides of the surgery issue will engage in this needed discussion.

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**RANTS and Roses****Rants**

Rants to the person who took the numbers from my sign on Fairway Drive. They were hand-carved and not easy to replace. It is a selfish and irresponsible act. I would really appreciate it if you would bring them back and reverse the bad karma that's coming your way. Linda Frost

**Roses**

Many woolly roses to the kind man who alerted the Hastings House staff that my sheep was upside-down beside a statue! You no doubt saved the ewe and her unborn lamb(s). Thanks also to Shelley for "righting" the silly sheep! Sharyl

Gold stars for everyone who joined to play in The Amazing Race. Special thanks to Island Star Video, Mid-Island Co-op and Rainbow Road Pool for playing with us. And a house-sized trophy to Terena, Mark and Jackson for sharing the Tree House space with all of us. You are the best employers and friends ever! Anna

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Date and lineup may be subject to change. \*To view these channels you will now need a Digital Box. Please call 1.888.472.2222 or visit [SHAW.CA/BULLETINS](http://SHAW.CA/BULLETINS) for more information.

## OPINION

## Doctors' position: staff chief elaborates

BY DR. SHANE BARCLAY

It seems that the Jan. 19 letter to the editor signed by many of Salt Spring's doctors regarding general surgical services has created a lot of consternation. I would like to take this opportunity to address and clarify some of the recurring inaccuracies and misinformation. For brevity it will be in point form.

1. In their letter, "the doctors didn't offer one single reason why they agree with the operating room closure" — because the reasons are all clearly outlined in the May 2010 Salt Spring Island Health Review. Full text is online at: [www.viha.ca/about\\_viha/news/publications/ssi\\_health\\_review.htm](http://www.viha.ca/about_viha/news/publications/ssi_health_review.htm).

2. The OR — which has not closed and which continues to be used on a regular basis for endoscopy and other procedures and which continues to benefit the community — is no longer "brand new" nor "state of the art."

The OR was built in 2004. Medical equipment and technology that is more than about six months old is really no longer "state of the art." These terms are not applicable in the current discussions.

3. No single area of any hospital is, or should be, considered the "hub," without which all else would fail.

All the components of a hospital work in concert with each other to function. Salt Spring has not had general surgical services now for over two and a half years. The hospital is working just fine.

... trauma surgery has never been done on Salt Spring and never should be.

4. What happens if we have a "trauma" and there is no general surgeon?

In fact, serious trauma cases would virtually never go to the OR without a CT scan of the abdomen/chest first. Trauma surgery requires a well-stocked blood bank and an ICU (intensive care unit) to care for the patient post-operatively. Salt Spring has no CT scanner, a minimal blood bank and certainly no ICU.

For those reasons, trauma surgery has never been done on Salt Spring and never should be.

Reassuringly, though, a large part of Salt Spring

## IN RESPONSE

doctors' continuing education is in stabilizing trauma patients and getting them quickly off to a trauma centre.

This is the standard of care all across Canada. Ambulance paramedics can initiate an Auto-Launch response where they can call a helicopter to the scene of an accident to transport injured patients to an appropriate trauma centre that can treat them as quickly as possible. So given our proximity to Victoria and Vancouver, Salt Spring residents have historically been — and will continue to be — well served here.

5. It keeps being said that it is such a "hardship" in convenience and even "traumatic" to go off island to see a general surgeon.

Each year, dozens of patients leave Salt Spring for emergency and elective angiography, cataract surgery, joint replacements, etc., as well as CT and MRI scans, nuclear medicine tests, MIBI scans, bone density, nerve conduction studies; and consultations with a cardiologist, endocrinologist, rheumatologist, dermatologist, respirologist, neurosurgeon, orthopaedic surgeon, otolaryngologist, gynaecologist, obstetrician, cardiac surgeon, geriatrician, haematologist, oncologist, infectious disease specialist, nephrologist, geneticist, ophthalmologist, urologist, paediatrician, plastic surgeon, thoracic surgeon or vascular surgeon.

It is no more hardship or inconvenience to leave the island for general surgery than it is for the many hundreds of specialist services for which islanders already leave.

The availability of specialists has fluctuated greatly over the years, not because we do or don't have an OR, but rather just the nature of semi-retiring specialists, doctors moving, etc.

6. There has been much discussion about a "memo" from within Lady Minto Hospital in 2008 supporting surgical services. Here is the background. In the early spring of 2008 at a medical staff meeting, a motion was made to have LMH conduct an internal review of surgical services.

The result was that the majority of the committee members felt it was important to try to maintain at least some form of surgical services.

In the following months, however, after we advertised for a replacement surgeon, some six or seven prospective recruits all

concluded that having surgical services on Salt Spring was not viable and not in the best interests of patient safety and so none elected to come here. The views of these surgeons were in fact born out in the Salt Spring Health Review.

To put this in context, would any patient requiring say a mastectomy or bowel surgery want it done by a surgeon who has done two or three of these procedures in the past year, or by a surgeon who does two of these per week, every week, for the past year?

The money that was raised ... by our very generous community to build the OR will continue to benefit the community in the years to come.

7. The money that was raised in the best of faith and intentions by our very generous community to build the OR will continue to benefit the community in the years to come. The major expenditures went to the construction of a new addition to accommodate the OR, to purchase anaesthetic machines and to buy endoscopy equipment — and all of these are still being used.

Gastroenterologist Dr. John Morse comes to Salt Spring one full day each week to do endoscopies. He uses the endoscopy equipment, does the procedures in the OR space and the anaesthetic machines are there on standby to be used as needed. Up until recently, endoscopies were only being done every other week. Dr. Morse's wait list was getting so long that VIHA's CEO, Howard Waldner, allocated additional funding in order to do endoscopies one day each week — that's double the time!

So any notion that the OR space sits idle or is closed is simply not true. We are very hopeful that this funding will continue as this is a service that is obviously needed on Salt Spring.

8. The Kings Lane Medical Clinic is a physicians' office that was privately built, primarily for family practitioners. The clinic has recently attracted two new family

doctors to the island. Dr. Morse also rents space at this clinic.

The website has information on endoscopy, bowel prep information and video links to endoscopy. The clinic was approached by an otolaryngologist (ears, nose and throat specialist), who now does clinics two days per month. He has not done surgery for many years, so for him, not having an OR was not an issue.

In addition, Kings Lane Medical is now a base for a plastic surgeon who comes one day a month to perform a number of procedures, like removal of skin cancer, hand surgeries, etc. Since most plastic surgery is done on a daycare basis, the procedures can be done in the minor treatment room — so again, having an OR was not a factor in attracting this important specialty.

All of these specialists take referrals from any family doctor on Salt Spring, not just those located at the Kings Lane clinic.

These specialists are all private practice, fee-for-service doctors who come here by choice. This is not "outsourcing" by VIHA. We hope to attract even more specialists to Salt Spring in the future.

9. The monies that were being used for the general surgery program have been redirected to fund other important service priorities that were identified in the health services review.

In actual fact, we now have a social worker, a full-time physiotherapist, physio assistant and a psychiatric nurse. In addition, Lady Minto Hospital is getting a completely new paint job, renovations in Extended Care, has fabulous new equipment for the ER purchased by the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation and a brand new set of x-ray machines.

So to summarize. First, the monies raised by the community and contributed by the Capital Regional District to build the OR and purchase equipment continue to benefit the community.

The OR is still here and is still very much in use. Nothing has been "sold off" and for anything of value that can no longer be used, we will endeavour to recapture some of that value.

Secondly, Lady Minto Hospital is not closing.

Finally — general surgical services at LMH are gone. They won't be coming back. Let's move on.

The question before us is: what are the health care priorities for Salt Spring Island residents? A functional emergency room that sees somewhere around 10,000

patients per year, a functional lab that sees 15,000 patients per year, or an OR that served a hundred or so patients a year?

The 15 doctors that signed that letter have a strong sense of what they feel are the priorities.

*The writer is chief of staff at Lady Minto Hospital.*

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On your 2010 tax return, you may make a maximum RRSP contribution equal to 18 per cent of your 2009 earned income or \$22,000, whichever is less, minus any pension adjustment for 2009 plus any and all unused contribution room carried forward from previous years. You'll find your personal allowable 2010 contribution on your most recent notice of assessment from the Canada Revenue Agency.

Now, let's get to those tax-deferring, income-building tips:

• **Make your maximum allowable contribution each taxation year** — it's the best strategy for immediate tax savings and maximum long-term potential RRSP growth.

• **Fill up unused contribution room as soon as you can** — you'll enjoy even more tax savings this year and increase potential RRSP growth over time.

• **Consider an RRSP loan** — this can be a smart strategy for maxing out your 2010 contribution and filling up past unused contribution room. The money you borrow generates an immediate tax break and adds to your tax-deferred RRSP growth potential. BUT — you must get a loan at a low interest rate and pay it back as quickly as possible,

even by using your extra tax savings to help pay it off. You can get a special RRSP loan with a payback schedule tailored to your needs at most financial institutions.

• **Do the splits** — if your spouse's income will be lower than yours over the next few years or in retirement, a spousal RRSP can generate a retirement income that is subject to less tax. You can contribute both to your RRSP and your spouse's. Your total contribution can't exceed your personal yearly contribution room but your spouse's limit is unaffected by your contribution and he/she can still make a contribution up to his/her yearly limit.

• **Start now to save next year** — now is the perfect time to start making regular RRSP contributions for 2011. You won't sweat coming up with a large last-minute lump sum contribution next February and you'll get the value of *dollar-cost averaging*, an investment strategy that lets you take advantage of market fluctuations: when the market drops, your money will buy more fund units and when it's up, you'll buy fewer units but the average price paid over the long term in constantly rising markets will be lower. At the end of the year, you'll have maxed out your RRSP contribution, your tax deduction and the tax-sheltered growth in your RRSP.

There are other RRSP-building, tax-savings strategies you should look at. Your professional advisor can help with that — and with all your wealth-building strategies.

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## ISLANDS TRUST NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

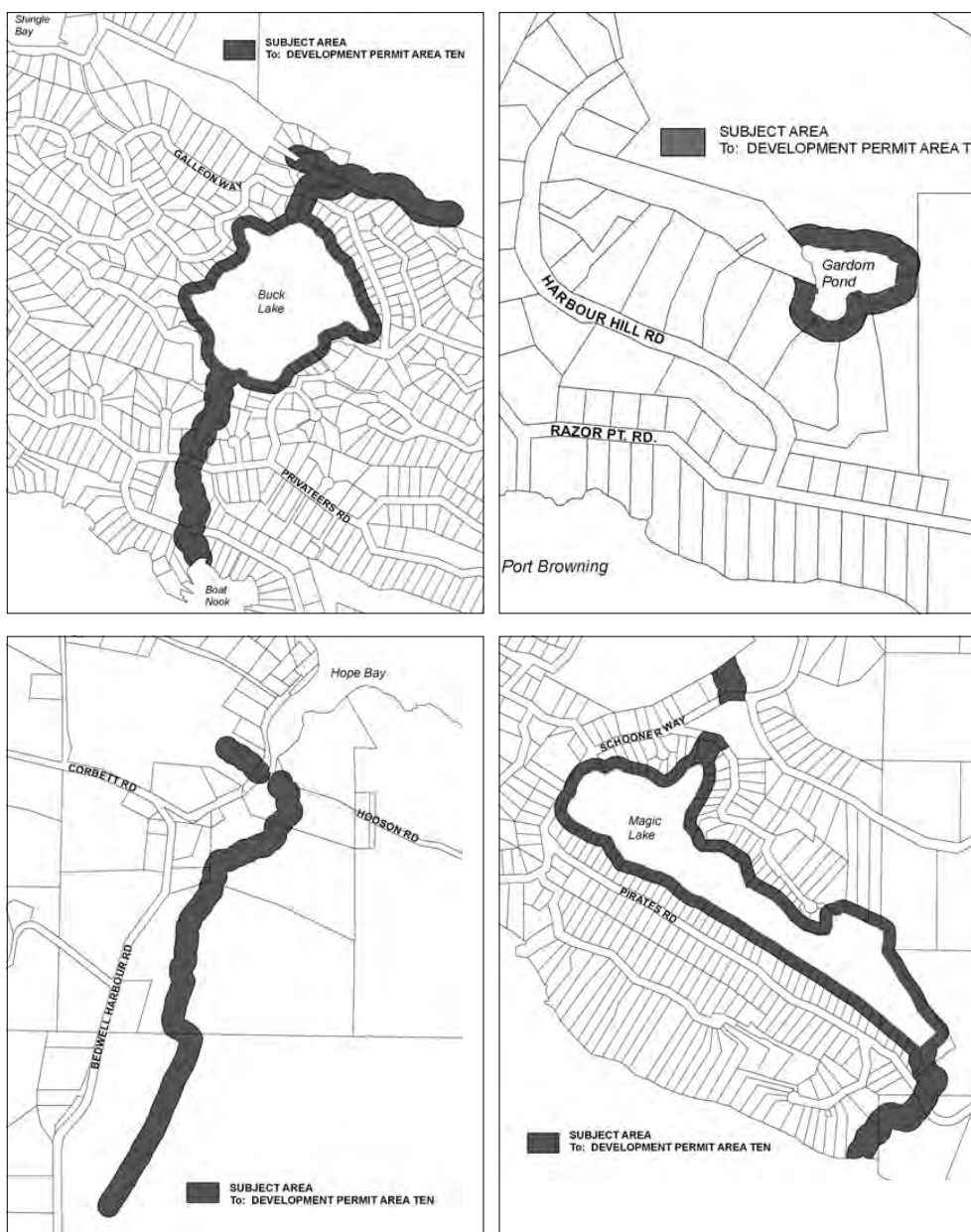
NOTICE is hereby given that the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee will hold a public hearing on:

- **Proposed Bylaw No. 184 – cited as “North Pender Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 171, 2007, Amendment No. 2, 2010”**

for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw at **12:00 p.m., Saturday, February 26, 2011, at the Anglican Parish Church, 4703 Canal Road, North Pender Island, BC.**

At the public hearing all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaw shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw.

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 184 is to amend the Official Community Plan to include a Riparian and Aquatic Development Permit Area. This amendment would designate lands subject to the Riparian Area Regulation as a development permit area. The Fish Protection Act requires that local governments establish regulations to protect riparian areas.



A copy of the proposed bylaw and any background material that may be considered by the Trust Committee in respect of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, **commencing February 9, 2011 and up to and including February 25, 2011.**

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2) (e) of the *Local Government Act*, additional copies of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at various Notice Boards on North Pender Island, B.C., commencing February 11, 2011. The proposed bylaw can also be viewed on the internet at [www.islandstrust.bc.ca](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca) and selecting [www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/np/bylaws.cfm](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/np/bylaws.cfm)

Written submissions may be delivered to:

1. The office of the Islands Trust by mail at #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8, by Fax (250) 405-5155 or can be sent on-line by going to the Islands Trust Website at the following URL: [www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/np/meetings.cfm](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/np/meetings.cfm) and completing the “**Public Hearing, February 26, 2011, Submission Form**”, prior to **4:30 p.m., February 25, 2011;**
2. After **4:30 p.m., February 25, 2011** to the Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing at **12:00 pm, February 26, 2011.**

The public is asked to send any electronic response by using the on-line public hearing submission form. The Islands Trust does not guarantee that any email submission will be received by the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide email submissions, if they are opened and received, to the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee for consideration, but the public should not rely on email as a means of providing a written submission.

Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

Inquiries regarding the proposed bylaw may be directed to the Islands Trust Office, Robert Kojima, Planner, at (250) 405-5159 or, for Toll Free access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867.

**NO REPRESENTATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

Kathy Jones, Deputy Secretary

## OPINION

# Surgery issue not black and white

BY DR. HOLLY SLAKOV

I finally feel compelled to write about the “surgery situation” on Salt Spring.

First, let me say a huge thank you to the SOS committee and all of its supporters. It is thanks to islanders who are passionate about health care that we have such a wonderful hospital. The brief letter in the Jan. 19 Driftwood signed by most of the island’s doctors was simply to let the community know that the SOS committee is not speaking on behalf of the doctors, as some people have thought.

Would it be nice to have a working operating room here? Well, yes, but it would also be nice to have a CT scan, the capability to do angioplasty, radiation treatments, cataract surgery . . . the list goes on. The problem is not so simple as just hiring a surgeon.

As with most things in life, this is not a black and white or right and wrong situation. It is in fact very complex. Even if a surgeon could be found in the current climate of doctor shortages, a surgeon needs an anesthetist, specialized operating room nurses, recovery room nurses and post-operative nurses. A surgeon is only one part of a team. We have lost not only our surgeon, but also an anesthetist and some of the nursing team. Thus, we would need to hire a team in order to get the operating room up and running again. There is currently a shortage of both doctors and nurses in this country.

A surgeon needs a certain case load to maintain his or her skills. If the operating room runs only one or two days a week, it is not really enough to attract a surgeon here. If it runs three to five days a week, then we need more nurses and anesthetists. Currently we have one GP/anesthetist. If he were to leave his practice three or more days a week to work in the operating room, we would need another GP to replace him. As anyone who has been here more than five years knows, it has been a challenge to keep GPs here and being without a GP when you are dealing with a chronic illness such as diabetes, cancer, depression, asthma or heart disease, to name a few, is, in my opinion, much more problematic than being without a surgeon.

While some surgical techniques have not changed much in the last 10 years, others have changed considerably. As surgery evolves, it seems to require ever changing new equipment. I think it is going to be increasingly difficult to keep up with good quality care except for in the most basic of surgeries. Thus, it is possible that fewer and fewer people will be able to benefit from having their surgery here. While it is nice to stay in one’s own community for a procedure, I think most of us want to be sure we are getting the best possible chance at say removing a cancer.

To complicate things further, the province altered the standards on equipment sterilization a few years back and Lady Minto Hospital found itself without the capability to sterilize its own equipment. Since this time, all equipment has had to go off island to be sterilized and then returned. This means keeping extra equipment of all sizes on hand and is frankly rather cumbersome. It’s not an unsolvable problem, but a nuisance nonetheless.

We have never had a full operating team on call on Salt Spring in the 18 years I have been here. While the surgeon and anesthetist have been on call, the rest of the team is not and may not always be available. In the middle of the night, there are many types of emergencies, most of which are not surgical, such as meningitis, strokes, asthma attacks. Whatever the problem, the physician on call does his or her best to provide optimal care until a transfer can be arranged.

I could go on about the difficulties, but suffice it to say that I for one have chosen to look forward at what we can do. Currently the operating room is being used for a visiting gastroenterologist to perform colonoscopies and gastroscopies. This is something that we can do well and do safely and we can help many people.

We have a great group of family doctors with strong skills in emergency medicine who are committed to maintaining and upgrading these skills. We have fabulous nurses without whom the hospital would run. We have received funding for a new social worker and a new mental health nurse.

While I am very sorry we have lost our surgical capabilities and understand completely that those who contributed to the operating room expansion are upset, I believe that all those involved were doing what they thought best at the time. Things have changed and we need to make the best possible decisions given the data we now have.

I think more islanders will benefit from having a good core of family doctors, a well-staffed emergency room, on-island endoscopy, quality palliative care, and comprehensive mental health care than will benefit from having an operating room. I am truly sorry that so many people have been upset by this situation but I think it is time to move forward.

*The writer is a Salt Spring physician.*

# Arts & Entertainment

## SALT SPRING INN

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**THEATRE**

## GISS presents student-written play

Teen issues, stereotypes tackled

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Grade 12 student at Gulf Islands Secondary will see a dream come true when her play *Be...longing* hits the ArtSpring stage next week.

Seeing her work take form at ArtSpring will be a closing of the circle for Maria Elsser, who got her first taste of drama while sitting in that same theatre, watching student-directed one-act plays when she was in Grade 9.

"I was in awe," she said of the early experience. "I knew it was what I wanted to do."

Elsser will be joining the ranks of students she admired by directing a full cast in two performances, set for Wednesday, Feb. 16 and Thursday, Feb. 17. In fact, she will exceed her initial goal by directing a script that she authored.

*Be...longing* is the interwoven story of six high school students struggling to find their path in life. Their identities are both familiar and freshly imagined: a jock, a nerd, a prep, a singer, a gay boy and a Grade 9 boy who's super tall. There's also a principal who can't do anything right, and a bus driver that might be a serial killer.

"My inspiration was my fellow students in high school — watching the different people and the different cliques, how everyone interacts with each other and the



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

High school performers in *Be...longing* rehearse their parts in the multi-purpose room at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

different styles we have for working things out," Elsser said.

"I'm hoping to show that deep down inside we all have the same hopes, dreams and wants: to be loved, to fit in, to be our best and to be friends."

Elsser is presenting the play for the Directing 12 elective, which she's taking off-timetable to make room for graduation requirements like math. She explained that students usually choose scripts by well-known playwrights, but she was inspired to take up the pen herself. Her previous writing experience involved creating some of the scenes for the Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts presentation of *Wonderland* last year, which she also performed in.

Although she created the script with some specific students in mind, Elsser said her goal was to take up known stereo-

types and give each one a little twist. The teen characters each have a specific issue to work through and resolve, shown through a combination of humour and despair that reflects the emotional roller-coaster those years bring.

Seeing her vision come to life has been an incredible experience, Elsser said, which has benefitted from the strong support and guidance of drama teacher Jason Donaldson. As a natural leader and organizer, having responsibility for all the play's elements hasn't really daunted her. But at the same time, she's been relaxed enough to let the play transform as it unfolds.

"I was warned that things wouldn't always go as I envisioned them, but I love seeing the spin that the actors put on it. My cast is a group of such exuberant, energetic, incredible kids,"

Elsser said.

"Learning that I don't always have to be in control and sharing some of the burden with my cast has been a great learning experience, and that makes it more of a collective thing. It's not my play, it's our play."

Although she was never involved with theatre before she attended high school, Elsser said the interest is one she'll take with her after she graduates. She plans to pursue scriptwriting and eventually become an English teacher with extra knowledge of drama.

With the maturity of someone looking ahead to her adult years and the full high school experience almost under her belt, Elsser is the perfect voice to deliver a script everyone can relate to.

"Though it's about teenagers and by teenagers, it's not just for a teenage audience. It's for everyone — and every-

one should come out because it I think it is an incredible show."

Elsser warned that younger children should not attend, however, because of strong language and mild violence.

The show starts at 7:30 p.m. both nights. Tickets are available at ArtSpring.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## FUNDRAISER

# SOS pours on the love for fundraiser

All the bases covered for Saturday night

Great dance music, fabulous food, some Black-family humour, a silent and live auction and some apple dumpplings to take home are one remedy prescribed for reduced surgical services on Salt Spring.

The ad hoc Save Our Surgery Committee, which has campaigned to have the Vancouver Island Health Authority hire a surgeon for Lady Minto Hospital since mid-2008, is optimistic that positive change will result with the help of some money from a fundraiser.

"If the community can come through then we can go forward with a lot of confidence," said co-organizer Cherie Geauvreau.

The SOS Fundraiser runs this Saturday, Feb. 12 at the Gulf Islands Secondary School caf-



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

"Dr. Ray" Phillips checks out SOS chair Phyllis Bolton with a doctor's kit donated for the Save Our Surgery fundraiser at GISS on Saturday night.

eteria, with a meal and wine served by chef Bruce Wood of Bruce's Kitchen at \$100 a plate. Tickets are available at the Pemberton Holmes real estate office at 164 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

Doors open at 5 p.m. for the silent auction, which features a number of "lifestyle packag-

es" thanks to generous support from island businesses.

Packages are ideal for adventure and leisure lovers, book and card lovers, café lovers, body-mind-spirit lovers, wine and goodie lovers, home enhancement lovers and clothing and beauty lovers.

"There's also a \$400 spa package and myriad little pieces of fun things," said Geauvreau.

Acoustic dinner music will be provided by Chris Auld and Richard Cross.

When dinner is over, famed humourist and author Arthur Black and

his niece Ruby Black will take the stage for the live auction, which begins at 7:30 p.m. That event will feature all kinds of original artwork, special baskets and items like Rainbow Road Pool passes.

Dance music after the auction is from Lane 31. Anyone is welcome to come for the live auction and dance for a cost of only \$5.

SOS has also printed 5,000 postcards for islanders to sign. They're available at the Chamber of Commerce, Windsor Plywood, TJ Beans, Island Star Video, Sports Traders, Country Grocer deli and Lions garage sale.

## FUNDRAISER

# Wordsmiths set for annual scrabble challenge

Supports G-to-G cause

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Grandmothers group is inviting the public to help turn the tide of HIV/AIDS in Africa by participating in their Third Annual Scrabble Fundraiser this month.

Working in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, the group is hosting recreational and competitive players at a series of games at the Salt Spring Inn and the Falconshead Grill at the Salt Spring Golf Course. Events start on Tuesday, Feb. 22 and culminate Saturday, Feb. 26 with a silent auction and an awards celebration at the Falconshead Grill.

Though initiated just under five years ago, the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign is an incredibly successful grassroots initiative. More than 240 Canadian groups have taken up the call to help support their

African counterparts, who are left raising the kids after their own children have succumbed to the virus.

"As governments struggle to cope with the impact of the pandemic, it is grandmothers who are shouldering the burden of care for the next generation."

Salt Spring participants, both grandmothers and "grandothers" as they like to say, have contributed over \$24,000 toward the \$10-million raised so far. The proceeds go toward medical care, HIV counselling and testing, school fees, uniforms, books and materials, community educations, support groups, food baskets, school feeding programs and community gardens.

Canadian "grandmothers" (you don't have to be one, or even female, to join) fund over 300 projects in 15 sub-Saharan countries. Funds go to self-directed initiatives, based on what the local people say they need. And in an unusual funding model,

grants are not one-offs but grow each year, as long as the programs are working.

Oni Freeman, a member of the Salt Spring group, said that like many others she joined the organization out of admiration for its mandate and its methods.

"I was moved by Stephen Lewis' work in Africa and what he took on," she explained. "And hearing about the heroic work of these women in Africa — it just tears you up."

Patricia Brown repeated an observation made by Lewis as part of her motivation to help: "This will not be resolved by government or by the UN. This will happen through grass roots and people to people."

The local group raised around \$7,000 last year at the second annual scrabble event and would be pleased to tell Stephen Lewis they've topped that when he visits the island this spring.

There are several ways to play and donate. Participants can get pledges in advance or pay to play

(by donation) in recreational or competitive categories. They can also choose to host a private event. GISS students will be playing their own tournaments in tandem with the public challenges and other groups are expected at several seniors facilities.

"What's really exciting about what's being done is it's a multigenerational event," Freeman said.

"The kids are doing it, the Boomers are doing it, everyone's doing it."

Pledge forms are at Salt Spring Books or Island Savings. Brown suggests participants add a line to their emails or include the info under their Facebook status — she's already collected hundreds of dollars worth of pledges that way.

The games schedule is: Feb. 22 and 24, 2 p.m. at the Salt Spring Inn; Feb. 23 and 25, 6 p.m., Falconshead Grill.

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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### FILM FESTIVAL

# Revolutions: where one least expects

Reviews of two films set for the March 4-6 festival

BY MURRAY REISS  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

The Salt Spring Film Festival has a reputation for showing thought-provoking documentaries.

You'll get to see lots of them again this year, from March 4 to 6 at GISS.

Films like *Who Does She Think She Is?* that got me asking myself questions like, "How many masterpieces would Picasso have painted if he'd had to change diapers and take the kids to soccer?" Or like *Waste Land*, that makes you wonder, "Who needs paint and brushes when you've got a few tons of garbage?"

*Who Does She Think She Is?* features five fierce women artists who have refused to limit themselves to being either a mother or an artist.

Through their lives, the film explores the problematic intersections between mothering and creativity, relationship and independence, economics and art.

As the Guerrilla Girls, who appear a few times in their gorilla masks, ask: "Do women have to be naked to get into U.S. museums?" Less than three per cent of

the artists in the Metropolitan Museum are women, but 83 per cent of the nudes are female.

Among the artists featured is Maye Torres, whose breathtaking sculptures and drawings weave together the precision of science and the depths of mythology, using ceramic, bronze and pencil.

She is also the mother of three boys, who we see working alongside her in the studio and making a huge breakfast of French toast on her birthday.

We also meet Janis Wunderlich, a ceramic sculptor and Mormon mother of five, who sculpts dark, quirky mother figures, often crawling with devouring animal-like children, while her own kids play happily in her sunny studio.

*Waste Land* follows artist Vik Muniz as he journeys from his home base in Brooklyn to his native Brazil and the

world's largest garbage dump, Jardim Gramacho.

Located on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, it receives 7,000 tons of garbage a day.

Born into a working-class family in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Muniz began his career as a sculptor using dirt, diamonds, sugar, string, chocolate syrup and garbage as his materials.

In *Waste Land* he works with an eclectic band of "catadores" — self-designated pickers of recyclable materials. Their lives are transformed by the collaboration.

Muniz takes digital photos of the pickers, blows them up to giant size and projects them onto a warehouse floor, then has the catadores shade and colour in their portraits with recyclable debris they've gathered from the landfill.

Finally, he re-photographs the image. Munoz's faith in art's

power of transformation not only turns garbage into works of art; it changes the catadores' lives as well.

Although Muniz's large-scale photographs are stunning, *Waste Land* is ultimately as much about the cultural dynamic at work when an artist participates and interacts with a community as about what comes out of that contact.

We tend to think of revolution as clashes in the streets, like those now unsettling Egypt, and the film festival has its share of films documenting these.

But sometimes, as these and a few other movies powerfully suggest, revolutions that transform how we see ourselves, and what a society most deeply values, can take place in an out-of-the-way studio filled with laughing children or in one of the biggest garbage dumps in the world.

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Capital Regional District

CRD

## Notice of Application to Volunteer as a Scrutineer & Advance Voter Registration Highland & Fernwood Water Supply Upgrades Referendum Portion of Salt Spring Island Electoral Area

Take notice that the assent of the electors is required with regard to:

- Bylaw No. 3753, "Highland and Fernwood Water Service Establishment Bylaw No.1, 2010"; and
- Bylaw No. 3554, "Highland and Fernwood Water Service Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1, 2010".

Qualified electors of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service area within the Electoral Area of Salt Spring Island will be asked to vote on the following question on **Saturday, March 19, 2011**:

Are you in favour of the Capital Regional District Board adopting both of the following bylaws:

- Bylaw No. 3753, "Highland and Fernwood Water Service Establishment Bylaw No.1, 2010" authorizing the Capital Regional District to raise a maximum annual requisition of the greater of \$64,000 or \$0.4508 per One Thousand Dollars of taxable assessments to create a service for the purpose of funding the capital costs to complete the construction of a new water treatment plant and water distribution system upgrade works for the combined area of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service; and
- Bylaw No. 3754, "Highland and Fernwood Water Service Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1, 2010" to authorize the borrowing of up to \$500,000 to pay the capital costs to complete the construction of a new water treatment plant and water distribution system upgrade works for the combined area of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service.

YES or NO?

### Scrutineers

Applications to act as a scrutineer for those organizations for and against Bylaws 3753 and 3754 shall be received at the offices of the Capital Regional District (CRD), PO Box 1000, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2S6 between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm from **Wednesday, February 23, 2011 until Friday, March 4, 2011**. Application forms and information on the requirements and procedures for making an application are available at the CRD by telephoning toll free 1.800.663.4425 local 3129 or 250.360.3129 or at the address noted above.

### List of Registered Electors

Beginning **Wednesday, February 9, 2011 until Friday, February 25, 2011** a copy of the List of Registered Electors for the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area will be available, **upon signature**, for public inspection at the CRD offices listed below, between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday. You may also call the following offices to enquire whether your name is on the List:

- CRD Administration Dept., 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC Telephone Toll Free 1.800.663.4425 local 3129 or 250.360.3129
- CRD Building Inspection (Salt Spring Island), #206-118 Fulford Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC Telephone 250.537.2711.

### Notice of Advance Voter Registration

**Advance Voter Registration closes on Friday, February 25, 2011** for the List of Registered Electors for the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area. Voter qualifications are set out below. You may also register on voting day if you meet these qualifications:

You are entitled to vote as a **Resident Elector or Non-Resident Property Elector** if you:

- are 18 years or older on voting day (March 19, 2011)
- are a Canadian Citizen
- have resided in British Columbia for six months
- and either
  - **have resided in the Highland and Fernwood Water Service area** on Salt Spring Island for 30 days; (If registering as a Resident Elector on voting day, you must provide two documents proving identity and residency, one of which must have a signature); **OR**
  - **have owned and held registered title to property within the boundaries of the respective local service area** on Salt Spring Island for 30 days and do **not** qualify as a Resident Elector. If registering as a Non-Resident Property Elector on voting day, you must provide the following information:
    - a recent land title registration of the real property OR a property tax notice, which will show the names of all the registered owners; **and**
    - 2 pieces of identification (one of which must have a signature), **and**
    - in the case of more than one owner of the property, a completed consent form signed by the majority of the owners designating you as the person entitled to vote for the property.

For more information about registering as a Resident Elector or a Non-Resident Property Elector, call Toll Free 1.800.663.4425 local 3129 or 250.360.3129.

Dated this 8th day of February, 2011.

Thomas F. Moore  
Chief Election Officer

### ARTISTS WORK

## Photographing 2D art secrets laid out at March 5 session

Seth Berkowitz leads arts council workshop for artists

The Salt Spring Arts Council continues its series of professional development workshops for artists with one that brings artwork photography into focus.

Called A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words: Photographing 2D Art, the March 5 session will address the challenges facing artists when documenting their two-dimensional art photographically.

Led by professional photographer Seth Berkowitz, the workshop will:

- **address the challenges [faced] when documenting their two-dimensional art photographically.**

- introduce some of the challenges of accurate photographic reproduction of art, such as colour spaces, ICC profiles and gamut.

- be a hands-on demonstration of different ways to light 2D artwork to obtain good-quality photographic reproduction. The colour and direction of the light, as well as several different sources of light will be included in the demo.

- cover some of the common settings for processing digital files to get good results when creating output for web use, brochures and more.

This workshop is for artists who require photographic documentation of their 2D artwork for grant applications, on-line portfolios, and for sales brochures and literature. Although many concepts in the course apply to photographing three-dimensional art, lighting set-ups specific for 3D work will not be covered. It is assumed that participants are using a digital work flow.

The workshop runs from 1 to 4 p.m. at Mahon Hall.

Space is limited, so people should register as soon as possible using downloadable forms from [www.saltspringartscouncil.com](http://www.saltspringartscouncil.com) or from the mailbox at the side of Mahon Hall.

Cost is \$50 for arts council members and \$75 for non-members. The workshop is a pilot project of the Salt Spring School/Centre for the Arts.

For more information, call Rineke Jonker at 250-537-1923.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## CERAMIC ART

### Humans, humour at sculpting class



Examples of Elaine Brewer-White's pieces.

Elaine Brewer-White offers weekend for all levels

Portrait artists seeking to capture the essence of a subject will find new ideas at an upcoming ArtSpring event.

Award-winning human and animal sculptor Elaine Brewer-White demonstrates her unique approach to personality, colour and form in a weekend workshop on Feb. 19-20.

Brewer-White has celebrated the figure in clay, delighting portrait artists, people-watchers and story-tellers around the world for more than 25 years.

Her sculptures feature in collections from Tokyo to New York and her creative vision ranges from a whimsical bust of Einstein to a family portrait with dogs; from a startled clown to large ceramic murals.

"Brewer-White's work revels in the absurd, challenging our notions of beauty and perfection," explains press material. "A jazz singer and improv performer, as well as an artist, her work presents the common man/woman as unique and wonderful."

"I seek to portray all my subjects with dignity and humanity, to bring a smile and a nudge of recognition of other stories yet to be told," she says.

Brewer-White's two-day workshop costs \$80 and is presented by the Salt Spring Potters Guild. Everyone is welcome and no experience is necessary — just a desire to view people and animals in a whole new way.

A recent workshop at the Metchosin School of the Arts came with this advice: "Warning — laughter is a byproduct of this class."

The workshop runs Saturday, Feb. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday, Feb. 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at ArtSpring.

For more information and to register for the workshop, go to [www.saltspringpottersguild.com](http://www.saltspringpottersguild.com).

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

## RECITAL

### Hearts inspired with special St. Valentine's Day recital

Don Conley gives Simply Organic recital with timely theme

In the spirit of St. Valentine's Day, Simply Organic on Wednesday, Feb. 16 will present a celebration of organ music that inspires the heart.

The program consists of heart-melodies, harmonies and sonorities that are sweet and tender and which give expression to the longings of the heart: joy, unity and entry into a higher level of experiencing the mystery of human divine love.

As Johannes Brahms stated, "I do not compose myself. I am simply a vessel for the divine."

Patrons will hear the inspired works of the masters from Lully, Buxtehude and Bach to Gabriel Faure,

Edward Elgar and Ralph Vaughn Williams in the hands of organist Don Conley. Conley has established himself on the island as a master of the keyboard both in performances and as a teacher. He is assistant conductor to Salt Spring Singers and a recognized leader of liturgical music in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver.

The free music begins in All Saints church at 10:10 a.m.

Recital producers the Music Makers says, "Audience members should come prepared for their hearts to be transported by the music into a state of warmth and tenderness, longing and redemption."

An opportunity to meet together after the music is provided and freshly baked muffins and coffee will be served at a cost of \$2.



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Open

Monday, February 14th  
for Dinner

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# What's On This Week

www.gulfislandstourism.com/calendar.htm



## Wed. February 9

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

### ACTIVITIES

**Parent-Child Mother Goose.** Singing, snack and playtime for parents with toddlers & preschool children at Fernwood Elementary School. 10 a.m. to noon.

**Castillou Family History.** Jolene Cumming gives presentation on Judge Henry Castillou and family at the SS Historical Society. Central Hall. 2 p.m.

**Old-growth Slide Show.** Ancient Forest Alliance slide show and fundraiser at Central Hall. With special guest Adriane Carr. 7 p.m.

**Taoist Tai Chi Beginner Class.** First class of new series at All Saints. 6:30 p.m.

**Gulf Islands School District.** Board of education meeting at SIMS. 1 p.m.

## Thurs. February 10

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Afiara String Quartet.** Canadian string quartet at ArtSpring. 8 p.m. Pre-concert at 7 p.m.

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

**Rae Spoon.** Folk music at Moby's.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.** Lions Hall. 10:30 a.m., with town hall session at noon.

**SSI Weavers and Spinners Guild.** Show, ask & tell session. Bring completed or work-in-progress projects to share with others. ArtSpring. 10:30 a.m.

**Film & Pizza.** Salt Spring Film Festival Society shows the documentary The Edge of Eden: Living With the Grizzlies. Beaver Point Hall. 7 p.m. Plus pizza, salad & refreshments.

**Parent Forums.** Schools superintendent Jeff Hopkins explains 21st-century or personalized learning - a new direction in education. Fernwood Elem., 2 p.m.; SIMS at 7 p.m.

## Fri. February 11

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Sweatshop Union.** Benefit for a ride share program on SSI. Beaver Point Hall. Doors at 8 p.m., band at 9:30. No minors.

**Richard Cross.** Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

**Daryl Chonka.** Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Friday Film Nite.** The World According to Monsanto and Tableland (featuring SSI farmers). Farmers' Institute. 6:30 p.m. Part of Seedy Saturday weekend.

**No Bull Please!** Conservation Issues with Invasive Bullfrogs, presented by Stan Orchard at Lions Hall. 7 p.m. A SS Conservancy event.

**Library StoryTime: Stories Old & New.** For children in early grades and pre-schoolers. 1 p.m. at the library.

**Junior Girls Basketball.** GISS team hosts mid-island tournament at GISS.

## Sat. February 12

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Valentine Diva Dance.** Swing Shift big band with divas Kaya Hunter, Jekka Mack and Barb Rankin. At Meaden Hall. 8 p.m.

**Save Our Surgery Fundraiser.** Bruce Wood dinner plus silent auction, live auction and music by Lane 31. Advance tax for dinner at Pemberton Holmes. At Gulf Islands Secondary School cafeteria. 5 p.m. with admission at 7:30 p.m. to live auction and dance.

**Tim Ward Literary Reading.** Author of What the Buddha Taught gives a reading at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

**Planet Music.** Moby's Pub.

**Donn Tarris & Tess Fama.** Live at the Tree House Cafe. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**Jazz with Lloyd English and Friends.** Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Seedy Saturday.** A full hall of seeds, plants, farms, food vendors and presentations. Farmers Institute, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Nixon in China.** Live Met Opera broadcast at ArtSpring. 9 a.m.

**Junior Girls Basketball.** GISS team hosts mid-island tournament at GISS.

## Sun. February 13

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**The Pinkertons.** Featuring Auntie Kate at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

**Jazz Brunch.** Valentine's event with Quintessential. Moby's. 11 a.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Seedy Sunday.** Sessions at the Farmers' Institute: Let's Grow More Food panel presentation, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Save-a-Seed for Salt Spring from 1:30 to 3 p.m. SS Seed Sanctuary AGM at 3:30 p.m.

**Lawrence Martin: Harperland.** Globe & Mail public affairs columnist and author of Harperland: the Politics of Control will lead a public discussion about Stephen Harper and his impact on Canadian politics. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. A Salt Spring Forum event.

**Unitarian Fellowship.** Gary Bauslaugh speaks on Robert Latimer case. SS Seniors. 11 a.m.

**Swim For Heart.** Rainbow Rd. Pool. Water fitness class at 10 a.m.; swim challenge at 11 a.m. Info: 250-537-1402.

## Mon. February 14

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Alan Miceli.** Harbour House Hotel for Valentine's Day. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

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

**Toastmasters.** Group meets at the Harbour House Hotel's Crofton Room. 7 p.m.

## Tues. February 15

### ACTIVITIES

**Leaving a Living Legacy.** SSI Conservancy presentation on protecting one's land and receipt of tax breaks for doing so. Community Gospel Chapel. 3 to 5 p.m.

**Salt Spring Community and Economic Development Commission.** Meets in the school board meeting office. 4 to 6 p.m.

**GISS PAC.** Parent Advisory Council meeting at GISS. 7 p.m.

**Salt Spring Farmers' Institute.** AGM at the institute meeting room, 7:30 p.m.

## Wed. February 16

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Simply Organic.** A Valentine's Day program with organist Don Conley. All Saints, 10:10 a.m. Free music followed by muffin and coffee for \$2.

**Be... Longing.** GISS one-act play written and directed by Maria Elser. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

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

### ACTIVITIES

**Landscapes in Acrylics.** A collaborative activity through the SS Painters' Guild at ArtSpring. To register: annholt47@hotmail.com

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### CINEMA

**Tron Legacy** — Starring Jeff Bridges. When Sam investigates a signal sent from his father's old arcade, he's pulled into the digital world where his dad, Kevin Flynn (Bridges), has been trapped for 20 years. They team up with the warrior Quorra (Wilde) on a life-or-death journey across the cyber universe Kevin created.

### EXHIBITIONS

- **David Baughan** exhibits "Seeing" — 20 of his urban landscape B&W photographs of Vancouver Island blended with Métis artist **Johnny Lee's** drawings of First Nations' elders and chiefs — in the **ArtSpring** lobby through February.
- **Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art** is showing a selection of Valentine's gift ideas, including a romantic red glass heart window hanging, crystalline pottery and a large selection of hand-made jewellery.
- Photographs by **Don Webb** are on display at **Cafe Talia** through February.
- **The Salt Spring Photography Club** shows work by **Robert Allen, Anna McColm, Arjuna George, Rachel Page, Doug McMillin** and **Maggie Argiro** at **Country Roasters Cafe** in **Country Grocer** until Feb. 28.
- **Pegasus Framing Gallery** presents work by the lino-cut master **Richard Calver** along with **Bill Mayberry** abstracts and hyper-realist oils by **Christopher Walker**.
- See **Lyman Whitaker's** wind sculptures at **Grace Point Square**.
- **Lou Ellis** shows photos of Havana at **TJ Beans**.
- **Evelyn Russell** shows collograph and China ink paintings at **Island Savings** through the end of February.
- 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.
- **Margaret Ann Argiro**, visual artist and photographer, has eight photos and one pastel painting hanging in **Bruce's Kitchen**. Images feature fruits, vegetables and the Northern Range as seen through the notch in Mt. Belcher.
- **Shari Macdonald** shows new photos at **Jana's Bake Shop**.

**Scrabble Fundraiser**  
 For Stephen Lewis Foundation to turn the tide of AIDS & HIV  
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# People & Community

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**SOLID MOVE:** Lynda Turner, Shirley McIntyre, Meron Moroz and Louise Adele of SOLID use shopping carts to move to a new location Monday evening. The non-profit SOLID store has left McPhillips Avenue and reopened at its new home at 131 Lower Ganges Rd. between Calvin's and Thrifty's flower shop. It serves to finance projects in Africa.

## GARDENING

# Seedy Saturday: all weekend

Multi group effort hosts diverse events

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

While students observe their new year in September and the traditional Chinese calendar usually starts in early February, for local gardeners the growing year begins on the second Saturday of this month.

Each year on the date known as Seedy Saturday, adherents to the planting faith meet to exchange seeds, pick up tree saplings and seed potatoes and attend workshops for improved growing results. The long-standing event has proved so successful that events have spilled over to the preceding and following days so that this year, Seedy Saturday has become an entire Seedy weekend.

A regular project of Island Natural Growers, the expanded format includes several other groups acting in partnership to help more people grow their own food and save seeds. Free workshops being offered on Sunday are due to collaboration between Island Natural Growers, Salt Spring Seed Sanctuary, Transition Salt Spring and the Salt Spring Permaculture Collective.

Pauline Martens, an organizer for Transition Salt Spring, noted seedy events across the country

are gaining momentum as more people get concerned about issues like food security, climate change and population growth.

"On Salt Spring people are realizing we might have a challenging future, and we're open to connecting and sharing skills to build a resilient community," she said of her organization's participation.

"It shows that there's a lot of people who want to work together," Dan Jason, a seed expert and longtime organizer of the event, agreed.

The weekend at the Farmers' Institute starts Friday, Feb. 11 for a movie night with admission by donation. The World According to Monsanto screens at 6:30 p.m., followed by Tableland, featuring Salt Spring Island farmers, at 8:45 p.m. Salt Spring Ale, organic apple juice and popcorn will be for sale.

On Saturday, a \$4 admission will gain visitors entry to a marketplace with seeds, plants, food vendors, demonstrations and workshops. Linda Gilkeson will present Four Keys to Growing Your Most Successful Organic Garden Yet; Owen Bridge, the owner of Annapolis Valley Heritage Seeds, will speak; and Paul Linton will demonstrate how to prune fruit trees. The hall is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Kids can get in for free.

"There will be tables for the master gardeners and the Salt Spring Garden Club — and a whole hall of vendors who can

answer questions about growing and seeds," Martens said.

Seedy Sunday takes place from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and builds on the previous years' workshops with a fully sponsored program. In the morning, a panel presentation and facilitated networking sessions offer ways to meet the suggestion in the day's title of Let's Grow More Food.

In the afternoon, seed saving is the focus with a presentation on the importance of seed saving now, and the basics of how to do it.

Seed companies and gardening educators have noted more and more people are trying out food crops at home; Jason pointed out the equal importance of keeping seed stock active and in the public domain.

Representatives from the Seed Sanctuary will hand out free seeds and ongoing seed-saving advice will be offered with signup. The organizers are hoping each participant will agree to take home one variety especially designated for seed.

"We're hoping definitely to impress on people they can be part of the change if they just help in whatever way they can — especially if they can grow out just one seed, we can have saved seeds to grow in the future," Jason said.

The weekend ends with the Seed Sanctuary AGM from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

## DIVINATION

# Tea leaf reading class massages the intuition

Lester offers session for the first time in years

After a few years' hiatus, master tea leaf reader Tanya Lester will once again offer her tea leaf reading workshop on Salt Spring.

At The Ancient Art of Tea Leaf Reading, each participant will drink a cup of loose leaf tea. Then Lester will guide each one to find pictures in the tea leaves remaining in the cups of others in the workshop.

Everyone is guaranteed at least a short intuitive reading during the workshop. The day will also cover the history of tea leaf read-

ing, what tea to use and where to get it, what tea cups work best and how to communicate what is seen in the leaves to the person who is receiving the reading. The importance of and how to encourage the intuition and other divination techniques will also be covered.

"My goal in facilitating these workshops is to encourage people to listen to their intuition more often and to learn this ancient divination technique so it will continue on to future generations," said Lester.

Lester has 15 years of experience doing thousands of tea leaf readings and hundreds of workshops in places such as: Glas-

gow, Scotland; Boulder, Colorado; Whitehorse, Yukon; Winnipeg, Manitoba; and in several B.C. communities and universities.

For more information about her and her book titled Confessions of a Tea Leaf Reader go to [www.tealeafreading-by-tanya.com](http://www.tealeafreading-by-tanya.com) or [www.bookclubbuddy.com](http://www.bookclubbuddy.com).

The workshop will be held in Ganges on Sunday, Feb. 20 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The fee is \$70. (Anyone who has already taken this workshop and would like a refresher can register for half price).

To register, contact Tanya at 250-538-0086 or [t\\_lester@yahoo.com](mailto:t_lester@yahoo.com).

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

# Trouncing twosome wins

Club play returns to former spot at Seniors

**BY JILL EVANS**  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

On Jan. 17 the persistent pair of Paul Retallack and Prem Margolese produced another prime spot, but then Vonnice and Andy Bryant rose brilliantly to the occasion and perfected a scintillating second place, just barely missing the pinnacle. Placing pleasantly third were partners Isabelle Richardson and Jean Elder.

Jan. 24 saw yet another repeat performance by Prem and Paul, but then newcomers Felicity (Liz) and Oleh Mycyk played a felicitous game to gain second place. Third

**WORKSHOP**

## Restful Sounder Sleep session returns

Anna Haltrecht leads the way

A Sounder Sleep workshop being offered on Feb. 19 is described as a good adjunct to CBC's healthy living initiative called Live Right Now.

The workshop at Cats Pajamas Studio from 1 to 4 p.m.

## BRIDGETRICKS

was the newly fruitful partnership of Joan Byrne and Jill Evans, followed with a flourish by Patricia Hewett and Bob Morrisette.

Then it was back to Salt Spring Seniors for the evening of Jan. 31 and a speeded-up game thanks to some tips on technique by George Laundry. There were six full tables returning to the comfortable confines at about 6:45 for a prompt start at seven, and the trouncing twosome of Paul and Prem triumphed again. George Laundry and John Jefferson were in second place, followed by Liz and Oleh Mycyk in third. The fourth spot

went to Joanne Elizabeth and Jill Evans, and there was a tie for fifth between the Vic Parks-John Flanagan partnership and that of Jelly Taylor and Ian Thomas.

One further change: Isabelle Richardson has retired as manager and director of the club after countless years of gently and efficiently helping out. Her successor is the knowledgeable and good-humoured Gisela Welsh, to whom we owe many thanks for taking on the job.

For further info, please contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or [pastorale@shaw.ca](mailto:pastorale@shaw.ca) and join this friendly group at 6:45 p.m. on Monday evenings at the Seniors' Services Society building at 379 Lower Ganges Road.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

**HAPPY HEARTS:** Chris Akerman, Irene Gibbs, Roy Nordine and Cliff Mills are set to take on the Rainbow Road Pool's Swim 4 Heart fundraising challenge for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. The event takes place Feb. 13 between 10 a.m. and noon.

is for anyone who wants to find natural, restful sleep that comes gently and easily without sleep aids, allowing people to awaken feeling refreshed.

From workshop leader Anna Haltrecht, participants will learn techniques that will allow them to fall asleep effortlessly and that are useful for return-

ing to sleep on awakening during the night.

As well, skills to use during the day for relaxation in order to pave the way for a good night's sleep will be taught.

People can pre-register by calling Haltrecht at 250-537-5681 or sending her an email to [anna@bonesforever.com](mailto:anna@bonesforever.com).

The fee is \$45.

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# FOCUS ON SENIORS

## 'Get going' guide helps seniors improve quality of life

According to a recent Leger survey commissioned by home care provider We Care Home Health Services, only 23 per cent of Canadian families have a home care plan in place in the event a loved one needs it.

To make this undertaking easier, Sue Kelly, director of Health and Wellness for We Care Home Health Services, says her group has published its new Get Going to Keep Going Guide — a free how-to guide on everything from maintaining dietary and physical health to mental stimulation, medicine awareness and staying safe — to relieve the responsibility on families.

"When we think of those who suffer from chronic conditions, we rarely think about the impact their condition has on their loved ones," said Kelly. "There are currently 7 million Canadians who are taking on the task of tending to a friend or family member in need. Therefore we wanted to show those who live with chronic disease that there are so many everyday things

they can do for themselves to improve their quality of life."

The Get Going to Keep Going Guide is available online at [www.wecare.ca/GetGoing](http://www.wecare.ca/GetGoing) or through participating healthcare retailers. It provides details on how staying physically active, volunteering in the community, discussing feelings of depression, talking to medical professionals about medications, and numerous other simple, non-strenuous activities can help prevent or delay the onset of chronic illness.

As Kelly notes, the public healthcare system has limits on how much it will provide for the needs of the chronically ill, and many families are likely to find themselves in challenging circumstances. In fact, 62 per cent of Canadians do not feel the public healthcare system offers sufficient homecare support to those who require it.



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# Sports & Recreation

## MEN'S SOCCER

# Salt Spring FC ignites offensive spark

FC Alumni bows to UVIC Alumni

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring FC turned things around in a big way on Saturday afternoon by trouncing Vantreights 5-1 at Portlock Park.

"I felt really comfortable going into this game and I think the rest of the team did as well and it showed in the first half," said player Jordon Morrison.

FC took the lead about 15

## TRIATHLON CLUB

# Triathletes tie up their laces for the third year

'Meet and greet' looks to season ahead

Veterans and prospective members alike can turn off their heart-rate monitors, reholster their water bottles and kick off their running shoes as the island's triathlon club celebrates the start of its third season on Thursday, Feb. 17 with a social gathering.

"Having spoken to all sorts

minutes into the game when Jeremy Morrison connected with a well-timed pass from Jay Moulton to score the first of his three goals before the end of the half.

"The keeper had no chance and didn't even make an effort," said Jordon Morrison. "There wasn't much celebration from the team, maybe because we were in such awe of the play."

Moulton scored the team's fourth goal with moments to go before the break to put the game well out of reach.

"It felt really nice to go into half-time with a four-goal lead,

although the score line actually flattered Vantreights because it could have, and maybe should have been, seven or eight," Morrison said.

Moulton tapped in an unintended rebound to give the team a 5-0 lead in the second.

Vantreights penetrated Salt Spring's lead with a late-game offensive push that managed to sneak a single goal past keeper Miguel Alvarado, who was back in net after a four-week break.

The victory strengthens FC's spot at the centre of the VISL's second division with a 6-7-4

record. The team takes on the second-place Gordon Head Blazers in Victoria on Saturday at 6 p.m.

"I strongly believe that if we play like we did on Saturday, then we can play with any team in this league," Morrison said.

In other VISL action, Salt Spring's FC Alumni dropped a 5-0 decision to Masters A-division juggernaut UVic Alumni.

Both the Salt Spring Old Boys and FC Alumni will travel off-island for Tony Grover Masters Cup matches over the weekend.

of people over the past few months, I know there's a few keeners," said Bruce Grey, a founding member of the Salt Spring Island Triathlon Club. "This is a chance for everyone to meet at the first social event of the season."

Anyone interested in taking part in the club's 2011 training and event schedule is invited to come out and meet fellow enthusiasts of the fast-growing sport.

"This will basically be introducing what we're going to be up to," Grey said.

The past year saw the club attract more new members and host the first-ever Salt Spring Island Triathlon in conjunction with the Rainbow Road Pool.

Grey said the upcoming season promises to be a bit different from past years as the club seeks to initiate a membership fee and begin running year-round.

"It's evolving and it's great,"

he said.

New and returning members can still take advantage of group training sessions, workshops, gear discounts and the knowledge that others share their passion for an endurance sport unlike any other.

The club even has a new website where prospective members can get a closer look. For more information, visit [www.meetup.com/triathlon](http://www.meetup.com/triathlon) or call 250-537-2572.

What went wrong with Salt Spring Coffee? Watch the video retrospective from the other "George" [www.islandgov.org](http://www.islandgov.org)

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How do the upcoming **CPP changes** affect your retirement plans?



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- Feb 11/12 - Jr Girls HOST Mid Islands Tourney

full schedule: [www.gulfislandssecondary.ca/homeschedule.html](http://www.gulfislandssecondary.ca/homeschedule.html)

Meet the Team

**GISS Rookies.** This year we have a strong International presence on our Senior Girls team. **Kim Roling** & **Stefanie Kos**, basketball rookies, have both worked extremely hard to learn the game of basketball and our offensive and defensive systems. **Anna Tolsdorf** also came to us as a rookie, but her handball background helped her catch up fairly quickly. Our final German player, **Marie Hoffman**, played basketball back home in Germany, and has been an integral part of our team, making significant contributions on offense and defense. Pictured above, from left to right: Kim Roling, Stefanie Kos, Marie Hoffman.

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# SPORTS & RECREATION

## SAILING

# Close, exciting McMillan race sees Argiro win trophy

New crew members welcomed into fold

BY MARTIN HERBERT  
SAILING CLUB REPORTER

The start line of Sunday's McMillan Trophy Race was slightly favoured to the starboard end, but the port side of the first leg looked to have slightly better wind, so the tactical battle started even before the race.

Most of the fleet chose the starboard end, causing some crowding and tight manoeuvring that was won by Ole Anderson in Caliente. He hit the line on the gun with a good head of steam, just to leeward of the Kay D, who had arrived a bit early and was stalling on the line. At the port end, Greg Slakov in Imp and Vincent Argiro in Velica opted to give up distance to windward for clear air and a clean line to the port side of the course. And so started what was to be an extremely close and exciting 10.6-



Ole Anderson and Caliente took line honours with a time of 138 minutes.

Imp led the fleet out of the harbour and past the Sisters, but Caliente was first to Batt rock and broke out her huge spinnaker for the reach over to Galiano. With the tide having turned and having to battle current through Captains Passage, the fleet again split tactically, some going high towards Prevost, into stronger cur-

rent and stronger wind, while others stayed low, favouring the Salt Spring shore.

Positions changed back and forth as the wind strength varied with the gusts rolling down James Bay. The wind shadow on the far side of Prevost Island extended or receded with the swinging wind, adding another element to the challenging conditions. On the close reach over to Behn Mor Rock the wind filled in and the fleet gybed and reset their spinnakers.

After Scott Point, those boats that could still hold their spinnakers had a fantastic reach to the Sisters, the kind of sailing that just puts a smile on your face. Then came the run into the finish line in front of the clubhouse in diminishing wind, playing the shifts and fighting for ever second. Ole Anderson took line honours with a time of 138 minutes. On corrected time the first three boats finished within 42 seconds, with Vincent Argiro on Velica taking the win, 18 seconds ahead of your writer in the Kay D, who led Imp by a mere 24 seconds.

The entire fleet, first to last was less than 14 minutes apart, an incredibly close race. This was Argiro's first trophy race win and it reflects the time he has spent at the helm this year, a true moment of glory well-deserved.

The sailors convened on the welcoming Soul Thyme post race where many stories and some exaggerations were exchanged and several new racers were welcomed into the fold.

Fleet captain Keith Simpson is encouraging Salt Spring Islanders who want to race to come out. All those who showed up on Sunday were snapped up as crew and put to work, and judging by their smiling faces, a good time was had by all.

The next race is the gruelling Walker Rock race, a 17.5-nautical-mile endurance test, on Sunday, Feb. 20.

*The above is an excerpt from the racing report of Salt Spring Sailing Club member Martin Herbert aboard the Kay D.*

# expert ADVICE

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First clean the walls, then apply a gray primer to quickly neutralize the deep purple. Then you can apply your neutral tone top coat.

### What would be the best finish for my living room wall? There are a lot of repairs done to it and it looks rough.

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If mildew is accumulating in your car it needs to be as dry as possible, then all surfaces cleaned with a good antifungal cleaner available from your local hardware store. To effectively dry your car put a small electric heater with a fan in it overnight. Leave a window open slightly to let out the moisture. Be very careful when installing the heater, do not set on or near upholstery, carpet or any flammable surface.

Check your owner's manual to see if your vehicle is equipped with an air filter for the heater system. It should be checked and replaced if dirty or moldy and the air box cleaned.

*Safe driving, Gyle*



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### DEATHS

**Irwin, Edward**  
 Oct. 27, 1923 - Feb. 6, 2011

Ed, a long time resident of Salt Spring Island, passed away peacefully at his home, February 6, 2011, surrounded by family.

He is survived by his sons, Rollie, Elliott, Mark, daughter Rolinda nieces, Diane, Joanne, Darlene; nephews, Glen, Ralph, Donny and numerous other extended family members.

Ed explicitly requested NO Funeral or memorial service.

In lieu of flowers any donations can be made to the Salt Spring Island SPCA or the Salt Spring Island Food Bank in his name.

There will be an **Open House Gathering** for family and friends to celebrate his life at his place of residence, 145 Wildwood Cres., on Saturday, February 12, 2011, beginning at 1 pm.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMING EVENTS

**Salt Spring Island Agricultural Alliance**  
 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
 SSI Farmers Institute  
 Thursday February 17 1pm  
 followed by  
 2:30pm CR-FAIR  
 Food & Farm Networking Roundtable  
 Members and public welcome

### Jari Juhani Laitinen

January 9, 1955-  
 January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Jari Juhani Laitinen passed away peacefully at his place of residence on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at the age of 56. He is survived by his children, Tyler and Kecia; sisters Anne, Anita, and Liisa; and girlfriend Judy. A memorial service will be held at Our Place, 919 Pandora Street, Victoria, B.C. on Feb 11, 2011 at 10:00 am to celebrate and honour the loving, caring, free-spirited man who had the biggest heart and compassionate soul. Loved by all. He will greatly be missed by all who knew him. You are free now Dad, let your spirit soar and light shine as you continue on your journey. xoxo love forever Tyler and Kecia.

### COMING EVENTS

**3rd ANNUAL SCRABBLE FUNDRAISER**  
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 The Vancouver Island Strata Owners Association  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
 Victoria Seminar Helps Owners Understand Who Pays The Bills.  
 Speaker Claire Pagé, LLP  
 Sun, Feb 20, 1pm-4pm  
 Edelweiss Club, 108 Niagara St. Registration 12:30pm. No charge for VISOA members, \$20 non-members.  
 For more info & questions 1-877-338-4762, email: info@visoa.bc.ca or visit www.visoa.bc.ca

**INTRODUCING MINDFULNESS MEDITATION**  
 2 days: Saturday Feb. 19 & Sunday Feb. 27

The ancient teachings of liberation applied to modern life. Learn how to handle yourself in any situation calmly, kindly and appropriately.

Cost flexible \$60 - 80.  
 Heather Martin  
 250-653-9729

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, NO BULL PLEASE!** Stan Orchard, conservation biologist and herpetologist, will present an illustrated talk on the invasive bullfrog which is here on SS. SSI Conservancy event. Lion's Hall. 7 pm.

### DEATHS

### COMING EVENTS

**Salt Spring Island CONSERVANCY**  
*Conservation In Action.*  
**Leaving a Living Legacy**  
 A Tax Benefit Presentation  
 Learn how you can receive a tax break when you protect or donate your land  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 15  
**Time:** 3 to 5 pm  
**Location:** 147 Vesuvius Bay Rd. (Community Gospel Chapel)  
*No admission fee*  
**For more information, call 250.538.0318**

**FELTMAKING WORKSHOPS**  
 Creating Art From Within - for all levels this spring! Classes starting February 18.  
 Interested? For detailed info call Ulrike Benner  
 Art You Wear 250-537-1723  
 www.ulrikebenner.com

**PAINTING CLASSES**  
*Acrylics & Watercolours*  
 Weekly Feb 16 - Apr 20  
 Small classes  
*Beginners & Intermediates*  
 1st hr. free to new students  
 Call Val Konig  
 250-537-4660

### DEATHS

### Farr Anthony Paul (Tony)

Sept. 25, 1923 - Feb. 3, 2011



Tony, son of Paul and Elsie Farr, was born in London, England. He met his bride-to-be, Audrey, at a church youth group in Claygate. With the outbreak of WWII, he served with the British Navy. After the war, he and Audrey emigrated to Canada, settling in Vancouver. There Tony worked for BC Tel, in the Records Department and later as company historian. This interest in history continued when he and Audrey retired on Salt Spring. Tony continued to do copy editing for the BC Historical Society and enjoyed many talks and outings with the local historical society.

After his beloved Audrey passed away, he met Inez Armstrong square dancing. They later married and enjoyed hikes with the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club, world travel (Italy, Thailand, Australia) and church activities at All Saints' by-the-Sea. Tony's other lifelong passions included golf, photography, writing, oil painting and feeding wild birds. He loved to be helpful, and was a volunteer driver with Seniors for Seniors for many years. A kind and gentle soul, with a ready twinkle of humour in his eyes, he will be sadly missed.

Thanks to all the staff at Meadowbrook for making his last years happy ones. Predeceased by first wife Audrey (1993), second wife Inez (2008) and brother Michael (2009). Survived by son Nick, daughter Anthea and son-in-law Fred, grandchildren Jennifer, Mark, Michael and Corey, and great-grandson Aolyn. Service to be held Saturday, Feb. 12, 3 pm at All Saints' by-the-Sea. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Save the Children Fund or Anglican Parish of Salt Spring.

### LEGALS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS**  
**RE: THE ESTATE OF BENJAMIN COLSTON MANNING, DECEASED**  
 Formerly of RR2 2701 Galley Crescent, Pender Island, British Columbia, VON 2M2  
 Creditors and others having claims against the Estate of Benjamin Colston Manning, Deceased, are hereby notified under section 38 of the Trustee Act that particulars of their claims should be sent to the Executor at **Henley & Walden**, #201-2377 Bevan Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia, V8L 4M9, on or before March 30, 2011, after which date the Executor will distribute the said Estate among the parties entitled thereto, having regard to the claims of which the Executors then have notice.  
 Dale R. Henley, Executor  
**HENLEY & WALDEN**  
 Barristers and Solicitors  
 201-2377 Bevan Avenue  
 Sidney, BC  
 V8L 4M9

### WHAT'S ON PAGE 18

### DEATHS

### COMING EVENTS

**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](http://www.arbutustherapy.ca)

**Insight (Vipassana) Meditation**  
**Weekend residential retreat with Heather Martin**  
 Friday evening - Sunday afternoon, February 11 - 13 at the Gatehouse, Stowel Lake Farm  
 In-house \$224  
 Commuting \$112  
 Plus donation to teacher at end of retreat.  
 Details and to register: [www.ssivipassana.org](http://www.ssivipassana.org)

### COMING EVENTS

### COMING EVENTS

**DPAC DISTRICT 64 PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Invite All Parents To Our 4th DISTRICT PARENTS RETREAT**  
 "NATURE DEFICIT DISORDER: LINKING BEHAVIOUR, MENTAL HEALTH & PERSONALIZED LEARNING"  
**February 25th, 2011**  
 Time: 9 am to 3 pm • Place: GISS  
**REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY**  
 Child care and lunch will be provided  
**To register, please**  
 E-MAIL: [dpac64@telus.net](mailto:dpac64@telus.net)  
 or phone Tania Aquila at 250-537-6476.  
**Registration deadline is February 18, 2011.**

Post your comments on-line @ [gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

### COMING EVENTS

**The VALENTINE DIVA DANCE**  
**Saturday, February 12th** (the Legion)  
**8pm at Meaden Hall**  
**Songs by: Salt Spring Jazz Divas**  
 Kaya Hunter, Jekka Mack, Barb Rankin  
**Music by: Swing Shift Big Band**  
 Tickets \$20 each or \$35 per couple in advance please.  
 Available through members of the band, Divas, the RE/MAX Office and Acoustic Planet

**Save Our Surgery Fundraiser**

**Feb. 12, 2011 at GISS Cafeteria**  
 Dinner Prepared by Chef Bruce Wood  
 100 Tickets at \$100/Plate  
 Tickets Available at Pemberton Holmes Office  
 164 Fulford Ganges Rd.  
**Doors: 5 pm - Silent Auction**  
**Dinner: 6 pm - Live Auction 7:30 pm**  
 All are welcome for Live Auction. \$5 Door  
**Share Our Strength to Save Our Surgery**

# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES  
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

DRIVERS/COURIER/TRUCKING

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS


COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

PERSONALS

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

DRIVERS/COURIER/TRUCKING



*Notice of Annual General Meeting*

**of the Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute**

to be held at 7:30 pm  
**Tues 15 February 2011**  
Institute Meeting Room  
351 Rainbow Road

The directors of  
**CENTRAL COMMUNITY HALL SOCIETY**  
are to hold a  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 7 pm  
in the lower hall  
901 North End Road

**UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
Gary Bauslaugh explores jury nullification and compassion in the criminal justice system pertaining to the Robert Latimer case. Sunday February 13, 11 am at S.S. Seniors' Centre

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

**DATING SERVICE.** Long-term/short-term relationships, free calls. 1-877-297-9883. Exchange voice messages, voice mailboxes. 1-888-534-6984. Live adult casual conversations-1on1. 1-866-311-9640. Meet on chat-lines. Local Single Ladies.1-877-804-5381. (18+).

**GAY PHONE Chat.** Free trial. 1-877-501-1012 Talk to or meet desirable guys in your area 24/7. Where private, confidential fantasies come true! 1-877-501-1012, 18+ GayLiveNetwork.com

Direct reach to BC Sportsmen and women...Advertise in the 2011 BC Freshwater Fishing Regulations Synopsis, amazing circulation 400,000 copies, year long impact for your business!  
Please call Annemarie at 1-800-661-6335 or email fish@mondaytourism.com

**STAR FLEET TRUCKING HIRING! DRIVERS, FARMERS, RANCHERS & RETIREES** needed with 3/4 Ton or 1-Ton pickup trucks to deliver new travel trailers & fifth wheels from US manufacturers to dealers throughout Canada. Free IRP plate for your truck and low insurance rates! Pref. commercial Lic. or 3 yrs towing exp. Top Pay! Call Craig 1-877-890-4523.  
[www.starfleettrucking.com](http://www.starfleettrucking.com)



Enjoy our **Karma Sparkling wine** with your Valentine  
15% off Karma on Saturday Feb. 12th (Open 12-4pm)  
SALT SPRING VINEYARDS  
250-653-9463 [www.saltspringvineyards.com](http://www.saltspringvineyards.com)

**Thinking of volunteering somewhere?**  
Check out opportunities at:  
[www.volunteersaltspring.com](http://www.volunteersaltspring.com)  
or phone Gloria at 250-537-9971

INFORMATION



**Save our Surgery postcard sign up:**  
To all those Islanders who are now circulating the Save Our Surgery postcards, we need as many cards as possible signed and returned by Monday, February 21st - 2011.

**Cards can be mailed to:**  
SOS c/o Phyllis Bolton  
121 Teal Place, SSI, BC V8K 1H2

or they can be dropped off at Pemberton Holmes Realty Office; 164 Fulford Ganges Rd.


Thank you  
♥  
Share our strength to Save Our Surgery  
♥  
To get some cards please call 250.537.5578.

**SSI Triathlon Club**  
First Social Meeting of 2011 Season.

**Thursday, February 17, 6pm**  
at the Salt Spring Inn.

For more information call  
**250.537.2572**  
**Bruce Grey BA Human Performance**  
**Salt Spring Exercise Therapy**

INFORMATION



**School District # 64 (Gulf Islands)**  
**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Any child who will be five (5) years of age on or before December 31, 2011 (born in 2006) should register for the 2011/2012 school year at the school office **February 14 to 17, 2011.**

- Fernwood Elementary School**  
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Fulford Community Elementary School**  
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Phoenix Elementary School (February 14, 15, 16 only)**  
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- Salt Spring Elementary School**  
9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.
- Galiano Community School (February 14, 15, 16 only)**  
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary**  
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Pender Islands Elementary Secondary School**  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Saturna Elementary School (February 14, 15, 16 only)**  
11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Parents or Guardians:**  
Please bring with you the following documentation:  
• Verification of the child's birth date and citizenship status (birth certificate, passport or Landed Immigrant authorization)  
• Care Card, and  
• Immunization records





COMING EVENTS

**Who is Stephen Harper?**


Join the Globe and Mail columnist **Lawrence Martin** for a discussion of *Harperland*.

**ArtSpring**  
Sunday, Feb 13,  
7:30 pm

Tickets \$10 available at:

COMING EVENTS



**School District # 64 (Gulf Islands)**  
**CROSS BOUNDARY REQUESTS**

Parents/guardians who wish to transfer their child to a school out of their catchment area, must register their child in the home school first, then request a transfer, in writing, to the Superintendent by **March 31** with a copy to the Principals of both schools involved.  
Refer to Policy and Procedure #530 online at: <http://sd64.bc.ca/policies.html>.

**This does not apply for normal grade transitions to the next level at another school.**



**Eagleridge Seeds**  
ORGANIC HERITAGE SEED FARM  
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We specialize in rare and endangered tomatoes, vegetables herbs and flower seeds.

Your local seed vendor at **Seedy Saturday** this February 12th at **Farmer's Institute**

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TUESDAYS FROM 10 AM - 4PM  
**219 Eagleridge Drive | 250-537-5677**  
[seedkeeper@telus.net](mailto:seedkeeper@telus.net)

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**HYGIENITECH MATTRESS** Cleaning & Upholstery Cleaning/Sanitizing Business. New "Green" Chemical-Free process removes bed bugs, dust mites, and harmful allergens. Big Profits/Small Investment. 1-888-999-9030  
[www.Hygienitech.com](http://www.Hygienitech.com)

**VIBRANT CONTEMPORARY** floral business, home based, established customer base, over 18 years, includes all equipment & giftware etc. 250-537-9252.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

**ABLE TO TRAVEL** National Company Hiring Sharp People. Able to Start Today. Transportation & Lodging Furnished. NO EXPERIENCE Necessary. Paid Training. Over 18+ 888-853-8411

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

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**DRIVERS/OWNER** Operators wanted - Truck Contractors need drivers with log haul experience & clean driver's abstract. Owner operators needed with 6, 7, 8 axle log trailers. Visit [www.alpac.ca](http://www.alpac.ca) or call 1-800-661-5210 ext. 8173.

**50% DISCOUNT**  
Classifieds **MERCHANDISE FOR SALE** ads totalling less than \$200 receive a 50% discount WITH YOUR RESIDENTS CARD

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

**AIRLINES ARE HIRING-** Train for high paying Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified- Housing available. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance (877)818-0783

**Basic Chainsaw Operator Training- 2011.**  
The BC Forest Safety Council's basic chainsaw operator course provides hands-on training to everyone from new to experienced chainsaw operators. Learn how to safely maintain and handle a chainsaw for most non-falling applications. Key topics covered include creating a personal safety plan, chain sharpening, identifying tension and binds and how to safely make your cuts. This two-day course is endorsed by the BC Forest Safety Council and provides participants with training and competency evaluation in a form acceptable to WorkSafeBC.

Numerous sessions of chainsaw training are scheduled around the province starting in April, 2011. To learn more and to obtain an enrollment form, visit our website at [www.bcforestsafety.org](http://www.bcforestsafety.org) or call toll free 1-877-741-1060, Monday to Friday, 8am - 5pm.

**EXCLUSIVE FINNING/Caterpillar** Mechanic training. GPRC Fairview Campus. High school diploma; grade 12 Math, Science, English, mechanical aptitude required. \$1000 entrance scholarship. Paid practicum with Finning. Write apprenticeship exams. 1-888-999-7882;  
[www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview).

**INTERIOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR SCHOOL.** Locations in Alberta & BC. Hands on real world training. Full sized equipment. Job placement assist. Funding Avail. [www.iheschool.com](http://www.iheschool.com) 1-866-399-3853

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- ▶ Health Care Assistant (Formerly Resident Care Attendant)
- ▶ Early Childhood Education
- ▶ Community Support Worker
- ▶ Medical Office
- ▶ Legal Secretary
- ▶ Business
- ▶ Social Services
- ▶ Assisted Living




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# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES  
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net



**EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS**

**POWERBOATS IN** summer, snowmobiles in winter, ATV's in between! GPRC Fairview Campus, Alberta. Learn to repair small engines, recreational vehicles. First step to Apprenticeship. On-campus residences. 1-888-999-7882; www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview.

**PUT POWER** into your career! As a Fairview Power Engineer. On-campus boiler lab. 4th Class-Part A 3rd Class. Affordable residences. GPRC Fairview Campus. 1-888-999-7882 www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview.

**THE ONE** - The only - The only one in Canada! Only authorized Harley Davidson Technician Program at GPRC Fairview Campus, Alberta. September 2011 intake. On-campus residences. 1-888-999-7882; www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview.

**TWO WHEELIN'** Excitement! Motorcycle Mechanic Program. GPRC Fairview Campus, Alberta. Hands-on training for street, off-road, dual sport bikes. Write 1st year apprenticeship exam. 1-888-999-7882; www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview

**HELP WANTED**

**ACCOUNTING & PAYROLL** Trainees Needed! Large & Small Firms Seeking Certified A&P Staff Now. No Experience? Need Training? Career Training & Job Placement Available. 1-888-424-9417

**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), plus excellent benefit program. Email or fax resume to: office@lemare.ca or 250-956-4888.

**LOG TRUCK** drivers required for Campbell River. Experienced drivers please apply. Fax drivers abstract and 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

**OTH Enterprises Inc.** is currently hiring Lease Operators. 2 Tridem and 5 Super Train for BC & Western Canada. Need to have newer model equipment and a clean abstract. Need to be fluent in English. Call 1-800-667-3944 or (250)983-9401 Larry or Dennis

**PRIVATE HOMECARE** wanted. Phone Vicki 250-653-9115. Thank you.

**WORK WANTED**

**NOW AVAILABLE** for hire, John Caron Carpentry. In business on SSI for 26 yrs. New construction, renovations, fencing, total property maintenance, no job too big or too small. Reliable, punctual, hard working, excellent references. Free consultations. 250-537-9397, jbcaron@telus.net

**WANTED: EXPERIENCED** Civil, Paving and Quality Control Personnel to fill various positions at Large, BC Road Construction Company. Send resume to P.O. Box 843, Kamloops BC, V2C 5M8 or to paverswanted@yahoo.ca

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**CARPENTER SPECIALIZING** in timber/log framing. Experienced in all aspects of home construction and renovation. Free first consultation on your project design. Serving Salt Spring for over 20 years. Excellent references. Call Alan Montrichard at 250-537-4510 Photos at  
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**HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES**

**CLEANING SERVICES**

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Tuesday for  
Wednesday paper,  
4 pm Wed. for  
Friday paper



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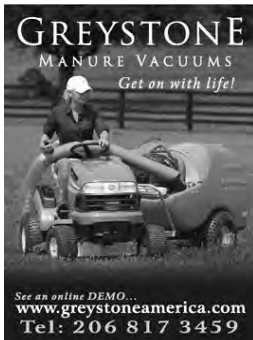
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**LEATHER SOFA** bed, navy blue, paid \$2300, sell \$650. Antique pine cabinet, marble top, \$240. Cabinet, dark blue milk paint, \$275. 3 antique chairs, \$80 each. Solid brass chandelier \$220. Leather ottoman, brown, modern, new \$75. Hoover vacuum, almost new \$50. Call 250-537-1804

**GARAGE SALES**

**ESTATE/Garage SALE**

(contents of 2 houses)

Sat. Feb.12 - 9:30 am  
NO early birds  
262/264 Maliview Drive  
Salt Spring Island

Teak furniture; Carpets, rugs; Pictures; Art glass; Royal Doulton + Wedgwood; Office furniture; Lamps; Kitchen utensils + appliances; Sewing, embroidery supplies, frames; Garden tools, hedge trimmer, greenhouse, ladder; Women's Sweaters, pants, jackets, t-shirts size 14/16; Shoes size 8; free stuff .....

**Cash and carry only.**

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

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Call for free estimate  
Patrick 250-537-1990

**ATTENTION DIABETICS** with Medicare. Get a FREE Talking Meter and diabetic supplies at NO COST, plus FREE home delivery! Best of all, this meter eliminates painful finger pricking! Call 888-449-1321.

**APPLIANCES**

**MEDICAL SUPPLIES**

**CAN'T GET** Up Your Stairs? Acorn Stairlifts can help. Call Acorn Stairlifts now! Mention this ad and get 10% off your new Stairlift! 1-866-981-5991.

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

**100% GUARANTEED** Omaha Steaks - SAVE 64% on the Family Value Collection. NOW ONLY \$49.99 Plus 3 FREE GIFTS & right-to-the-door delivery in a reusable cooler.

**1979 HONDA** Odyssey, 250 motor, in really good shape. Photos on request. \$2500. 250-537-7320.

**#1A STEEL** Building Sale! Save up to 60% on your new garage, shop, warehouse. 6 colors available! 40 year warranty! Free shipping, the first 20 callers! 1-800-457-2206. www.crownsteelbuildings.ca.

**AB-DOER TWIST:** Recent purchase, lightly used, comes with book and DVD, new \$250, \$150 firm. Can deliver. Call 250-538-0052.

**A FREE** telephone service - Get your first month free. Bad credit, don't sweat it. No deposits. No credit checks. Call Freedom Phone Lines today Toll-Free 1-866-884-7464.

**CAN'T GET** up your stairs? Acorn Stairlifts can help. Call Acorn Stairlifts now! Mention this ad and get 10% off your new Stairlift. 1-866-981-6591.

**COMPLETE WINE** making equip \$125, heavy duty bottle corker \$140, & 700 corks \$50. 250-537-8938

**HOT TUB (SPA) COVERS.** Best price. Best quality. All shapes & colours available. 1-866-652-6837  
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**MICROFIBRE Loveseat & Chair** \$448., Sofa & Chair \$488.; 3Pc Coffee table set \$99., Lamps \$10., Oak Bookcase \$99.; Wood 5pc Dinette \$149., Vilas Maple B/R ste w/night tables \$699.; New Mattress Sale from \$139., Queen sets w/10yr Warranty \$399.; LP Records @ \$1. or \$0/\$20.; No HST on Tools! **BUY & SAVE** 9818 4th St., Sidney. buyandsave.ca

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

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**Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**  
Shaking it up with friends, groups and club affiliations is likely now. The flavour of your shaking could range from radical revolutionary to self-realization enlightenments. Either way, you are in a pioneering mood and are called, let alone inspired or determined, to break through traditional lines. Your signs are set on the future and you may feel a growing sense of responsibility.

**Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)**  
You stand to be getting a lot of attention now and may even be reaching out or even stirring the pot to get it. Big plans and ambitions are brewing beneath the surface as well. These may take until summer to be realized or even initiated. Giving and/or receiving education and training are likely. This is an important learning curve period for you. Open your mind to new possibilities.

**Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)**  
Big ideas are igniting in your mind. Backed by equally large or deep desires, you may feel challenged to keep a reign on your passions. These include changes in your public and professional life. Delays, restrictions or important lessons on the love life front ask that you continue to exercise patience. Direct your focus and energy to cultural stimulations to maintain balance.

**Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)**  
Everyone is feeling the shaking as the pace of change accelerates steadily, not least of all you. You yearn for a new state of stability on all relationship fronts - personal, professional and social. Taking the initiative to take some calculated risks is important. Therefore, breaking free of procrastination is ideal and will actually alleviate at least some stress. Do research to get solid answers.

**Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)**  
A good deal of activity on relationship fronts continues to stimulate new ideas. These may in turn lead to new relationships yet. It is important that you give more than usual to situations now. This includes accumulating new and/or refining existing knowledge you already possess. The urge for adventure is growing and now is a good time to act on lest you miss out. Venture forth!

**Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)**  
Your entire lifestyle stands to be undergoing a lot of changes now. To keep pace you must keep an open mind, exercise discernment and work steadily. New love is also coming in. This could imply sparks in your love life but could also imply landing a job you will love or engaging in a satisfying hobby. Your power potential is on the rise; to meet it you must diversify your creative focus.

**Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)**  
A fun, playful and exciting cycle is underway. It may be laced with unusual and unexpected events and people however. Creating beauty in your home will prove inspiring. This is having an impact on your family. The status quo is changing there as well and this will continue. Exercise as much flexibility balanced with disciplined initiative as you can to move with the changing pace.

**Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)**  
As old self-concepts and roles steadily dissolve, new ones are coming in to take their place. You may feel extra creative and inventive at this time. Spending time in your study, studio or laboratory... will feel extra good now. Take time to center with your thoughts to determine future action. Take an experiential and experimental approach for best results.

**Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)**  
A busy time continues. You may want to cover a lot of ground these days. Financial desires and needs combined with employment duties and orientations is part of the plot. You energy levels may feel higher than usual, so make the best of them. Networking and stimulating your social circle amidst errands and other practical affairs may leave you feeling scattered. Prioritize!

**Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)**  
You are in the mood to try something new. Innovative and inventive urges are spurting you on. Establishing a deeper keel in the water to realize your goals may feel necessary. Boosting your self esteem may feel necessary. There is saying, "If you dig deep enough you will eventually hit pure light". Direct your focus to acknowledging, accessing and activating your soul light for outer success!

**Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)**  
The time has come to enter new territory. You may be experiencing a steady rise in interest and duty leading you to diversify your focus. You are determined to break through any blocks now, inner or outer. Working to deepen your connection with your soul source is important. This includes exploring new modes of perception. Expect this trend to continue into spring.

**Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)**  
Working steadily behind the scenes is likely and ideal now. Many new ideas are gestating there but you have to bring attention to them to capture them. Cultural activities with friends are an extra source of pleasure these days. Taking new inroads towards stimulating new financial streams is on your mind. Do the work, yet take your time to enjoy the creative journey. Let imagination lead!



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# SPORTS & RECREATION



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

# Mid-game comeback

United nails win

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's winning streak came close to ending last Sunday when the Division-2 women's team met the Cordova Bay Cascades at Portlock Park, but a successful route turned the tide for a 3-2 victory.

Despite being back on home turf after riding out a run of hard matches on Vancouver Island, the team had a lacklustre start to their penultimate game of regular play.

"They jumped out to an early lead on a corner kick — it actually went in off one of our own defenders, so they were pretty fortunate to get that goal. They didn't let up and we didn't wake up quick enough and a few minutes later we found ourselves in a 2-0 hole." Donaldson said the Cascades performed better on their second goal, when United's lack of talk allowed Cordova Bay to play through the home team's defence.

"It was then a girl in alone on our keeper and she put it away," Donaldson reported.

"We didn't put our heads down and sulk, though, and sure enough about 10-15 minutes later we pulled one back."

United started its upturn when Joanne O'Connor played an extremely nice ball through to Donaldson, who made no mistake in driving it low and hard. Cordova Bay's keeper got a hand to it, but the kick was too much for her to handle.

"I think after we got that goal it really lifted the girls' spirits," Donaldson said.

Shortly after their first goal, United was awarded a penalty shot following a hand ball in the box. Valri Cunningham stepped up and hammered the ball into the top corner.

United went into the half feeling good about where they were, but knew it was still going to be a tough second half. Although there weren't many clear-cut scoring chances for either team, United keeper Tami Benoit was ready to bail the team out with timely saves when they needed them.

With just five minutes left on the clock, Donaldson picked up the ball just outside of the 18-yard box. She cut across the field, burst through the opposing team's defence and then cracked a shot back across the face of the goal for the finalizer.

"After that we held on for the much-deserved 3-2 win. We were clearly the better team," Donaldson said, adding the team showed an all-round solid effort.

**HEADER:** Harrison Jason is first to the ball in Salt Spring FC's 5-1 victory over Vantreights. Story, page 21.

## BASKETBALL

# Junior Scorpions go undefeated in mid-island play

Brentwood rivalry could heat up further

BY MARKUS WENZEL  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Gulf Islands Secondary junior boys Scorpions hosted Brentwood College Thursday for their toughest league match to date. Both teams came into the game undefeated in league play, with Brentwood the only island team carrying a prestigious "honourable mention" in provincial junior rankings.

Meanwhile, the Scorpions were without the powerful "Jacksons" — Jackson Irving on crutches with an ankle sprain, and Jackson Sweetnam in the sick bay.

Brentwood looked tall, classy and well organized, befitting of their "Where the World Comes to School" motto.

Despite the impressive warm-up, however, the game began sloppy on both ends of the court, with repeated turnovers by Salt Spring that Brentwood could not convert

into points. The visitors took an early lead in a low-scoring quarter, and the locals were lucky to be down only 13-11 at the first buzzer.

Whatever coach Diane Weatherby told the boys before the second quarter must have hit home, as they came to life early and often. Eric Weatherby found his scoring touch, and Vinny Martin found the rebounds, putting the Scorpions ahead 32-22 at the half.

The second half saw fairly even, back-and-forth play, with the lead staying between

eight and 14 points for the locals through the final buzzer. Weatherby would go on to score 23 points, with Billy George notching 13 (including three three-pointers in a row), with the game ending 55-43 for GISS. Martin finished with 15 rebounds.

Despite claiming mid-island bragging rights for now, the Scorpions could meet Brentwood again at the mid-island tournament final on Feb. 12, vying for the one and only mid-island birth to the junior island championships.

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