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Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2011 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 51ST YEAR — ISSUE 8

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COMMUNITY LOSS



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Students at Salt Spring Island Middle School — where popular teacher Bruce Creswick taught — write on a wall dedicated to Creswick, who died suddenly last Saturday.

Island mourns loss of Bruce Creswick

Beloved teacher died Saturday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An outpouring of affectionate memories has swept the island this week following the sudden death of Bruce Creswick, a beloved teacher and director of the music program at Salt Spring Island Middle School.

Creswick's unexpected passing at home on Saturday produced an immediate response from the community, many of whom remarked on his enthusiastic approach to teaching. Parents and students praised his ability to make a lasting impact on kids' experience of music and education in general.

Creswick, 51, helped introduce music to a generation of island children, who picked up their

first instruments or joined choir under his care. He was recently engaged in planning a school music trip to San Francisco in May, and helped form an instructional band for beginning adult and youth players.

"My big thing that I believe is that music is a life skill because it teaches so many other skills," Creswick told the Driftwood last August.

"I see my job at my school as being to plant the musical seed — and anything you can do to water it and to nurture it is fantastic."

But his positive influence extended far beyond the music program. Creswick's ability to reach students was reflected just as strongly in his math classes and as a homeroom teacher.

Lisa Halstead, principal of the middle school,

said although she had known Creswick for just two and a half years, she felt like she was losing a family member.

"Bruce had an incredible impact on all of us, the staff and the students," Halstead said.

"He just gave so much, and it was all about the students for him. He just gave and gave and gave. He was a wonderful person."

Former middle school principal Kevin Vine posted the following on a Facebook site devoted to the teacher's memory: "Bruce Creswick was one of those rare people whose compassion, kindness, enthusiasm, humour and talent made him one-of-a-kind."

CRESWICK continued on A2

DISASTER

Island man describes NZ quake

Death toll rising on "darkest day"

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Two Gulf Islands brothers are among the survivors of an earthquake responsible for at least 65 deaths in Christchurch, New Zealand.

The 6.3-magnitude quake took place at 12:51 p.m. on Tuesday and was followed by a series of strong aftershocks.

Severe damage occurred throughout the city centre, where structures were previously weakened by a 7.1 earthquake that hit less than six months before, on Sept. 4, 2010.

"After the quake [my brother Tyler and I] both didn't know what had happened to the city and I thought for a bit everything was okay . . . then we turned on the news," said Dylan Marsden, 20, who spent most of his youth on Pender Island but lived the last few years on Salt Spring.

"We saw some of the footage from town and I remember when I saw that, my heart sunk so fast. There were people running, bleeding, crying, searching for bodies under the rubble. I asked myself, is this really happening?"

As of Wednesday afternoon, rescuers had uncovered 120 survivors from the rubble, but officials worried the death toll could reach

QUAKE continued on A7

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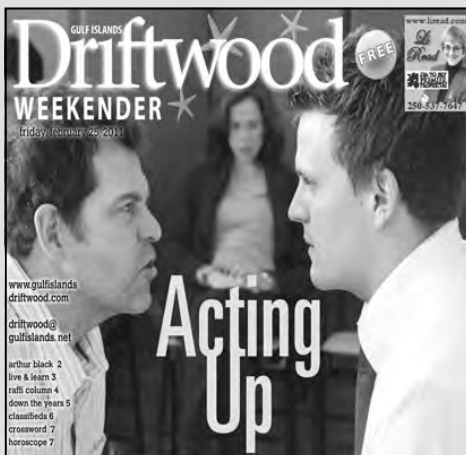
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NEWSBEAT

BC FERRIES

Leadership candidates discuss ferry subsidy

Party members vote Saturday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Candidates in the Liberal Party's leadership race are giving their position on a number of political issues in the run-up to the members' vote next Saturday, including how they would deal with predicted fare hikes on BC Ferries.

George Abbott took an early stance when he responded to a Feb. 4 appearance by Ferries CEO David Hahn on a Shaw TV program. Abbott issued a press release the following day, saying he was surprised to hear Hahn's

assertion that either fares would have to increase significantly or service levels drop without greater government subsidy in the next term. He promised to review the Coastal Ferries Act and the subsidy level.

"Clearly, a near doubling of fares on our northern routes and a 50 per cent increase on minor routes could have repercussions to the economies of those regions," Abbott stated in the release.

According to another candidate, however, Hahn's public predictions are just a tactic to leverage more money from the government. Former transportation minister Kevin Falcon told the Globe and Mail, "It's

unfortunate that he's taken the approach of trying to scare the public and stampede politicians into taking early positions on something like this . . . I think we'll end up negotiating a deal . . . There will be no massive rate increases that David is projecting."

Christy Clark has taken an even stronger position, stating in a Shaw TV debate taped Feb. 19 that as premier she would require Hahn to cover the fare increases by finding savings within the ferry corporation.

Mike de Jong's position is the most measured of the four. According to his media relations contact, Doug McLelland, de Jong recognizes the diffi-

culty of relying on any one of three options: increasing fares, decreasing service or increasing the government subsidy.

"The challenge is finding a balance between these three alternatives," McLelland said. "This is our transportation system service for many B.C. communities, and we cannot pass on all the costs to the users or the taxpayers."

Registered members of the BC Liberals will vote for their next party leader and the province's premier by phone or online on Feb. 26.

The government decision on its ferry fare subsidy amount for 2012 to 2016 will be announced at the end of June.

Students don Converse shoes in Creswick's honour

CRESWICK

continued from A1

"He made fond and indelible connections with virtually everyone who came to know him — and there were thousands. He is truly a legend in his own time."

Salt Spring Concert Band director Dawn Hage said, "Bruce was both a colleague and a friend — I had the greatest admiration for his unflagging enthusiasm and ability to get the middle school-aged kids excited and inspired about all kinds of music."

"It takes a special kind of teacher to get the best out of kids at this time in their life when so much else is going on for them and he had the gift," Hage continued.

"He would recognize a spark of interest or talent within a



Bruce Creswick. PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

student and the next thing you know there was a bonfire blazing. Bruce touched so many people in our community and his energy, talents, kindness and generosity will be sorely missed. I still simply can't believe that he is gone."

People across the community are commemorating

Creswick through his famous devotion to Converse running shoes. Middle school students who have the shoes are wearing them, and those who don't were supplied with Converse buttons produced by Jo and Bob Twaites.

Two Facebook sites established in Creswick's honour provide the visual solidarity, with countless supporters changing their profile pictures to photos of the iconic shoes.

SIMS students have also been posting their favourite memories on bulletin boards around the school.

Halstead reported that the students are sad but are managing, with lots of extra support from counsellors and parents who arrived at the school on Monday to see what they could do.

Creswick is survived by his

wife Carolyn, his son Matthew, who's at GISS, and his daughter Catelyn, a middle school student. He also leaves behind a brother Mark and a sister, Kathy Webster.

Webster recalled in her posting to Facebook that her brother loved his job and received as much as he gave from teaching.

"Whenever I talked with my brother Bruce, he was like a 'kid in a candy store'; always very excited with upcoming events he had planned for his students . . . I want you all to know how much you made a difference in Bruce's life too; he thought the world of all of you."

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WE	07:52	3.4 11.2	SU	08:03	2.8 9.2
	15:15	0.8 2.6		11:02	2.9 9.5
	22:57	2.9 9.5		19:20	0.8 2.6
24	02:46	2.5 8.2	28	03:39	3.2 10.5
TH	08:25	3.3 10.8	MO	09:03	2.7 8.9
	16:13	0.8 2.6		12:24	2.8 9.2
				20:13	0.9 3.0
25	00:35	3.0 9.8	MAR		
FR	04:09	2.8 9.2	01	04:15	3.2 10.5
	09:03	3.2 10.5	TU	09:42	2.5 8.2
	17:15	0.8 2.6		13:39	2.8 9.2
26	01:55	3.1 10.2		20:59	0.9 3.0
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Newsbeat

Heads up!

Climate Action Plan Open Houses
Saturday, FEBRUARY 26 — Fulford Hall, 10 a.m. to noon; ArtSpring from 2 to 4 p.m.

ROAD SAFETY

Flaggers request consideration for public safety

Infringements liable under MVA

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The owner of Salt Spring's traffic control company is asking island drivers be more considerate of her employees and their work.

Christina Rainsford, founder of Flash Flagging, says traffic has grown considerably in the 14 years since she began the business and drivers seem to have grown more impatient during the same period.

"There have been a couple of different instances lately where people have gone around one of my flaggers," Rainsford said.

"The thing is, they're in a machine — a two-ton machine — and we're in nothing." Following Rainsford's request that drivers respect stop signs and lower their speed when roadside work is being carried out isn't just a good idea. Flaggers are required to be present at such work by Work Safe BC, and their authority is protected by law under the Motor Vehicle Act.

Flash Flagging is called in whenever the regular flow of traffic will be interrupted by other work. It is contracted by Mainroad, Telus, Shaw, BC Hydro and even BC Ferries. Rainsford said a couple of decades ago, the island's limited traffic meant drivers could figure out for themselves when it would be safe to go. But now her company is needed to prevent injury to the workers and avoid collisions.

"In the old days you could stop right on Fulford-Ganges Road and have a chit-chat with your neighbour if you passed him. Those days are gone," she said. "It's constant, day and night."

An interesting history to the term "flagger" is that in the days before radios, the workers actually handed a flag to the last car in a group to be let through and asked the driver to pass it on to their colleague at the other end, letting them know they could send cars back the other way.

Today, Rainsford's employees are all certified "traffic control persons." They attend a two-day course and must renew their licences every three years.

Despite the inconvenience caused to people who time their trip to the minute and don't expect anything to mar their plans, Rainsford said, her company is usually called in only the night before a job, and sometimes the same morning. Legally, the flaggers can hold traffic for up to 15 minutes before letting vehicles advance, although drivers rarely face such a long wait.

Anyone who feels tempted to decide for themselves when it's okay to drive and to disobey the flaggers'



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY SHARI MACDONALD

A Salt Spring flagger on duty on the island last summer.

"In the old days you could stop right on Fulford-Ganges Road and have a chit-chat with your neighbour if you passed him."

CHRISTINA RAINSFORD
Flash Flagging

instructions should think again. Violators' licence plates are noted and given to the RCMP, who will such drivers a visit.

An incident in which a driver went around one of

Rainsford's employees and actually knocked her paddle out of her hand in the process ended up in traffic court in Ganges. Salt Spring resident Harry Warner was fined \$196 under Section 141 of the MVA. The scary thing, as Rainsford observed, is the car's impact on her worker could have been a lot worse.

As a longtime islander herself, Rainsford feels local drivers should learn to relax and perhaps plan in some extra time for trips, especially in the spring and fall.

"The whole idea is we're there for the protection of the people we're hired by, but also, we're there for the people's protection," she said.

"If we weren't there — what do you think would happen?"

News briefs

Police seek info on driver incidents

Salt Spring police are asking witnesses who may have seen an motor vehicle incident on Friday, Feb. 18 to come forward.

Police report that shortly after 3 p.m. on that date, officers attempted to pull over a vehicle on Ganges Hill. The vehicle attempted to evade police by driving into the neighbourhood along Charlesworth Road.

After searching for a short time, officers were alerted

to the vehicle's location and arrested the driver. A 31-year-old Salt Spring man is now facing criminal and Motor Vehicle Act charges.

RCMP are asking people who witnessed any part of this incident to contact Cpl. Martin Beardsmore at 250-537-5555.

• Police officers and other emergency services called to a single-vehicle accident on Lower Ganges Road just north of Booth Canal Road around 1 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 20 found a pickup truck carrying five Victoria residents had gone off the road.

An 18-year-old woman

with serious injuries was taken to Lady Minto Hospital before being airlifted to Victoria for further treatment. Criminal charges are pending against the 42-year-old male driver.

Police are interested in hearing from anyone who witnessed this incident, or who may have witnessed the truck being operated prior to the collision. Contact Salt Spring RCMP at 250-537-5555 or Crimestoppers at 250-995-7310.

Quadruplets born

Ruckle Farm had its first-

ever quadruplet lambs born on Feb. 17.

Marjorie Lane reports that the lambs were all of uniform size, with three of them black and one white. Three are ewe lambs and the fourth is a ram.

"The bountiful births here continue," said Lane. "There are many twins in our flock, with three sets of triplets as well."

SOS meets Hansen

Members of the Save Our Surgery Committee met with interim health minister Colin Hansen in Victo-

ria on Tuesday to plead the case for Lady Minto Hospital's operating room.

Phyllis Bolton and Rosemary Trump were set to attend the meeting, which had been facilitated by local MLA Murray Coell. Joining them was Salt Spring's electoral area director Garth Hendren, who was to discuss the Capital Regional District's funding role in the operating room upgrade.

According to SOS member Cherie Geauvreau, some 1,500 signed Save Our Surgery postcards were taken to Hansen to show islanders' support

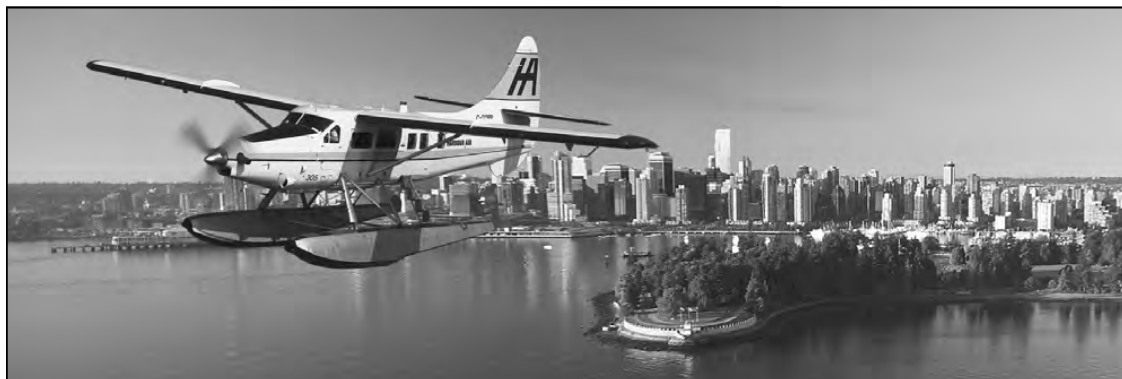
for the SOS position.

Postcards, which are available for signing at a number of island locales, can still be signed and given to Bolton until March 20.

For more information about the cards and how to get them, call Bolton at 250-537-5578.

SOS aims to have general surgical services at Lady Minto restored at least to levels seen before it was closed in mid 2008.

The hospital says the OR is now being used for approximately 44 endoscopy procedures each month.



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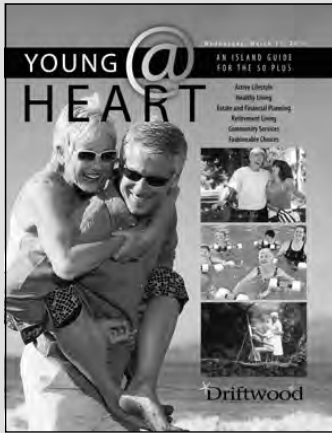
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NEWSBEAT

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Suites, cottages panel explores legalization

100 people attend
Trust meeting

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring Islanders wanting to crack open the doors on the affordable housing problem made the most of their time with key resource people at a Monday night meeting.

Set up to share information about the topic of legalizing suites and cottages on the island, the 100 people attending the Islands Trust-sponsored session were eager to broaden the discussion terrain to the affordable housing situation in general.

And it became clear that legalizing suites and cottages, whether in select "pilot" areas to start with or island-wide with some exceptions, would not eliminate Salt Spring's affordable housing crisis by any means.

"The overwhelming experience has been, at the end of the day, that [legalized suites] don't create problems, they solve problems . . . but they are only a part of the solution," said Tim Wake, a housing consultant from Bowen Island who served on the Lions Hall panel with consultant Janis Gauthier and Islands Trust planner Susan Palmer.

People who spoke or asked questions were overwhelm-

ingly in favour of legalization, with some also wondering why an incremental approach — which would see suites and cottages legalized in certain "pilot" areas of the island only — has been suggested.

Palmer explained that the island's official community plan directed that process.

She also noted that property owners would need to get a Capital Regional District building permit before a suite or cottage was considered legal. Involving the CRD's building inspection department would ensure the units met required health and safety regulations.

Gauthier, who has been working with the Community Affordable Housing Strategy, said she felt low-income seniors, lone-parent families and people with special needs — three groups identified as especially in need of affordable housing — could be served through suites and cottages legalization.

"We have a diverse community and we want to keep it that way."

Wake also spoke about the discouraging effect of rent controls through the use of registered housing agreements on suites and cottages, while noting he does favour the use of housing agreements in other situations.

He said he felt rental rates

would be controlled through supply and demand — that a person trying to rent out a one-bedroom suite for \$1,200 would have trouble doing so, for example.

Asking homeowners to sign on to a housing agreement would discourage them from creating a suite in their home.

"The idea of a limit is frightening to people who own their place," he said.

Neddy Harris, who has years of experience through the Salt Spring Land Bank Society trying to get affordable housing projects off the ground, disagreed that rental rates could be held down without external controls.

Wake also noted that any change would likely not result in a large number of new suites or cottages on the island.

Wake stressed that there must be an "economic driver" or personal financial reason for a homeowner to create a rental unit — they won't do it to simply help grow the island's affordable housing stock.

The main argument against legalizing suites and cottages — that it would increase density and therefore demand for water and sewer services — was acknowledged at Monday's session, but not specifically pressed by anyone as a reason to not consider legalization.

Eric Booth was concerned that if legalization does not occur in virtually all zones on the island, the Trust might decide to prosecute owners of existing illegal suites and cottages, which would end up reducing the number of available units.

No one knows how many suites and cottages are rented illegally at present, with estimates ranging from 200 to 650.

Bryce Chapman of Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. took the opportunity to note that Channel Ridge village already had the zoning required to create a large number of smaller, affordable housing units.

"I would like to offer our help to solve this problem," he said. "There are solutions on this island that haven't even been discussed yet."

For those wanting to talk about affordable housing solutions in general — from increasing market housing to finding ways to reduce homelessness — the Community Affordable Housing Strategy group is holding open houses on Monday, March 7 at Fulford Hall's OAP Room from 3 to 5 p.m., and Lions Hall from 7 to 9 p.m.

For the suite/cottage legalization issue, Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee is still gathering input, with any changes to be considered later this spring.

FIRE DISTRICT

Spending questioned at fire board meeting

Trustees promise to revisit
expenditures

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Members of the public had more questions about the district fire board's proposed spending for 2011 at its monthly meeting Monday night.

Discussion on the floor following the adjournment of regular business was dominated by questions from Kevin Bell, president of Mouat's Trading and a Chamber of Commerce member representing 350 businesses.

Bell noted the fire department portion of property tax bills had risen from around six per cent in recent years to 11 per cent, "without any appreciable growth in the community, without any external reason."

"I find that confusing," he said.

Salt Spring's fire board has proposed a \$2.4-million budget for 2011, up from about \$2.2-million last year and \$850,000 in 2005.

Bell also questioned the department's

statement that it needs to keep up with the standards outlined by the National Fire Protection Agency, an American-based institution.

"Firemen have to be well trained and well equipped, but it has to be affordable," Bell said, with a warning that further tax increases may mean there will be nobody left on the island to pay them.

Members of the board and firefighters seated in the audience assured Bell that NFPA sets the standards at an international level, including for most of Canada. The department has been working for the past 10 years to come into line with those standards, both for safety requirements and liability concerns.

"I think there have been no trustees in my time that haven't grappled with these issues . . . the point is that we have to move on. We have grappled with these questions and we have answered them," trustee Mary Gillies said.

Trustees Ron Chamney and Grant Eckberg repeated information they gave earlier in the evening, that the finance committee is looking at how expenditures were allocated in the past 12 months with

the aim of finding some potential savings in the coming year. A revised budget is expected to be posted on the fire department website sometime this spring.

Gillies further suggested the public should either trust the board of seven elected people to do their work or join the trustees and make changes from inside.

This year two places on the board will be up for election at the annual general meeting set for April 30. Administrator Nell Bushby announced she has been trying to access an official voters' list for the district since last year and has been refused by BC Assessment and other offices, apparently because of changes to privacy laws.

The board will continue trying to secure the list and will create a form for qualified voters who don't appear on the list to sign.

Also during Monday's meeting, the board agreed to a formal request from the public to allow video and audio taping of future proceedings. Chair Michael Schubart noted it would be important that the recordings not be altered or edited for other purposes.

COAST GUARD

CCG Auxiliary back on duty

Twenty-four members
ready to serve

Salt Spring Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteers are back on call as of Feb. 11.

CCGA Unit 25 leader Tom McKeachie announced the unit has returned to active search and rescue duty, after a two-year hiatus.

Unit 25 members had continued to train and focus on bringing up their numbers while assisting the local community with an active boating safety program in the schools and Pleasure Craft Operator Card training.

The CCGA vessel and volunteers have also provided on-the-water support for the Island Wildlife Natural

Care Centre and the land-based search and rescue group.

SAR members on call carry a pager and commit to be ready to deploy at 15 minutes notice.

The unit, which now has 24 active members, operates a fast-response vessel out of Ganges, covering an area from Nanaimo to Oak Bay and part of Georgia Strait. It augments the considerable capabilities of the Coast Guard professionals, with search-and-rescue taskings co-ordinated by the Joint Rescue Co-ordination Centre in Victoria.

Unit 25 members are also available to do free courtesy safety checks for vessel compliance with safety regulations.

People can contact 250-538-8068 for more information.

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NEWSBEAT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

HELI HELP: Workers put down a slab of cement Saturday morning on the Lady Minto Hospital helipad, which has been under re-construction since last fall.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CRD, Trust release latest budget figures

Trust halves original property tax hike

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

The local government taxation puzzle for 2011 was filled in a bit last week when the Capital Regional District released its latest preliminary budget and the Islands Trust announced its intention to take less than planned from taxpayers.

Salt Spring property owners will likely pay 7.7 per cent more CRD taxes for regional and general costs such as the library, Parks and Recreation Commission, transit/transportation and CRD administration, up from \$3,139,934 last year to \$3,381,775 in 2011.

The total requisition amount for the various water and sewer-service areas — and including the island-wide liquid waste service — will be \$596,459, up 3.45 per cent from last year, but with most services held at a zero

per cent increase. The exceptions are Cedar Lane Water District, whose ratepayers will contribute \$13,381 more this year, and those from the Beddis Water District, who will pay \$6,503 more in taxes.

Higher costs on Salt Spring are attributed to the voter-approved \$100,000 increase in transportation commission costs to help pay for sidewalks and bike lanes in north Ganges, \$96,100 more for the library and \$31,550 more for the indoor pool.

Salt Spring CRD director Garth Hendren said he and local commission members tried to keep increases to a minimum.

“In this time of fiscal restraint, the various commissions and I have worked to reduce expenditures wherever possible, while still delivering support for the community and all the initiatives that are being undertaken by the CRD,” he said.

Hendren’s administration budget, which includes grants-in-aids

to community groups, had a \$37,690 surplus from 2010 which will be carried forward to reduce the tax amount from \$70,960 in 2010 to \$49,540 in 2011.

For Galiano, Mayne, Pender and Saturna islands, the proposed overall tax increase is 3.32 per cent, including users of various water systems and fire protection areas.

Property owners in the Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands electoral area districts also contribute to the Capital Regional Hospital District.

Salt Spring’s share in 2011 is \$993,226, some \$52,818 less than in 2010. For the other islands that amount is \$838,697, down by about \$10,000 from the previous year.

The CRD notes that a number of figures still need to be confirmed before tax requisition numbers are finalized and a final budget can be passed in late March.

Meanwhile, Islands Trust Council’s Financial Planning Committee has recommended

that an initially proposed 4.4 per cent tax requisition increase be cut in half. In the Trust Area the average property value is \$450,000. A 2.2 per cent tax increase will see the average property owner pay \$293 in Trust taxes, up from \$287 last year.

Trust Council will receive the committee’s recommendation and make a final budget decision at its quarterly meeting on March 9 on Galiano Island.

According to a press release, the smaller hike is possible because of funds left over from the current fiscal year.

“While some people believe there is a rush to spend at the end of a fiscal year, our staff carefully manage budget lines to enable savings wherever possible,” said Trust chair Sheila Malcolmson in the release. “The committee has recommended that, rather than add these savings to our surplus, the majority be used to reduce taxes for next year.”

Islands Trust Council is accepting pub-

lic comments about its budget proposals until March 4 at #200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8; by fax: 250-405-5155 or by e-mail to: budget2011@islandstrust.bc.ca to the attention of the treasurer.

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CONSERVATION

NSSWD water users have chance at rebate

100 homeowners to benefit from low-flush toilets

A limited number of high-efficiency toilet rebates are now available to Salt Spring residents who comply with eligibility requirements.

Only 100 of the \$100 rebates are available through a combined North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSWWD) and Salt Spring Water Council program.

The rebate will be in the form of a \$100 credit to the property owner’s water account. Cash rebates will not be made.

Rebates will be issued on a “first-come-first-served” basis, and application forms are available at the waterworks office at

761 Upper Ganges Rd.

Applicants will be monitored to ensure they comply with the following eligibility conditions:

- An application on the prescribed form must be made to the NSWWD’s office.
- The property must be connected to the NSWWD’s distribution system.
- The customer must be up to date with both their water tolls and parcel tax accounts.
- The building must have been constructed prior to Jan. 1, 2005. Construction or additions after that date are not eligible since toilet fixtures were mandated by the building inspector from that date.
- The applicant must have purchased the new toilet after the date of the launch of this program, which is Feb. 23, 2011.
- Proof of purchase of the toi-

let is required.

• Only one toilet per property is eligible for a rebate.

• The property owner is responsible for disposal of the old toilet.

• All purchased toilets must be high-efficiency models using 4.8 litres per flush or less (including dual-flush toilets).

• Applicants are responsible for ensuring that they have all necessary plumbing and/or building permits.

• Recipients of any previous rebate program are not eligible (this refers to the 2009/10 program of the Salt Spring Water Council).

• The new toilet must be installed.

Property owners may purchase the equipment where they choose. However, support of local suppliers is encouraged.

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NEWSBEAT

The Bra Lady Is Coming to Size You Up

Are you tired of feeling saggy, lumpy, pinched or strained? Well you're not alone. As you've probably seen on Oprah or read in women's magazines, over 80 per cent of all women wear the wrong size bra.

Here's where Barb Chapman, the Bra Lady, comes in. Chapman is coming to Salt Spring on **Monday & Tuesday March 7 & 8** to outfit you with the best possible bra for your body. Chapman said she will be seeing clients on a one-on-one basis, explaining the benefits of good bras and measuring their bodies properly.

"Most women just want to find a good-fitting bra that's not uncomfortable," Chapman said. "What they don't realize is that a good support bra is also important for blood circulation and enhanced lymph drainage."

Chapman has over 200 bra sizes available for ordering, ranging from 30AA to 52KK. It's likely that you'll fit somewhere between those sizes.

She offers these questions for women to ask themselves:

- Do you have a drawer full of bras but none that fit comfortably?
- Does your bust line "bounce" when you walk while wearing your "everyday" bra?
- Do you overflow the cup of your bra?
- Do your bra straps dig into your shoulders leaving red and painful marks?
- Does your bra ride up in the back because you tighten the straps to give you added support?

Have you ever begun an exercise class only to drop out because your breasts ached from lack of support while jumping or running?

If you answer yes to any of these you are in need of a new bra, and a custom one could be the way to go.

YOU'VE TRIED ALL THE REST – NOW TRY THE BEST!!

- NO UNDERWIRES
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- NO RIDING UP IN THE BACK

You can sign up for Chapman's bra clinic by calling **1-800-254-3938**

She doesn't come into town very often so she advises booking as soon as possible.

CLIMATE CHANGE

'The plan' will be revealed: open houses share Salt Spring's climate action strategy

Much-anticipated blueprint for meeting GHG reduction targets

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring's draft Climate Action Plan has been released and is ready for dissection at two open house events on Saturday, Feb. 26.

The island's Climate Action Council will host sessions from 10 a.m. to noon at the Fulford Hall OAP room and from 2 to 4 p.m. at ArtSpring to explain how Salt Spring could meet greenhouse gas reduction targets for 2015 and 2020.

"When you look at the numbers, it is obvious where the reductions must come from. The 2015 and 2020 targets can be mostly achieved with lifestyle changes," said CAC coordinator Elizabeth White, "and we will be inviting many different island organizations to work with the targets for their sectors to come up with sectoral action plans."

Salt Spring's official community plan and the proposed climate action plan aim to reduce GHG emissions by 15 per cent over 2007 levels by 2015 and by 40 per cent by 2020.

The plan claims targets are achievable if a long list of actions are taken, many of them by individuals — especially in the areas of transportation and food.

In the area of on-island transportation, for example, the plan suggests:

- all islanders could eliminate one trip in five;
- vehicle occupancy could be increased by one person, every fourth trip;

- vehicles could be tuned up and driven "smarter" for better performance;
- replacing one in five pick-ups and SUVs with small cars;
- replacing one in 10 light vehicles with electric vehicles.

On a community-wide level, increasing bus service and cycling infrastructure, using the Green Fleets B.C. program, establishing a pilot electric vehicle fleet and charging infrastructure, and developing teleconferencing venues are a few ideas outlined.

To help achieve required reductions in the food area, the plan suggests islanders could eat local food one day per week, eat 10 per cent smaller portions and eat a dairy-free vegetarian diet three days per week (since meat production creates a significant amount of GHGs).

Again, a number of ideas — many of them already underway through groups such as Transition Salt Spring and Island Natural Growers — are proposed for increasing local food production and therefore reducing GHGs associated with the creation, processing and transportation of most food we eat.

Lists of suggestions are also included for the areas of homes, businesses and institutions, solid waste, water management and liquid waste, land use and conservation, B.C. Ferries and other marine traffic, and local renewable energy.

Proposed actions are connected with estimates of how much carbon dioxide equivalent emissions could be reduced, as well as a number of assumptions.

"It is great to see all the GHG numbers associated with all the actions," said council member Andrew Haigh, who represents the island's transportation commis-

"The good news is that if everybody does a little bit, the first targets should be easy to attain."

ANDREW HAIGH
Council member

sion. "The good news is that if everybody does a little bit, the first targets should be easy to attain."

Christine Torgrimson, chair of the Climate Action Council and a local trustee, agreed that "the plan is realistic, responsible and doable."

She said it would help Salt Spring meet the greenhouse gas reduction targets the provincial government recently required Salt Spring and all B.C. communities to include in their official community plans.


Saturday's events will allow for one-on-one interaction with council members. There will not be a set presentation or meeting-wide Q&A or feedback session.

The CAC will receive public comments on the plan until April 10. Comments will be included in an appendix set for completion by the end of April.

Funding to support specific actions and in-kind support will be sought from various government agencies and community partners.

The CAC is a community-wide body of groups spearheaded by the Islands Trust and CRD.

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NEWSBEAT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

WORD SMITHS: From left, Nigel Bismar, Aidan Haigh, Tal Jacobs and Jimmy Steel play French Scrabble at Salt Spring Island Middle School as the Third Annual Salt Spring Scrabble Fundraiser continues in island schools and at the Salt Spring Inn and Falconshead Grill this week. The event raises funds for the Stephen Lewis Foundation to help fight HIV/AIDS in Africa, via the Salt Spring Grandmothers-to-Grandmothers group.

ISLAND HEROICS

Communities help injured mini-Maltese

Galiano visitors brought to SSI for treatment

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

A vacationing Vancouver woman who went through a harrowing adventure getting veterinary treatment for her dog, can't say enough about islanders' willingness to help.

Gabriella van Rij was staying at Serenity By-the-Sea on the west side of Galiano Island last Tuesday when her mini-Maltese dog named Bella suffered an eye injury after getting stuck in the door of her owner's car.

"When the dog first showed up it had one eye looking at the ceiling and it was outside of its head," said resort owner Chidakash.

He immediately called Galiano's vets, but none were on the island. Mayne's vet said if Bella could be transported to

Miner's Bay she would be able to attend to the dog. However, they ended up making arrangements with Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic on Salt Spring instead, after Kyo Okuda of Retreat Cove Charters on Galiano stepped up to help.

Okuda was willing to bring van Rij and Bella aboard his 31-foot fibreglass sailing ketch to Fernwood Dock.

"Even though the weather was really bad, [Okuda] said he would do it," said Chidakash.

"It was a very rough crossing," Okuda said, with white caps and winds of more than 25 knots.

Van Rij said the seas were wild and the wind so ferocious that Okuda was having trouble getting the boat to land at Fernwood.

"It took us five tries to dock the boat," said Okuda.

Then all of a sudden a young man appeared and, along with an older

gentleman, grabbed the boat so van Rij could get herself and the dog, which was in her bag, onto the dock.

"If it hadn't been for an unknown gentleman with a red sweater, who saw the boat was in trouble, we couldn't have docked," said van Rij. "I only had five seconds to scream back at this total stranger to say thank you."

Chidakash had called a Silver Shadow taxi, which took van Rij and Bella to the vet, where Dr. Dave MacDonald performed surgery on Bella's eye.

Van Rij was amazed at the helpful attitude of all those involved on Galiano, both Silver Shadow and Harbour House Hotel staff, and everyone at Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic. Gulf Islands Water Taxi also offered to return her to Galiano the next day, although she did end up taking the ferry.

"It's just amazing the care and love and

attention this little dog received."

"What was incredible was nobody knew me or this dog but everyone made the time.

So the dog is still alive because of this."

Not only that, but when van Rij mentioned she had written a book, a number of people said they wanted to buy it to help her out. Since then Salt Spring Books has agreed to sell her books called *With All My Might*.

"Salt Spring Island is 10 times the size of Galiano, but it still has a little island heart," observed Chidakash.

He also reported that Bella is generally fine and that the prognosis for the eye will be more clear next week.

As for Okuda, he was only too happy to help, even though the shackles of his vessel suffered damage in the incident.

"It's all about values," he said. "If you're not

helping anybody, then what are you doing?"

Van Rij would also like to thank the young man who made it possible for her to get from the boat to land, asking him to email her at gabriella@weopendoors.ca.

Quake victim shocked at devastation

QUAKE

continued from A1

high as 400. New Zealand Prime Minister John Key told TV crews following the tragedy, "This may be New Zealand's darkest day."

Marsden is visiting just outside Christchurch at the home of his brother Tyler and his new wife Halie.

Via e-mail Marsden said he had recently returned to his brother's home on the afternoon of the quake and was just standing up when it hit. He grabbed onto his door and pulled himself into the door frame.

Looking out to the living room, Marsden saw a fish tank and shelves fall over. The closet doors in his room flew open and he could hear things crashing over in the kitchen.

"It felt like I had two people pulling my arms side to side, but I felt so helpless knowing there was nothing I could do except wait it out," he wrote.

"I don't really remember hearing anything except the house squeaking."

After the quake subsided, Marsden and his brother called to each other to see if they were both okay. Neither was injured.

Marsden said his family's main focus then turned to his sister-in-law Halie, who was at work in the city. The massive power



PHOTO BY SIERRA LUNDY

Dylan Marsden

outages that affected around 80 per cent of Christchurch did not reach their house, but the phone lines were down.

Eventually Marsden's brother took up his bicycle and rode the 10 km into town to find his wife. In the meantime, she was evacuated and sent home, arriving there just before her husband did.

"He came back shortly after, and it was a huge moment of relief when we were all safe and together at home," Marsden said.

"Somehow my mom [Michelle] got through to the land line at the house. It was nice to talk to her — I told her we were all

okay and safe, but many people weren't as lucky as we were on that day."

Marsden reported feeling over 30 aftershocks in the 24 hours following the earthquake. Many people were still trapped in buildings and the visible damage to the city was "breathtaking."

"Many buildings are down, the roads are uneven and flooded. I could go on, but just to make it short, it looks like a war zone," he wrote.

Marsden said experiencing the quake has caused him to realize how frightening and sad such disasters can be. He was particularly worried about his other New Zealand family members before he was able to reach them.

The experience has also emphasized for Marsden the value of being prepared for events and not panicking when they do happen, but as he pointed out, even preparation can't prevent some outcomes.

"Unless you live your life in a bubble and stay at home ready for an earthquake to hit, I guess you kind of have to get lucky on where you are the day it happens. I was lucky I wasn't shopping in town, or driving through," he said.

"Many people yesterday at 12:51 weren't as lucky as I was."

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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

Get on with job

The lack of affordable housing on Salt Spring has been talked about for years with little concrete action taken to change the status quo.

But the pace is about to be picked up through the Community Affordable Housing Strategy, thanks to yet another group spearheaded by the Islands Trust and Capital Regional District with support from other bodies and individuals.

Monday night's public forum on whether the renting of suites and cottages should be legalized by the Islands Trust in some places on Salt Spring was a welcome warm-up to the larger discussion the strategy group will lead in two open houses on March 7. There's lots to talk about when it comes to making the suites and cottages decision, but Monday's forum felt as if islanders were impatient to get on with the broader task of creating more affordable housing on the island.

THE ISSUE:

Legalizing suites and cottages

WE SAY:

Small part of bigger task

Legalize suites and cottages? That's a no brainer — what's next? they seemed to say.

We're inclined to agree.

No one knows how many suites and cottages are rented illegally now, with estimates ranging from 200 to 650. Those tenants are now consuming water and contributing to septic waste, even

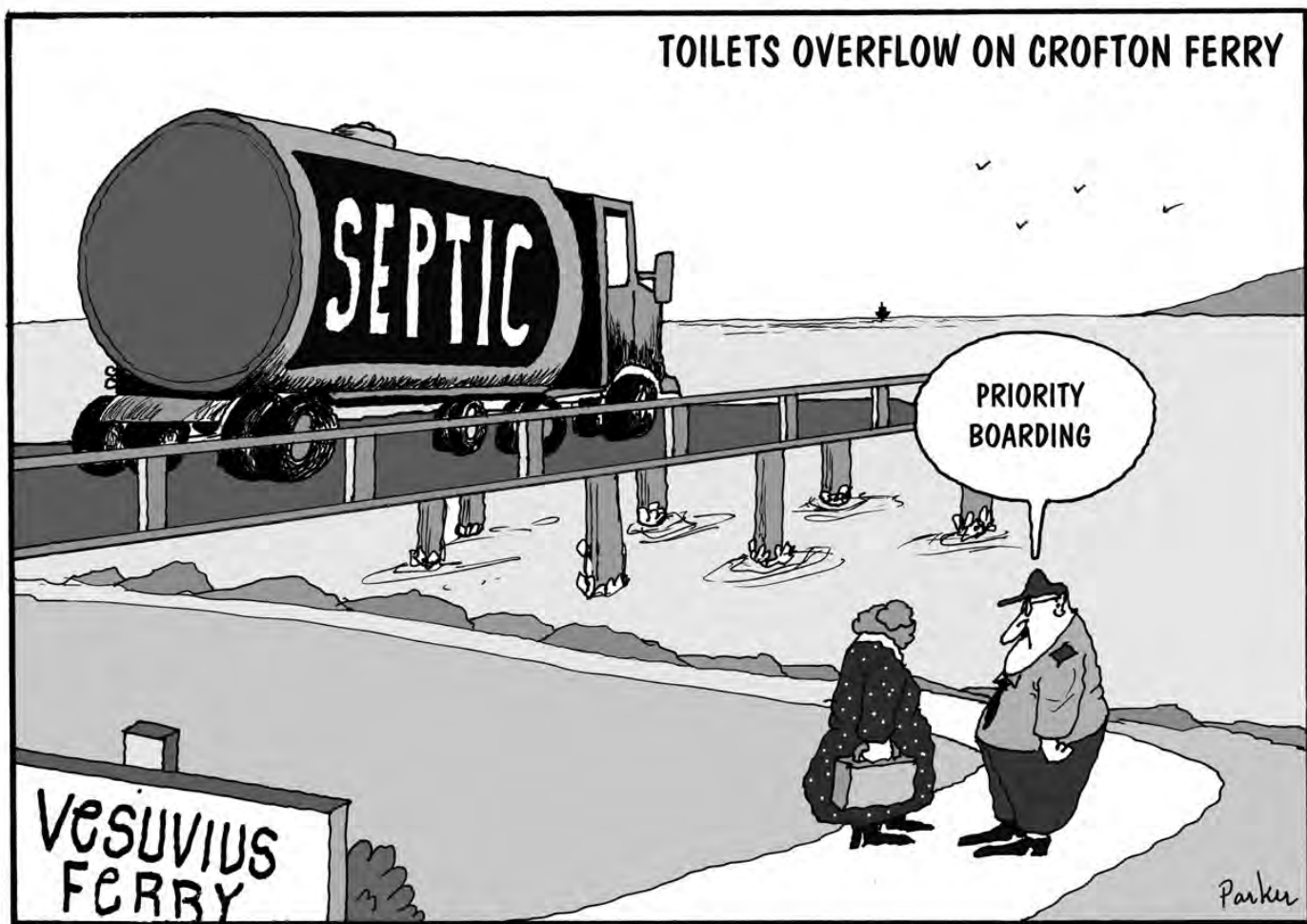
if they won't show up on a zoning map tally of Salt Spring's present or future population level. Who would want to take on the task of "getting rid of" those community members to ensure the present zoning regulations are adhered to when there is nowhere else for them to live?

Except for restrictions that make obvious environmental sense, property owners with existing units should be encouraged to "go legal" throughout the island.

Allowing population growth in far-flung parts of the island may be questionable, planning-wise, but some of the most affordable dwellings are there now. Based on what the affordable housing experts say, legalization won't prompt an appreciable increase in units anywhere on the island. The investment and hassle required is just too great for most people to bother.

More than anything, legalizing suites and cottages will give tenants some security, rather than having to live under the shadow of being visited by a bylaw enforcement officer; and their living conditions could become safer due to health and safety requirements.

For those reasons alone it's worth doing. As for seeing tangible movement on the affordable housing problem, the real heavy lifting is still to come.



Letter provoked by need for alternate views

BY MICHAEL WALL

I read, with interest, Shelley Nitikman's Feb. 16 Viewpoint verdict on my "Tantrums" letter published some weeks earlier. I feel I must plead "guilty as charged, your honour."

My letter was certainly less than moderate, and not entirely polite. In my defence, I would like to explain that I wrote it in a rather emotional state, having just witnessed behaviour in the local Trust meeting which, had it happened in a court room, would have been regarded as contempt of court and resulted in instant ejection of the perpetrator.

I was shocked by this performance, and others in the audience told me that they were physically shaking afterwards.

I was unsure whether this behaviour would be reported in the Driftwood, and so I set out to describe to readers how it felt to be in the audience that day. I confess that perhaps I could have been a little more conciliatory.

We live in the Bush/Harper era in which ideology is more important than facts and reason, and in which dogma, when repeated continually, can be mistaken for truth.

This is the problem I see with Peter Vincent having a soapbox upon which to mount his hobby-horse every two weeks in the Driftwood.

If you listen to him you might come to believe that the Islands Trust is stifling economic development on Salt Spring, despite the fact that it approved 93 per cent of all applications brought before it.

You might believe his assertion that young people find it impossible to live here and are leaving in droves. The truth is that our 2010 birthrate was up 30 per cent in the previous year, and school enrolment is increasing. The latest figures show that our

VIEWPOINT

population is growing at twice the B.C. average, and ten times that of other rural communities. Anyone who has children or young friends looking for work or affordable accommodation in Vancouver or Victoria will know that it is no easier there. In fact, we have well in excess of four times more affordable housing, per capita, than Victoria.

Why do people continue to move to Salt Spring? Thanks to the work of the Trust over the last 35 years it is a wonderful place to be. There has been continuous development over the years, but at a pace which has preserved the character of the island, and its endangered ecology, while supporting a healthy business community which has, among others, 55 building contractors, 26 restaurants, 38 realtors and 19 art galleries. An astonishing 37 per cent of working islanders are self-employed, myself included, compared to a 14 per cent provincial average: proof that our local government structure encourages small business.

Our local government is highly democratic: our trustees are elected by us and our OCP is developed through consultation with anyone who cares to contribute. The only organization to take part in every one of the recent OCP review panels was the Chamber of Commerce.

Given the frequency with which Peter Vincent is able to voice his highly partisan views, I encourage others to write to the Driftwood with alternative opinions. And I counsel that they do so politely and tolerantly.

In the interest of full disclosure I would like to point out that Ms. Nitikman is married to the current Islanders for Self-Government chairman.

The writer owns an industrial design consultancy and has lived on Salt Spring for 24 years. He says he has no prior convictions.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are CRD/Trust tax rates for 2011 reasonable?

Yes No

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should renting SS suites and cottages be legalized?



Driftwood

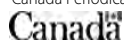
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IslandVoices

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:
 “Salt Spring Island is 10 times the size of Galiano, but it still has a little island heart.”

CHIDAKASH, SERENITY BY-THE-SEA

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: How do you prepare for the Oscars?



WILLOW MACDONALD

I don't really know about them. I watch movies but don't really go for the awards thing.



TOM CHRISTIE

I watch a couple of movies. As far as who wins, it's always a surprise.



DAVID HAGGART

By trying to ignore them.



MIKE ROBERTSON

I don't prepare for them because I just don't care.



JOEL TREJO

I watch a few movies ahead of time and sometimes watch the awards while flipping through the channels.

Letters to the editor

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

Clarification

I would like to clarify a point made in my “Doctors’ position” In-Response piece in the Feb. 9 Driftwood.

I mentioned that the visiting specialists working out of the Kings Lane Medical Clinic were “private, fee for service.” What this means is that when they see patients, they bill the BC Medical Services Plan, they don’t bill the patient. It was meant to point out that they are not on salary by VIHA or any other organization.

DR. SHANE BARCLAY,
SALT SPRING

Bad precedent

In response to the “Whining” letter in the Feb. 9 Driftwood, I have lived on

Salt Spring for eight years now, which is not nearly as long as Mrs. Cunningham’s time on the island.

I’m sure she has seen a lot of things come and go and loves this island as much as those who have been here for even a short period of time. The island has something very special that attracts and keeps those who want to maintain that spirit.

I was shocked when I found out that a chain store like Mark’s Work Warehouse wanted to expand into an area of existing boutique shops that have become renowned for making our island special. It is a business decision and it sounds as though it’s a done deal, so why protest, right? I can think of many reasons, but the main one goes back to

that word “special.” If we continue to allow chain stores like Mark’s to expand, will we be able to say no to big box stores some day? I mean the precedent has been set.

If we allow one chain store to become larger, does that mean a community that prides itself on mom and pop businesses loses the ability to say “no to mega stores” when the time comes?

My two cents.
DAVID MILLER,
SALT SPRING

Dock bargain

Every day there are people using Fernwood wharf, early or late, rain or shine, calm or windy. They come on foot or by car or bike or bus, and sometimes by tour bus. They are all ages, from

infants to seniors, some in strollers or wheelchairs, some with canes or in snug-glies. Some bring their dogs. Some have special needs and this is a safe place to walk. They come with cameras, fishing rods, nets, buckets, picnics, a pizza from the Raven Street Cafe, or just with appreciation. They come to see the sunrise or sunset or moonlight on the water. They thrill at the sight of otters and enjoy the seabirds, and sometimes they come to watch a sailboat race.

Others come by boat, kayak, canoe sailboat or yacht. This is the closest access to and from Wallace Island Marine Park and it is a frequently used access to and from Galiano Island. The coast guard uses this wharf for medi-vacs, being

met here by the ambulance to take someone to the hospital. Its use is free to all.

There are so many reasons why there has been a wharf here for more than 100 years, and all it takes to keep it is a minimal cost of about \$2 per household per month increase in our taxes, less than many people pay for a cup of coffee. How great is that?

It’s the best bargain ever.
NANCY WIGEN,
FERNWOOD

Distorting facts

Readers’ contributions to Driftwood’s letters and opinion section are nearly always worth reading. Community dialogue and all that. But sometimes they get annoying.

I refer to “Smart meters pose health risk” in your last issue.

Statements like “. . . smart meters have been associated in many scientific studies with negative health effects” are probably rubbish, misleading and irresponsible — unless the writer can supply references to these scientific studies.

Not always being 100 per cent rational myself, I concede that it is perfectly legitimate for someone to express an uninformed fear of low level EMR. But I suggest that statements to the effect that science supports such concerns is probably a distortion of fact.

HAROLD BROCHMANN,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on A10

Bored, dentured multitudes face Orwellian future

My mother wants to die.

She has informed the staff in the Nanaimo Seniors Village that she would like to wade into the sea and not turn back. High drama. Shakespearian, even. She hasn’t entirely thought it out. She is not permitted out of the facility unaccompanied. She has short-term memory issues.

When I visit, she speaks of jumping out the small bedroom window overlooking the gardens from the second floor. She tells me she has lived too long, surviving Dad by five years now. There is a large framed photograph of my father on her desk, resplendent in his military uniform. She often asks who this man is on her desk. She has long-term memory issues as well.

She is quite fond of the desk. She mistakenly recalls picking it out, along with her comfy chair in the bay window, within arm’s reach of a portable television. The television remote has masking tape over it, with Sharpie arrows pointing to the “ON” button. She regularly forgets, spending hours staring into the dark screen until she nods into a troubled sleep in her comfy chair overlooking the gardens.

The room is quite spacious, clean, bright, well appointed, with a private bathroom large enough to spin a wheelchair. My mother describes the place as a dump. She wants to move back to Sunderland, England, “where her friends are.” Other than two short visits, she has not been back since 1945, when my father brought her to Canada. Sometimes she speaks of buying a cottage by the sea. Sometimes she wants to go “home” — a mythical, bygone paint-

by-numbers vignette where three generations live in an immense Victorian farmhouse with a porch swing.

There is a red cord hanging down the wall by her bed — to be pulled in the event of medical distress. Attached to the end of the cord is a small stuffed Valentine’s bear perched on top of a jar of chocolate-covered peanuts. The bear is a security measure. She is convinced the cleaners pilfer the chocolate-covered peanuts. They have also pilfered her wedding ring, miscellaneous other jewellery . . . even her delicacies. This causes great alarm amongst the staff. The item in question unfailingly turns up in some forgotten corner of Mom’s dresser drawer.

Sitting on the edge of the single bed, I can feel the steel bars under the bedspread, to be raised into the upright position if the client has a tendency to roll in her sleep. Mom does not roll in her sleep, but she does fall down, ending up on her hands and knees or her derriere, depending upon circumstance. Other ailments include swollen ankles, high blood pressure, shortness of breath and frequent urinary tract infections.

Like most on this ward, she has defied the actuary tables, living years beyond her statistical “best before” date. She is 85 years old, plagued with most of the nagging ailments befitting her age, both physical and mental. She is better than most residing here. A good number are still able to get around, albeit with difficulty and the occa-



Peter Vincent

HEAD TO HEAD

sional tumble. Some are in wheelchairs, pitched forward so their foreheads are resting on their meal tray. Some never leave their single beds. They hear you walking down the hallway. “Who’s there? Is anybody there?”

My mother is in that grey, nether world between cognition and full-on dementia. She insists on dressing formally every morning. She has a standing Friday appointment with the hairdresser in the east wing. She yearns for male company. Mostly she is bored to death. Bored, and scared.

She awakens every morning not recognizing where she is, wondering what city, what country. Why is she in a motel room? Who are these people that seem to know her, that come in and lay out clothes for her? Who is that man in the picture frame on the desk, and most hurtful of all, why has my family abandoned me? Eventually, the synapses partially connect, the panic subsides, and things begin to sort themselves out.

The facility my mother calls a “dump” costs around \$6,500 a month, most of which is covered by various government pensions, the remainder by interest on her savings. Her room is spacious and clean, the staff professional, and the meals, though bland, quite edible.

My mother is one of the lucky few. She is ahead of the legions of baby boomers just now hitting pension age. In 2011, the federal government will transfer \$27 billion to the

provinces for health care. The lion’s share will service the 4.7 million seniors in Canada. That number is projected to more than double in the next 25 years, to 10.9 million.

With the numbers of working Canadians declining and the numbers of pensioners doubling, there will be a massive fiscal reckoning in the near future. Niceties such as a spacious single room with a bath overlooking the gardens will be a vague memory, like that immense Victorian farmhouse with the porch swing. That mythical Norman Rockwellian pastoral will morph into a bleak George Orwellian nightmare for the dentured multitudes.

The distressing nursing home headlines we occasionally see today — stories of separated spouses, filthy bedding and worse — will become the norm. Sons and daughters, already financially strapped by a new financial world order, will be cleaning out broom closets to make room for grandma. Assisted suicide will not only be legal, but encouraged. Euthanasia in pill form will be available at the pharmacy — a clear, macabre solution to the government’s fiscal dilemma.

Our family doctor slid the form across his desk. It read “In the event of a catastrophic medical event, attending physicians should (a) do everything in their power to stabilize the patient’s vital signs or (b) do not resuscitate.” My sister and I looked at each other. We blinked. We initialed (b). Do not resuscitate. We signed at the bottom. Meanwhile, our mother sits in her chair overlooking the gardens, waiting.

republicofsaltspring@mac.com

OPINION

MORE LETTERS

continued from A9

Foresee and forestall

Silent Spring, a book written 50 years ago by Rachel Carson about the ravages of pesticide use, is dedicated to Albert Schweitzer with this quote: "Man has lost the capacity to foresee and to forestall. He will end by destroying the Earth."

How blessed we are to live in the Gulf Islands where we are governed by a polity with a mandate to foresee and to forestall.

NINA RAGINSKY,
WALTER BAY

Vibrant economy

Jacob Knaus, chair of the Southern Sunshine Coast Advisory Committee, has made an important point in his Feb. 16 letter: "BC Ferries is an integral part of the provincial transport infrastructure."

And that is where the confusion begins. What part of it is it?

Many have said it is a part of the highway system, others that it should be treated similarly to BC Transit, but neither analogy seems to me to be correct.

Surely, a ferry is a "motorized bridge." In situations where a land connected bridge would not be economical, a ferry, or motor-

ized bridge is needed to "bridge" the gap.

Therefore, as Jacob Knaus has said, ferries should be treated in the same way that land based bridges are — being critical links to BC communities dependent upon them, and they should be funded similarly.

Naturally, we expect, as users, to pay the running costs. Nobody would argue with that. However, the capital costs (i.e. interest on the debt), depreciation and reasonable maintenance charges should be for the transportation ministry.

I, for one, am a supporter of the current incorporated structure. It places accountability and responsibility where it belongs — with BC Ferry Services Inc. The fast ferries fiasco is a living monument to the need to ensure that those responsible are the ones to shoulder the risks. The purchase of new ferries is best left to BC Ferries management, who can be expected to be the most knowledgeable and to understand the risk/reward relationships involved.

However, BC Ferries is the primary link to many B.C. communities which are vibrant contributors to the B.C. economy.

While raising fares may make sense on narrow return on investment criteria, doing so can be counter productive when you look at the

wider implications for the B.C. economy.

Our politicians and government officials need to ask themselves a simple question: Do higher ferry fares result in a net increase in the provincial economy's growth or do they result in a contraction?

When BC Ferries was established, I don't think the question of linkage to the broader economy was a consideration, but if you consider the ferry system to be a vital artery, linking all parts of the provincial "body," then a healthy circulatory system is crucial. Higher fares constrict the "circulation" and "frostbite" at our remote communities may result.

Now would be a good time to enter into a discussion on the best role for BC Ferries, and the pricing and cost structure that makes the most sense in support of a vibrant B.C. economy.

ROGER MIDDLETON,
TWINFLOWER WAY

Sheep to be shorn

In his insightful assessment of our water problems ("Who's minding our water? You don't want to know," Feb. 9 Driftwood), Peter Vincent refers to my \$300,000 estimate of CRD administrative fees over the seven-year duration of our treatment facility upgrade. Peter notes the CRD's estimate of about 12 per

cent of that amount. Here's how to explain the discrepancy, I believe.

What no one realized when we voted to turn administration of the system and of the treatment plant upgrade over to the CRD in 2004 is that the relationship of the CRD to subscribers in a water service area is not a relationship of government to its constituents. The CRD considers itself a consulting agency and the subscribing area its client.

This means when CRD administrative staff attend other than formalized meetings or when they respond to queries, they bill by the hour: about \$80 dollars per hour for regular staff and about \$300 per hour for legal staff. Since CRD activities are anything but transparent and since the CRD by its own admission has made errors, water area commissioners and residents are regularly forced to ask questions. The answers invariably require follow-up since the CRD is as obscurantist as a bureaucracy can be.

Over the seven-year period (and counting) of this "18-month" upgrade project there has been no end of confusion, irregularities and a requirement for questions. Consulting fees have amounted to a revenue stream for the CRD. To the CRD, water areas do not represent a

public to be served but sheep to be shorn.

MICHAEL FRIEDMAN,
SKY VALLEY ROAD

Applaud climate statements

At the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee meeting on Feb. 10, trustee Christine Torgrimson put forward her position concerning climate change. She stated that "the evidence for human-caused climate change is alarmingly clear, with compelling and widespread science firmly behind it."

She further stated, "Climate change is an environmental, social and economic challenge that requires us to rethink the basic way we live — from what we eat to how we feed, clothe and transport ourselves. Ultimately, it is a question of intergenerational justice: What are we bequeathing or sentencing future generations to?"

It is unusual for elected representatives to take such a clear-cut and foresightful position. After knowing little about climate change a few years ago, I have spent a considerable amount of time learning about the changes in our world that are likely to take place over the next decades, and am now convinced about the scale of the danger facing us. Science calls for immediate action to change our lifestyles and curb our energy use to cut greenhouse gases. Without these changes, the world as we know it will be dramatically altered. It is difficult for us to imagine what a warmer world would be like since few of us like cold weather; however, the resulting storms, droughts, food shortages and creeping deserts will drastically change our planet.

Scientists' attitudes range from the optimistic to the pessimistic concerning whether we can make these changes. But all the scientists' opinions that I have read agree that the dangers are real.

So I applaud trustee Torgrimson's statement and welcome the Climate Action Plan as the first steps in changing our lifestyles.

And what if science

is wrong? trustee Torgrimson addressed this question as well when she said, "And what if by some huge stretch of the imagination we and most of the world's scientists are wrong — that climate change isn't real, that it's just some brief climate aberration, that all will return to normal very soon? What would be wrong with leaving a better legacy for our grandchildren, and a better planet for all living species? What would be wrong with driving a more fuel-efficient car, developing and utilizing low-carbon emitting energy systems, transforming our transportation infrastructure, cutting down fewer trees, eating more healthy local food, bolstering local economies, and most importantly, reducing the human pain and suffering caused by climate disruptions throughout the world?"

Well done, Christine!
JOHN BORST,
SALT SPRING

Hospital should be for us

We live in a truly wonderful place with a strong commitment to our community.

What is community? It is a clear sense of place and of people with a commitment to both.

This community has evolved over 150 years with strong mutual support. Very early in the settlement period one-room schools were built by neighbours who hired the teacher. Later in the '40s the schools were amalgamated when student transportation became possible. Even the new school for all grades in Ganges was largely built with volunteers because it was for the community. The school belonged and still belongs to the community, not the teachers, not the administrators, but the community — and that means residents, and includes parents and children. From time to time governments have stepped in to try to replace community, but the community speaks up when this happens. We have instances in our history that illustrate this.

For over 100 years Salt Spring has taken care of

its own with the creation of a hospital. Year after year women gave birth, and doctors mended broken bones, removed tonsils and appendixes, comforted the sick and dying, and generally did what was needed. The hospital was a creation of community. It belonged to the community, was built by the community, staffed at the call of the community, supported by the community. It did not and does not belong to the doctors and nurses. Our retired doctors and those who have lived here for many years get it. Some even do house calls.

Neither of these community creations was meant to be entrepreneurial but to serve the needs of all of us. Of course, with the increase in specialization, we need off-island support, but we need as much as ever to have and hold what is ours by historic right.

With the advent of VIHA we have seen a change in attitude. VIHA seems to think that our community hospital belongs to them and to a lesser degree to some local doctors. They fail to recognize that they are our servants. They are paid by our taxes and should be directed by our advice and needs. They should realize that we are not Crofton with a 15-minute drive to a hospital at any hour of the day. Ferry schedules and costs may keep us apart from the support of our family members when we have to go off-island for procedures. This is particularly unfair when the procedure could be done here.

If the current decision makers continue in this vein we shall end up with a hospital with only three functions: triage, convalescence and extended care. This is so disrespectful of the thousands of people who have contributed to our hospital.

A number of the doctors on Salt Spring Island recently signed a letter that stated very simply that they do not agree with the position taken by the Save Our Surgery committee. I challenge them to review who they are, whom they serve, where they live, and why.

IRENE WRIGHT,
SALT SPRING

LETTERS continued on A15



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

Notice is hereby given to the owners of land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that nominations for trustee (2 positions) will be received between:

9:00 A.M. Tuesday March 1st, 2011

and 4:00 P.M. Friday March 11th, 2011

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

The two (2) Trustee positions are for a three year term commencing at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held on April 18th, 2011 and terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 2014.

The Election to be held on Monday, **April 18th, 2011** at the **Ganges Fire Hall** from **11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** in the Training Room. An **Advance Voting opportunity** will be held in the Training Room on Wednesday, **April 13th 2011** between the hours of **11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.** Candidates shall be nominated by two duly qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District. Nomination forms may be obtained at the Fire Hall or from Thomas F. Moore, Returning Officer (250)472 0059.

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

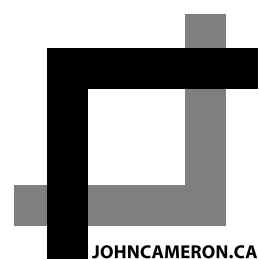
1. Be a Canadian Citizen
2. Be eighteen years of age or older
3. Be a resident in the Province of British Columbia for at least six months prior to this election
4. Be an owner of land within the boundaries of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
5. One vote is also allowed for each board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

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

Dated at Ganges, B.C.
this 15th day of February 2011

Thomas F. Moore
Returning Officer

Photographic Solutions



johncameron.ca

saltspringphotos.com



March 4 - 6 @ GISS & The Fritz

Opening Night Gala @ GISS

Friday March 4th at 6 pm

featuring

"The Topp Twins"

Live Music: Sweet Water Revolver

Dinner and Desserts: Chef Bruce Wood

A Tribute to Maggie Schubart

We can probably agree that most of us share some common ground – the desire and belief that through our determined actions we can make the world a better place. Fortunately this has proved to be true often enough that we have not become discouraged, even when the challenge has been daunting.

The documentaries we show often tell thought-provoking stories that inspire us to urgent action, but this year some also bring a cautionary message that we ought to heed: we can easily be motivated by the best of intentions but blinkered by our cultural bias into misguided actions. We are so swept up with the idea of helping someone, a group of people or an entire country that potentially valuable work is sabotaged through the projection of our own values. Answers to complex issues are too easy to come by when you're blinded by your own bias or personal goals. "Schooling the World", "Martha of the North" and "Experimental Eskimos" are films that make us pay attention and question what we project onto others with our best intentions.

Maggie Schubart was a founding member of the Film Festival and an active director of our board until a few months before her death at 93 years of age. Maggie had a conscientious resolve to look behind the scene and to pay heed to the legitimacy of our best intentions. Her wisdom and unflinching integrity helped keep us on track. We think she'd approve this year's line up.

7 pm - The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls



Leanne Pooley, New Zealand, 2009, 84 min
New Zealand's twin national treasures are sure to sing, dance and yodel their way into your hearts as this rollicking film reveals these amazing and inspiring characters in all their many guises. From their rural roots to performing on the world stage, Jules and Lynda Topp have won over audiences with their original songs and comedy alter egos. Their involvement with movements for Maori rights, nuclear disarmament and against apartheid and homophobia is highlighted in the film through archival footage and home movies. Their appeal is infectious. These icons of New Zealand would fit right in on Salt Spring!

Flawed (precedes The Topp Twins)



Andrea Dorfman, Canada, 2010, 12 min
Flawed is a beautiful little film about a budding long distance romance... with a twist ... it's not about whether a girl can get along with a boy, but whether a girl can accept herself. Everyone has flaws - thick calves, funny nose or maybe you think you procrastinate too much...

After seeing this film, perhaps we can all walk away and embrace our flaws - those most exceptional and extraordinary qualities and quirks about ourselves.

FILM GUIDE - Please bring your Film Guide to the Festival

Saturday March 5th						
TIME	DANCE STUDIO	205	207	208	210	211
10:00 am	4th Revolution 87 min	Experimental Eskimos 70 min facilitator	Genius Within: Glenn Gould 106 min	Unheralded Artists of BC 7 min Who Does She Think She Is? 83 min	Blue Gold 89 min facilitator	Shooting with Mursi 55 min Now & Then 31 min facilitator
12:00 am	Lunch Break					
12:30 pm	Waste Land 98 min	Back to the Garden 70 min filmmaker	Motherland 80 min facilitator	The Perfect Oyster 5 min Ingredients 73 min	Queen of the Sun 82 min facilitator	A Place Without People 87 min facilitator
2:30 pm	Mine 80 min	Mumbai Disconnected 58 MIN	Stonewall Uprising 82 min facilitator	Ghosts 54 min facilitator	Art in Action 68 min facilitator	Citizen Architect 60 min facilitator
4:00 pm	A Sea Change 81 min facilitator	Buffy Sainte Marie: A Multimedia Life 63 min	Schooling the World: The White Man's Last Burden 65 min facilitator	Two Spirits 65 min facilitator	Moment in Time: The United Colours of Bronstein 50 min filmmaker	STUDENT CONTEST

Note: shaded area indicates films also shown Sunday

Sunday March 6th						
TIME	DANCE STUDIO	205	207	208	210	211
10:00 am	For Once in My Life 90 min	The Perfect Oyster 5 min Fresh 70 min	Enemies of the People 94 min	Waste Land 98 min	The Pipe 83 min facilitator	Bhutto 111 min
12:00 am	Lunch Break					
12:30 pm	Kinshasa Symphony 95 min	Beyond Gay: The Politics of Pride 87 min filmmaker	Unheralded Artists of BC 7 min Jean-Michel Basquiat: The Radiant Child 88 min	Mighty Jerome 84 min filmmaker	Burning Season 90 min	Windfall 81 min facilitator
2:30 pm	Sounds Like a Revolution 76 min	Martha of the North 83 min facilitator	Into the Wind 50 min Terry Fox's sister	Schooling the World: The White Man's Last Burden 65 min	Mine 80 min	A Sea Change 81 min
4:00 pm	Prom Night in Mississippi 90 min facilitator	Blue Gold 89 min	4th Revolution 87 min	TBA	Queen of the Sun 82 min facilitator	TBA

Note: Shaded area indicates films also shown Saturday

The Fritz



Made in Dagenham

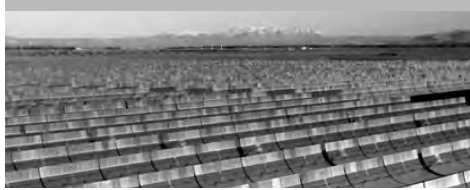
Nigel Cole, UK, 2010, 113 min

Think of Norma Rae, Erin Brockovich, Silkwood. And now: Made in Dagenham, based on a true story, is a spirited period labour drama about underpaid women at a Ford plant in suburban London in 1968, who go on strike for higher pay and wind up demanding wholesale societal change.

FRIDAY 8:30 pm SUNDAY 7 pm
SATURDAY 7 pm TUESDAY 7 pm regular prices

The women take on their bosses, an increasingly belligerent local community, and finally the government, as their intelligence and unpredictability proves to be a match for any of their male opponents. It's a spirited look — well written, beautifully acted, and uplifting — at unlikely yet bold heroines on the march for a little respect.

Admission by donation - please give generously!



The 4th Revolution

Carl A Fechner, Germany, 2010, 87 min
Possibly the most inspirational, solutions-based environmental film out there, this impressively mounted documentary travels the world to examine best practices - in Denmark, Germany, Brazil, Bangladesh and Mali - that put much of the rest of the world to shame. Meet impressive people making a convincing case that, in less than 30 years, the world could derive 100 percent of its energy from renewable sources. Changing our reliance on fossil fuels could not only slow climate change, but also promote sustainable economic development and social justice around the globe.

Saturday March 5 10:00 am Dance Studio
Sunday March 6 4:00 pm Room 207



Art in Action, L'Art en action

Magnus Isacson and Simon Bujold, Canada, 2009, 66 min
An abundance of art, love, and idealism fuels Annie Roy and Pierre Allard. They create spectacular and provocative installations, leaving their audience no choice but to participate. One of their installations is a kitchen and social space installed outdoors (during a cold Montreal winter) and for several days everyone who shows up is fed. Large tents and outdoor bonfires are set up and live performances are held at the site. Even the mayor of Montreal is invited to speak about poverty and homelessness. A powerful documentary that makes you believe in a better tomorrow.

Saturday March 5 2:30 pm Room 210



Back to the Garden

Kevin Tomlinson, US, 2009, 70 min
In 1988, filmmaker Kevin Tomlinson was on a road trip, saw a funky sign "Healing Gathering" and decided to turn right. He filmed more than 400 people dancing, singing and cooking up lots of brown rice. His footage sat on the shelf for more than 20 years. After tracking down many of the original interview subjects, Kevin discovered them no less impassioned. Not only is this their story, but ours too, because the counterculture of the sixties affected us all and preceded our ideas about the alternative green movement, which now seems wiser than ever. *Filmmaker in attendance. Audience award winner.*

Saturday March 5 12:30 pm Room 205



Beyond Gay: The Politics of Pride

Bob Christie, Canada, 2009, 85 min
While those of us on Salt Spring Island, or Vancouver, or even Prince George take the celebration of Gay Pride as a given, in other parts of the world—Moscow notably—Pride is still a dramatic if not revolutionary statement for human rights. This film follows Vancouver Pride Society's Ken Coolen as he travels to five Pride parades around the world—from Vancouver to New York to Sao Paulo. Amidst the beauty and sometimes outrageous celebration of human rights lies a hostility and repression of gay rights. *Filmmaker in attendance.*

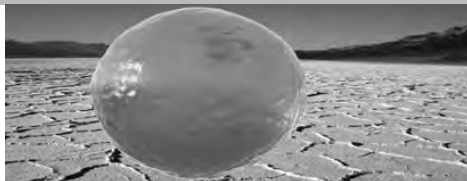
Sunday March 6 12:30 pm Room 205



Bhutto

Duane Baughman, Johnny O'Hara, US, 2010 115 min
BHUTTO is the definitive documentary chronicling the life of one of the most complex and fascinating characters of our time. Hers is an epic tale of Shakespearean dimension. It's the story of the first woman in history to lead a Muslim nation. In 2007, with the South Asian country rolling in turmoil and under the thumb of yet another military dictator, Benazir was called back onto the world stage as Pakistan's best hope for democracy. With her assassination she transcended politics, but left a legacy of simmering controversy and undeniable courage that will be debated for years.

Sunday March 6 10:00 am Room 211



Blue Gold: World Water Wars

Sam Bozzo, Canada/ US 2008, 90 min
The world's fresh water is disappearing. The rampant over development of agriculture, housing and industry increase the demands for fresh water well beyond the finite supply, resulting in the desertification of the earth. As we pollute and waste away our very limited supply, corporate giants are working to make the building block of our globe a commodity, privatizing developing countries' fresh water. This international award winning film follows various examples of people fighting back against the powers that be, from grade school protests to court cases to revolutions.

Saturday March 5 10:00 am Room 210
Sunday March 6 4:00 pm Room 205



Buffy Sainte-Marie: A Multimedia Life

Joan Prowse, Canada, 2007, 58 min
"You have to stand up and break through," says Robbie Robertson of his friend and fellow musician Buffy Sainte-Marie. That is precisely what Buffy Sainte-Marie has done, forging her own unique path as a singer-songwriter, activist, artist and teacher. Born in rural Saskatchewan, and adopted by an American family, Buffy grew up in time of radical change. The singer-songwriter movement that helped to launch Buffy's career, came from New York City and included a host of other musicians Phil Ochs, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, and Joni Mitchell, to name a few.

Saturday March 5 4:00 pm Room 205



The Burning Season

Cathy Henkel, Australia, 2009, 89 min
Every year, there is a burning season in Indonesia. Areas of rainforest the size of Denmark are cut down and set alight by farmers and corporations to develop palm oil plantations, destroying the habitat of critically-endangered orangutans. In a race against time and powerful economic forces, a 30 year old Australian environmental entrepreneur, Dorjee Sun, sets out to find a solution by arranging to sell carbon credits to save the forest. Everything hinges on whether all the countries of the world can agree on the wording of a new climate change protocol.

Sunday March 6 12:30 pm Room 210



Citizen Architect

Sam Wainwright Douglas, US, 2010, 57 min
The inspirational design-build outreach program of Samuel Mockbee, artist, architect, educator and founder of the Rural Studio, is chronicled as a group of students are lead through the process of crafting a home for a charismatic client. The creative approach to architecture and social responsibility inspires them to consider how they can use their skills to better their communities. The perspective from other architects and designers infuses the film with a larger discussion of architecture's role in issues of poverty, class, race, education, social change and citizenship.

Saturday March 5 2:30 pm Room 211



Enemies of the People

Rob Lemkin, The Sambath, UK/Cambodia, 2010, 94 min
This is a story of a personal journey into the heart of darkness by journalist/filmmaker The Sambath, whose family was wiped out in the 'Killing Fields', but whose patience and discipline elicits unprecedented on-camera confessions from perpetrators at all levels of the Khmer Rouge hierarchy. Enemies of the People is a profound meditation on the nature of good and evil, shedding light on the capacity of some people to do terrible things and for others to forgive them. This is investigative journalism of the highest order. *Winner World Documentary, Sundance.*

Sunday March 6 10:00 am Room 207



The Experimental Eskimos

Barry Greenwald, Canada, 2009, 70 min
In 1962, three 12-year-old Inuit boys — who had scored very highly on IQ tests — were separated from their families in the Arctic and relocated to Ottawa to live with white foster families and be educated in Ottawa public schools. The idea was to see how the brightest young Inuit would fare in the competitive white man's world and to prepare them for leadership positions in their communities. The Experimental Eskimos is the untold story of how an experiment in social engineering backfired to change not only three boys, but a nation. *Best Documentary, Winnipeg Aboriginal Film Festival*

Saturday March 5 10:00 am Room 205



For Once In My Life

John Bigham, Mark Moormann, UK, 2009, 87 min
For Once In My Life is the story of an inspiring group of people and their dream to make music. This refreshingly candid film refuses to sugarcoat the music or the lives of the 28 challenged musicians and singers in the Spirit of the Goodwill Band, as they display their talent, humor and tenacity. The band's intense rehearsal regimen allows us to appreciate the unflinching dedication and Job-like patience of Javier Peña, their conductor. The musicians' families match his devotion, offering inspiring testaments to the power of unconditional love. *Audience choice award for numerous festivals*

Sunday March 6 10:00 am Dance Studio



Fresh

Ana Joanas, US, 2009, 72 min
FRESH celebrates the farmers, thinkers and business people across America who are re-inventing our food system. Each has witnessed the rapid transformation of our agriculture into an industrial model, and confronted the consequences: food contamination, environmental pollution, depletion of natural resources, and morbid obesity. Like many here on our island, they are forging healthier, sustainable alternatives, and offering a practical vision for a future of our food and our planet.

Sunday March 6 10:00 am Room 205



Genius Within: The Inner Life of Glenn Gould

Michele Hozer, Peter Raymont, US, 2010, 109 min
The co-directors have compiled never-before-seen footage and interviews with friends and lovers who have never, or rarely, spoken publicly about Gould. "A lot of times you think of Glenn Gould, you think of the hat, and the scarf and the gloves, a bit of a recluse. What we wanted to show is the more human side of Glenn Gould. Show his genius, but at the same time show his human side." This film reveals a tortured, yet often humorous man, with an insightful world view.

Saturday, March 5 10:00 am Room 207



Ghosts

Morvary Samaré, Canada, 2009, 53 min
Ghosts is the story of three Arab-Canadian men who, over a three year period, were detained and tortured in Syria and Egypt. An internal inquiry into their cases, the Iacobucci Inquiry, reveals that the Canadian government was complicit in their detention and torture. The camera follows the lives and cases of the men for a year and a half as they fight to leave the horror of torture behind them. Following in the footsteps of Maher Arar, the film highlights the fragility of democracy and human rights and the delicate balance of national security.

Saturday March 5 2:30 pm Room 208



Ingredients

Brian Kimmel, US, 2009, 73 min
This topical documentary is a journey that follows people who are leading the movement to bring good food back to the table and health back to our communities. At the focal point of this movement, and of this film, are the farmers and chefs who are creating a truly sustainable food system. The film illustrates with vibrant cinematography how people around the country are working to revitalize the connection between food and the land while celebrating the farm-to-table movement and exploring solutions for creating a community based on seasonal food.

Saturday March 5 12:30 pm Room 208



Into the Wind

Steve Nash, Ezra Holland, Canada, US, 2010, 51 min
Along with the rest of Canada, Steve Nash became enamored with Terry Fox's 1980 Marathon of Hope. What many people in Canada forget is that Terry Fox was anonymous at the beginning of his journey. Battling the elements and trying to cover a marathoner's distance each day, he began on the East Coast with Victoria, BC his goal. TV images of the 21-year-old began rallied a nation to his cause. Now, Steve Nash has become a film director and wants the whole world to know this inspiring story. *Judith Fox-Alder (Terry's sister) in attendance.*

Sunday March 6 2:30 pm Room 207



John-Michel Basquiat: The Radiant Child

Tamra Davis, US, 2010, 88 min
Centered on a rare interview that director and friend Tamra Davis shot with Basquiat over twenty years ago, this definitive documentary chronicles the meteoric rise and untimely death of the young artist. From graffiti artist in the 70's, by 1983 he evolved as a painter with rock star status, achieving critical and commercial success, though constantly confronted by racism from his peers. With compassion and insight, Davis details the mysteries that surround this charismatic young man, an artist of enormous talent whose fortunes mirrored the rollercoaster NYC scene he seemed to embody.

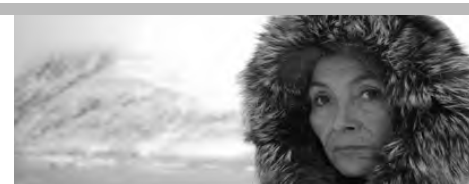
Sunday March 6 12:30 pm Room 207



Kinshasa Symphony

Claus Wischmann, Martin Bae, Germany, 2010, 95 min
Two hundred musicians are playing Beethoven's Ninth. A power cut strikes just a few bars before the last movement. Problems like this are the least of the worries facing the only symphony orchestra in the Congo. In the 15 years of its existence, they have survived two putsches, various crises and a war. Kinshasa Symphony is a study of people in one of the world's most chaotic cities doing their best to maintain one of the most complex systems of joint human endeavour: a symphony orchestra. The film is about hope in the Congo, the people in Kinshasa and the power of music.

Sunday March 6 12:30 pm Dance Studio



Martha of the North

Marquise Lepage, Canada, 2009, 83 min
In 1953 a small number of Inuit families became pawns in a government scheme to ensure Canadian sovereignty in the Arctic. Martha Flaherty, granddaughter of the man who made "Nanook of the North" was only 5 when she and her parents were lured from their Inuit village in Northern Quebec and taken to settle in the high Arctic in barren Resolute Bay. Told that game would be plentiful and life would be easy, they instead for years endured hunger and extreme cold. Martha recounts firsthand a remarkable story of survival and resilience in the face of betrayal by our government.

Sunday March 6 2:30 pm Room 205



Mighty Jerome

Charles Officer, Canada, 2010, 80 min
Mighty Jerome explores the turbulent life and career of the record-setting African-Canadian track-and-field star, Harry Jerome. "He was, at one time, the fastest man on the planet. His accomplishments as an athlete and social activist embody the perseverance of the human spirit", says Officer. In Canada, a country that told itself that racism didn't happen, the undercurrent was ever-present in the early life of this local B.C. athlete. Jerome's athletic talents catapulted him onto the world stage during the politically charged 1960s; he held world records and competed in three Olympics, winning a bronze medal. *Selwyn Jacob, producer in attendance.*

Sunday March 6 12:30 Room 208



Mine

Geralyn Rae Pezanoski, US, 2009, 80 min
Hailed as "a triumph," "absorbing," "a must see," and "Oscar material," MINE is a documentary about the essential bond between humans and animals, set against the backdrop of Hurricane Katrina. This gripping story follows New Orleans residents as they attempt to reunite with their pets who have been adopted by families all over the country, and chronicles the custody battles that arise when two families love the same pet. A compelling meditation on race, class and the power of compassion, MINE examines how we treat animals as an extension of how we view and treat each other.

Saturday March 5 2:30 pm Dance Studio
Sunday March 6 2:30 Room 210



A Moment in Time: The United Colours of Bronstein

Judy Jackson, Canada, 2001, 50 min
In April 1975, as the US withdrew from Vietnam, an iconic picture of a Canadian woman in shock at the site of a plane crash in Saigon made world headlines. Naomi Bronstein had arranged to evacuate Vietnamese orphans on the plane, to bring them to new lives in the West. Even after this tragedy she continued to save thousands of sick and abandoned children in many parts of the world. This documentary highlights an emotional reunion - 25 years on - with orphans who miraculously escaped the crash. This special re-release is a tribute to the legacy of a Canadian hero. Winner of Huston WorldFest Gold Award Nominated for Gemini: Donald Brittain Award. *Filmmaker in attendance.*

Saturday March 5 4:00 pm Room 210



Motherland

Jennifer Steinman, US, 2009, 80 minutes
How do you go on after the death of a child? When six women, whose only common link is the fact that each of them has suffered the loss of a child, decide to travel to Africa, something remarkable occurs. They live and work with families dedicated to improving the lives of children. As they come to know each other and they discover a welcome reprieve from the depression, isolation and stagnation of life at home. The women share not just their stories and their pain but themselves - with each other and the children who touch their hearts at every turn.

Saturday March 5 12:30 pm Room 207



Mumbai Disconnected: Cities on Speed

Camilla Nielsson, Frederik Jacobi, Denmark, 2009, 58 min
One of the world's largest and most densely populated mega-cities, Mumbai's transportation infrastructure is on the verge of total collapse. With a sagging public transit system (a dozen people die every day falling from overloaded trains) and more cars on the dangerously clogged roads (thanks to the affordable new Nano car) traffic has reached crisis levels. Three different perspectives; a wealthy resident, a working man whose biggest dream is to buy a new car, and an engineer who is trying to solve the world's worst traffic jam. What emerges is appalling, hilarious and entirely human.

Saturday March 5 2:30 pm Room 205



Now and Then

Gary McNutt, Canada, 2010, 31 min
This journey takes you to Lesotho in southern Africa, also known as "The Roof of Africa". Meet Mamello, founder of the Phelisanong project for orphans, disabled, and HIV positive people. Phelisanong means "together we work for life" in the indigenous language of this small, mountainous African nation. Witness what this group of rural villagers accomplish over the course of four years of visits by filmmaker Gary McNutt, and find out how Salt Spring Islanders have become an integral part of a different kind of African story.

Saturday March 5 10:00 am Room 211



A Place Without People

Andreas Apostolidis, Greece, 2009, 87 min
This beautiful and well-researched documentary takes a look at the Maasai tribe, aboriginal inhabitants of the Serengeti and Ngorongoro wildlife reserves in Tanzania. Now cast as intruders in their own land, these cultured people are being chased away, first by conservationists, then by hunters and recently by tourists. A struggle between dollars and human need, huge revenues come from trophy hunting and photography while indigenous hunter tribes are denied meat and expected to farm. Prior to 1957, the Maasai were able to graze their cattle while managing wildlife and their land, true conservationists.

Saturday March 5 12:30 pm Room 211



The Pipe

Risteard O'Domhnall, Ireland, 2010, 83 min
The Pipe tells the story of what happened when SHELL in 2005, blessed by the Irish government begins to construct a pipeline that rips through a rural Irish fishing and farming village, where the director lives. Shell uses small cash incentives, a loose interpretation of the law, and a lot of brute force to move in, despite the objections of the inhabitants. The townsfolk, spurned by their own government and rejected by Shell when they offer alternatives, begin civil disobedience, a move that begins to tear the town apart over a decade.

Sunday March 6 10:00 am Room 210



Prom Night in Mississippi

Paul Saltzman, Canada, 2009, 90 min
In 1997, Academy Award-winning actor Morgan Freeman offered to pay for the senior prom at Charleston High School in Mississippi under one condition: the prom had to be racially integrated. His offer was ignored. In 2008, Freeman offered again. This time the school board accepted, and history was made. This seemingly inconsequential rite of passage suddenly becomes profound as the weight of history falls on teenage shoulders. We quickly learn that change does not come easily in this sleepy Delta town, but hope finally blossoms in black, white and a whole lot of taffeta.

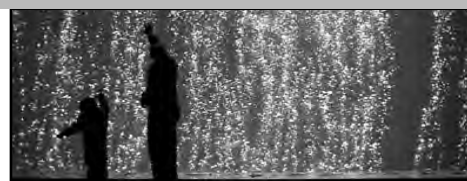
Sunday March 6 4:00 pm Dance Studio



Queen of the Sun

Taggart Siegel, US, 2010, 82 min
In an alarming inquiry into the insights behind Rudolf Steiner's 1923 prediction that honeybees would collapse, Queen of the Sun examines the dire global bee crisis through the eyes of biodynamic beekeepers, scientists, farmers, and philosophers. On a pilgrimage around the world, the film unveils 10,000 years of beekeeping, highlighting how our sacred relationship with bees has been lost due to highly mechanized industrial practices. This engaging, alarming and ultimately uplifting film weaves together a dramatic story that uncovers the problems and solutions in renewing a culture in balance with nature.

Saturday March 5 12:30 pm Room 210
Sunday March 6 4:00 pm Room 210



A Sea Change

Barbara Ettinger, US, 2009, 83 min
A Sea Change follows ex-history teacher, activist and grandfather Sven Huseby as he travels to visit various scientists to learn more about the impacts of ocean acidification and tries to find ways to explain the problem to his 5-year-old grandson, Elias. You will fall in love with Sven and the extraordinarily bright Elias. The people in the film are very real and approachable and the ocean footage is stunning. Optimistic, with a whole section of solutions at the end. This film has broad appeal for all ages.

Saturday March 5 4:00 pm Dance Studio
Sunday March 6 2:30 pm Room 211



Schooling the World: The White Man's Last Burden

Carol Black, US, 2010, 65 min
If you wanted to change an ancient culture in a generation, how would you do it? Well-intentioned volunteers are building schools in traditional societies around the world, convinced that school is the only way to a 'better' life for indigenous children. But is this true? What really happens when we replace a traditional culture's canon of knowledge with our own? Does life really get better for its people? Wade Davis participates in taking a challenging, sometimes funny, ultimately deeply troubling look at the role played by modern education in the destruction of the world's last sustainable indigenous cultures.

Saturday March 5 4:00 pm Room 207
Sunday March 6 2:30 pm Room 208



Shooting With Mursi

Ben Young, Olisarali Olibui, Ethiopia, 2009, 57 min
Possibly the most isolated tribe in Africa, the Mursi of SW Ethiopia face loss of access to their lands and thus of their culture and livelihood. Faced with encroachment from nearby park reserves and tourists, the tribe comes face to face with possible extinction of its way of life. A gifted tribal member, armed with his own video camera, sets out on a journey to document ancient inter-tribal rivalries and outside development which threaten their community. The film asks "Can an environmental tourism co-exist with preservation of indigenous peoples?"

Saturday March 5 10:00 am Room 211



Sounds Like a Revolution

Summer Love, Canada, 2010, 76 min
A whole new generation of activist musicians are living proof that music is an important and powerful tool in the on-going struggle for social change. Focusing on the personal experiences of four independent musicians, we come to understand their motivations and their struggles as they face a post-9/11 environment where dissent is silenced and media outlets either ignore or self-censor material before it's released. Four pioneer artists, Michael Franti, Fat Mike, Paris, and Justin Sane, through their music and message, have "enraged, enlightened and inspired" a whole new generation of activists around the world. It rocks!

Sunday March 6 2:30 pm Dance Studio



Stonewall Uprising

Kate Davis, David Heilbronner, US, 2010, 80 min
In the early morning hours of June 28, 1969 police raided the Stonewall Inn, a popular gay bar in the Greenwich Village section of New York City. Such raids were not unusual in the late 1960s, an era when homosexual sex was illegal in every state but Illinois. That night, however, the street erupted into violent protests and demonstrations that lasted for the next six days. The Stonewall riots marked a major turning point in the modern gay civil rights movement in the United States and around the world. *Numerous awards.*

Saturday March 5 2:30 pm Room 207



Two Spirits

Lydia Nibley, US, 2009, 65 min
Interweaves the story of a mother's loss of her son with a revealing look at a time when the world wasn't simply divided into male and female and many of America's indigenous cultures held places of honour for integrated genders. Fred Martinez was "nádleeh" a young male-bodied person with a feminine nature, a special gift according to his ancient Navajo culture. Despite the tragic loss, the story is one of unconditional parental love, community support and hope for change in a small town.

Saturday March 5 4:00 pm Room 208



Waste Land

Lucy Walker, UK, Brazil, 2010, 90 min
Filmed over nearly three years, Waste Land follows renowned 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. There he photographs an eclectic band of "catadores"—self-designated pickers of recyclable materials. However, his collaboration with these inspiring characters as they recreate photographic images of themselves out of garbage reveals both the dignity and despair of the catadores as they begin to re-imagine their lives. *Audience Award Sundance, nominated for an Academy Award.*

Saturday March 5 12:30 pm Dance Studio
Sunday March 6 10:00 am Room 208



Who Does She Think She Is?.

Pamela Tanner Boll, US, 2008, 73 min
Who Does She Think She Is? focuses on five particularly bold women artists, each radically different in background, race, religious creed and choice of artistic field. But they all share the common challenge of making careers in various art worlds. Simultaneous to their creative existence, they are pulled in different directions as they try to answer the competing demands of artistic fulfillment, marriage, motherhood and economic survival.

Saturday March 5 10:00 am Room 208



Windfall

Laura Israel, US, 2009, 80 min
Are energy-generating wind turbines really one of the best ways to wean ourselves from the need for fossil fuels? If you see yourself as an environmentalist and hold that green power is the way to go, then Laura Israel's riveting documentary might just give you second thoughts. Check out how the townspeople of Meredith, NY, grew increasingly alarmed with the side effects that they never anticipated. With wind development in the US growing annually at 39%, Windfall is an eye opener for anyone concerned about the future of renewable energy.

Sunday March 6 12:30 pm Room 211

The Perfect Oyster

Craig Noble, Canada, 2010, 6 min
The Perfect Oyster features Brent Petkau, as he waxes poetically in his mollusk haven in Marina Island, British Columbia. In those few short minutes, Noble captures Petkau's love and search for the perfect oyster.

Saturday March 5 12:30 pm Room 208
Sunday March 6 10:00 am Room 205

The Unheralded Artists of BC

Peter Prince and Mona Fertig, Salt Spring Island, 2010, 7 min
A celebration of some of the works of some of the unheralded artists of British Columbia. The artists' works were exhibited on Salt Spring Island in 2009 at Mahon Hall.

Saturday March 5 10:00 am Room 208
Sunday March 6 12:30 pm Room 207



FESTIVAL FARE

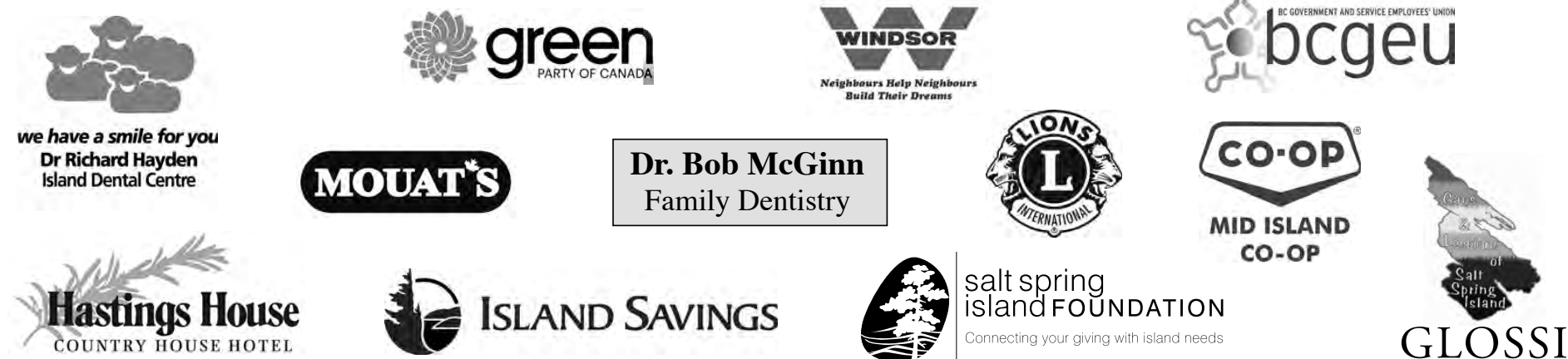
Great food from local sources

Chef Bruce Wood and Laughing Daughter's Bakery offering an array of delicious dinners, lunches and desserts in the multi-purpose room in GISS.

Milly Sinclair and her students providing a delectable menu of salads, soups and hot entrees in the cafeteria, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.

FESTIVAL SPONSORS – "For the Love of Film"

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FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS – "For the Love of Film"

A very special thank you to the tireless festival committees and all the hardworking volunteers.

MEDIA AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS



SOCIAL JUSTICE BAZAAR

Salt Spring's eclectic community of activists moves us from awareness to action, both locally and globally. Stop by their tables on the weekend.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| SOLID | Terralingua | Ampersand |
| I-SEA | SSI Grandmothers for Grandmothers | Transition Salt Spring |
| SWOVA | SSI Japanese Garden Society | Child Honoring Centre |
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OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

CONVERSE FOR CRESWICK:

Students at Salt Spring Island Middle School join others around the island in donning Converse shoes in honour of popular teacher Bruce Creswick, who died suddenly last weekend. Converse shoes were a Creswick trademark and, in addition to wearing the shoes, many islanders have changed their Facebook profile photos to Converse shoes as well.

SSI GRANDMOTHERS TO GRANDMOTHERS
 Fundraiser in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation
Turn the Tide of HIV/AIDS in AFRICA

SCRABBLE

GAMES SCHEDULE
 Wednesday Feb. 23 - 6pm Falconshead Grill @ S.S. Golf Club
 Thursday Feb. 24 - 2pm Salt Spring Inn
FINAL GAMES, PRIZES & SILENT AUCTION
 Friday Feb. 25 - 6pm, Falconshead Grill @ S.S. Golf Club

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RANTS and Roses

A basket of hibiscus for Tim and John. It was a pleasure getting to know the generosity of two good men first hand. Muchas gracias amigos. Terry and Janet

A big bouquet of wildflowers to PARC and the hard-working volunteers who laboured to free Beddis Beach park of the overgrown and invasive greens threatening native plants. Sarah

Red roses to Ashton and Rama of Sweet Water Revolver for their gift of music at the Transition Dessert Party and also to the sailing club for the use of their club house. Jean of Transition Salt Spring

Roses to Allan Sherman for getting my Mac fixed so quickly. I'm happy, my Mac's happy! Charlene

Painted and sculpted roses to Kevin Bell of Mouat's Trading for sponsoring the Child Honour-

ing My Drawing Our World project in our local schools. Your commitment to children and families in our community is far reaching and consistently supportive. Your support of local artists by sponsoring art-based programs like ours and by making hard-to-get art materials available to all of us is also exceptional and appreciated. I trust we on Salt Spring Island support Mouat's Trading in return by shopping locally. Tracy Harrison, coordinator, Child Honouring My Drawing Our World project.

A huge bunch of Valentine's roses to the wonderful island businesses who donated prizes for the Salt Spring Loves Lovers contest. It was a wonderful evening. Special thanks to CFSI Radio, Randy of Amber Cabs, Salt Spring Inn, Moby's, Harlan's Chocolates, Flowers by Arrangement and the Upper Ganges Liquor Store for their generous donations. Wendy Wethersett

An office full of roses to Dr. Richard Hayden and his lovely wife Janine for having his staff join them in Las Vegas for an amazing dental conference. The course was excellent and the company exceptional. We are so glad to be a part of your team! Diane, Jessica and Natalie

"If music be the food of love, play on," writes Shakespeare in Twelfth Night. This is fitting for Valentine's week and deeply appreciated as a musical trio volunteered their time on Friday afternoon to entertain the residents of Lady Minto's extended care unit. Musical roses to Gordon Keel, Tami dos Santos and Kaya Hunter for the inspiring music that nourished our souls through the powerful effect of their performance. Heartfelt thanks from all of us. We hope to continue these concerts monthly, bringing music to the frail and elderly amongst us. Margaret Mackenzie

Building bylaw changes questioned

Regarding the CRD's proposed building bylaw changes, I'm speaking strongly against the proposed time restriction on the homeowner-built house.

It's another step to "kill" the pioneer spirit of obtaining land and constructing one's house. We're losing track of why inspections were a good idea in the beginning.

They were enacted to ensure safe, weather-proof, healthy accommodations for families.

Now they are threatening to become an intrusion and a deterrent to those either not able to afford the \$250 a square foot to have a house built or wish to experience the process of providing their own shelter through their own efforts.

I question also why it should be any more costly to provide the inspection service to a homeowner building over 10 years or a contractor building over six months.

Both scenarios require the same inspections and amount of inspectors' time.

The argument could be made that after spending \$3,500 for building permits, and signing a waiver forgiving any errors made on the part of the inspec-

MORE LETTERS

tor or the CRD, all inspections are amply covered financially.

In conclusion, I feel that as long as there is evidence that the homeowner is working to complete the house, has paid for the building permit and is meeting the requirements of the building code, the time it takes is irrelevant.

JEFF TARRIS,
SOUTH PENDER

Imaginary hazards

If the tiny signals from cell towers and wireless devices such as smart meters were as hazardous as Chris Anderson seems to believe ("Smart meters pose health risk," Feb. 16 Driftwood letters), the people living and working atop Mount Wilson in California would be dropping like flies.

But there is no evidence that anyone has ever been harmed in any way by the high-power transmitters and antennas covering that mountain top. Some of the astronomers have lived there for decades.

Nor is there any indication that the wildlife have been harmed. Deer and raccoons are regular visitors to the TV and other stations located atop the moun-

tain, and there is no shortage of chickadees and other song birds all summer long.

I lived and worked amidst those towers for five years, and in fact one of my daughters was born on the mountain — right under a tower putting out 75,000 watts and next to another putting out 50,000 watts. Totally healthy baby, and still healthy today.

Many of the antennas people see and worry about are used only for "listening." There are no radio waves coming from these antennas.

The dish antennas one often sees on roof tops are point-to-point antennas. They beam signals only to each other. There are no radio waves going in other directions.

The symptoms described by those claiming to be affected by wireless devices are consistent with anxiety, not exposure to radio waves. It is not possible for radio waves, no matter how strong, to cause these kinds of symptoms.

Despite all the hype over cell towers, smart meters, wi-fi and so forth, not a single case of harm from any of these technologies has ever been documented. We have plenty of genuine hazards to be concerned about. I don't think we should be wasting our time on imaginary ones.

THOMAS ANDERSON,
SUMMERLAND, B.C.

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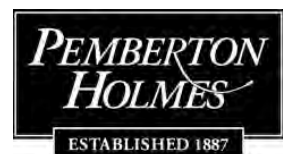
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Royal Jubilee Hospital

Patient Care Centre



Community Open Houses

Join us for a behind the scenes look at the new 500-bed Patient Care Centre at the Royal Jubilee Hospital. This once in a lifetime opportunity allows you to tour the state-of-the-art facility before it opens for patients in March.

During a self-guided tour:

- Discover what makes this award-winning facility so special
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- Tour a Mental Health and Universal Care Unit
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Dates & Times

- Saturday, February 26, 2011 3pm-7pm
- Sunday, February 27, 2011 11am-3 pm

Location

RJH Patient Care Centre, 1952 Bay Street, Victoria, BC (visit www.viha.ca for a map)
 Parking is free in visitor lots during Open House hours

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

Take Notice that the annual sitting of the Local Parcel Tax Review Panel, pursuant to Sections 204 and 205 of the Community Charter will be held at 12:00pm on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at the Capital Regional District, Room 651, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, British Columbia to hear appeals against the aforementioned 2011 parcel tax rolls.

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

A copy of the complete rolls will be available for inspection at the Capital Regional District, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm M-F and the Ganges Building Inspection office, #206 - 118 Fulford-Ganges Rd. (above the Post Office), Ganges, BC from 8:30 am to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 pm M-F, commencing February 23, 2011.

Dated at Victoria, British Columbia, this 23rd day of February, 2011.

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

OPINION

Opinions shouldn't draw personal attacks

BY HAROLD SWIERENGA

I am not in the habit of responding to letters to the editor, but the tirade written by one Michael Wall in the Feb. 16 issue of the Driftwood ("Luxury?") requires a comment.

The personal attack on Pat and Rosemarie Keough in his letter is in the same vein as the infamous attack ads of the Harper Conservatives and the U.S. Republican party and has no place in the public discourse on our island.

The Keoughs simply did what they were asked to do by the Islands Trust, in responding to the Trust's request for comment on the proposed budget.

They make no reference to the remuneration of the trustees; only to "programs, activities and salaries." Mr. Wall seems to be confusing a reference in the Keoughs' letter to the salaries paid to the 48 or so staff of the Trust with the remuneration of the non-salaried trustees.

All public bodies, including

IN RESPONSE

municipalities and land use planning authorities such as the Islands Trust, are under pressure from two directions; the demand for services on one hand and requests to hold the line on taxes on the other. Many politicians promise tax freezes and some even (usually unrealistically) promise tax cuts.

There is nothing out of order, therefore, for a member of the public to request that there be no increase in property taxes, regardless of that person's creed, colour, faith or financial status. If new initiatives are to be funded, savings from efficiencies elsewhere may be required.

Mr. Wall sounds as if he is unhappy with the current trustees as he implies that a greater remuneration would somehow attract candidates from "a broad demographic to represent us" and who "would otherwise find

the job impossible to afford." Is he saying that the incumbents somehow don't represent us?

Further, having spent some time as an elected municipal politician, I have developed a mortal dread of anyone who runs for office for the financial benefit of a "job."

It was obvious, in the last elections, that the existing remuneration level did not deter a number of candidates from putting their names forward. For that matter, many of us on this island serve on commissions, boards and committees with no remuneration whatsoever: nor do we expect any.

The reason our local trustees are overworked is because of the inherent inequality in the way the Islands Trust was structured.

Each island, regardless of size, is allowed two trustees. As a result, Salt Spring has the same number as Saturna with just over 300 residents and half as many as Pender where they dug

a ditch and created two islands; each with two trustees. The recent attempted half-measure to allow two more trustees on Salt Spring, but without a vote at Trust Council, was deservedly rejected by the electorate.

Finally, it is noted that the Islands Trust's Financial Planning Committee has already taken the responses of the Keoughs and others to heart and reduced the proposed increase in the tax requisition by 50 per cent.

I don't doubt that another good look at the books could bring the increase down to the rate of inflation where it belongs.

I would hope that in the future, personal attacks on members of the public for simply stating their opinion in response to a request by the Trust are not part of the dialogue on this island.

The writer is present chair of the Salt Spring Ferry Advisory Committee.

Traffic calming and improvement ideas

BY KEES VISSER

In the Feb. 2 Driftwood, the Salt Spring Transportation Commission solicited traffic-calming ideas in this paper. I replied to them with some of my thoughts. Donald McLennan, its chair, subsequently encouraged me to submit part of my letter to the Driftwood to stimulate some discussion and forward thinking.

First of all, I would like to change this to "traffic calming and improvement" ideas. Salt Spring actually is very similar to many rural areas in countries such as France, Spain and Germany and as such a lot could be learned from these countries. I am not saying that we should copy European solutions, but why should we reinvent the wheel and not learn from other experiences?

In my opinion, Salt Spring (and Canada as a whole) is about 30 years behind in traffic control and behaviour. Allow me to expand on that. In the '60s and '70s, authorities in Western Europe widened roads, straightened roads, removed trees, etc. with the idea to make car traffic easier and safer. This resulted in an increase in traffic that also went faster. After some

time traffic congested again, and a next phase of expansion occurred.

In the '80s the rural communities realized that this solution was not the answer, and they made curves again in the roads, planted trees, landscaped median islands and introduced traffic circles, etc. In the '90s, speed bumps were installed at village entrances, which were modified later into wider and longer plateaux. This trend is still continuing and now many West European villages are a pleasure to drive through and are very safe.

So, having said that I will sketch here some traffic calming/improvement ideas.

Traffic Circles

These proved to be a great success in Western Europe and there are thousands of them. They are calming, avoid unnecessary braking and are "green" (you do not have the typical stop and go kind of traffic you have at four-way stops).

Two places on Salt Spring would need them desperately: one in front of the fire station/cinema at Portlock Park and the other one at the intersection of Upper and Lower Ganges roads. You will find that a "Chemainus" kind of traf-

fic circle will suffice, although you could even make them smaller. In France, Spain and Holland there are thousands of these small traffic circles; in France they have a one to two-metre-wide tiled outer rim and a raised centre with flowers/plants; in Spain there is almost always modern art in the centre! What a great idea for Salt Spring.

These two come first to mind, but surely other points could follow, such as the Beaver Point/Fulford-Ganges Road intersection and the one at Long Harbour/Robinson roads.

Entrance Gateways

Most villages in France, Spain, or the Netherlands now have slightly raised entrances in the form of "traffic plateaux." The pavement is raised about 10 to 15 cm (at a 45-degree angle), then flat for about five metres and then slopes down again 10 cm. There is a warning sign, showing that they are there, plus the speed limit in town (usually 30 or 40 km/h). These raised bumps are also often painted yellow. These structures will calm traffic, guaranteed.

Speed Limit/Roads in Ganges

For Ganges, 30 km/h is

fast enough. Also I don't see the point of allowing traffic on McPhillips and Herford avenues. Last month I saw surveyors at the corner of McPhillips and Jackson; I hope that a straightening of Jackson is not contemplated here because this would be a recipe for speeding.

Minimum Speed Limit

Speed limits are very useful, but drivers should not drive 30 or 40 km/hr in 50 or 60 km zones (or 10 km in a 30-km zone). I see people do that here under the motto of "SLOW," but this behaviour has the opposite effect of calming other drivers. I recommend not to drive more than 10 km below the posted speed limit (circumstances permitting, of course).

Of course it will be difficult to understand some of these ideas if you have not been exposed to them, but hopefully this letter will trigger some thoughts to make Salt Spring a better place, and that is what the Salt Spring Transportation Commission likes to do.

The writer is a 10-year resident on Salt Spring Island, but does not serve on the Salt Spring Transportation Commission.

Smart, really?

What made me at first puzzled and now makes me deeply suspicious is Hydro's intention to have their new smart meters transmitting continually. 24/7. Surely, I thought, it should only take a second or two to transmit the necessary information about how much power I used.

Hydro's website says smart meters are part of a forward-looking plan that would see everybody's household appliances talking to Hydro over the internet. Hydro's website will show you how much power each consumed and, most importantly, how much money you would have saved if only you had used them at night instead. The central idea is that consumers, empowered by this information, would indeed be smart or impoverished enough to do their laundry and make their toast in the middle of the night.

MORE LETTERS

If this prospect excites you, you will be sorry to hear that it won't work with the appliances you have. They are not smart enabled. You will have to buy all new appliances, a factor that will whittle away savings made with midnight laundry and toast sessions.

So what is the benefit of a system to hear appliances that don't exist? The answer for Hydro, I suspect, is data: Information on your activities and your possessions. The fact that you don't yet have your smart dishwasher is valuable information to somebody hoping to sell you one. Information about when you generally get home and turn on the lights is valuable to somebody with a pressing phone call.

What is smart here? It is certainly smart green-washed mar-

keting. It's a smart data mining technique, compulsory transmitters in every home. What could be better?

I wonder if there are any smart politicians out there who will do what's needed and regulate some consumer protection. I should be able to opt out of continuous monitoring and transmitting from my home, especially as I don't have the equipment that could use the service and there are so many people warning of danger from the associated radiation.

I'm sure Hydro would not want their customers to have that option. The compulsory aspect is a boon to the value of their data. However, these meters can be calibrated to transmit at intervals set by users, so why not set the default at once a month until a customer wants it more frequently? Give the power to the people.

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

MAY POTLUCK: Federal Green Party leader Elizabeth May holds packets of seeds during Salt Spring's recent Seedy Saturday event. Islanders will have an opportunity to meet May — who will be a candidate in the Saanich-Gulf Islands riding in the next federal election — at a potluck dinner on Monday, Feb. 28, at the United Church in Ganges. The event will start at 6 p.m. and all are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Jan Slakov (250-537-5251) or Tom Mitchell (250-653-4353).

PARENTING

Triple P course set for parents

Positive parenting session begins March 3

Salt Spring's next Triple P parenting group starts on Thursday, March 3, aimed at any parents who want to learn positive parenting skills.

Presented through Salt Spring Community Services and set for Family Place at 120 Park Drive, the eight weeks of sessions will explore the five main pillars of the Triple P program:

- Creating a safe, interesting environment
- Having a positive learning environment
- Using assertive discipline
- Having realistic expectations
- Taking care of yourself as a parent

The program, which helps families approach parenting in a positive way that is preventive rather than reactive, was developed by Dr. Matt Sanders from the University of Queensland.

"Positive parenting aims to promote children's development and manage children's behaviour and emotions in a constructive and non-hurtful way," explains an excerpt from Sanders' website. "It is based on strong, nurturing relationships, good communication and positive attention to help children develop."

"Children who grow up with positive parenting are likely to develop the skills they need to do well at schoolwork, build friendships and feel good about themselves. They are also much less likely to develop behavioural or emotional problems when they get older. Parents who learn to use positive parenting skills typically feel more confident and competent in managing daily parenting tasks, are less depressed, less stressed and have less conflict with their partners over parenting issues."

The Thursday sessions at Family Place will run from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Pre-registration is required. Phone Maryanne Benwood at 250-537-9938 or email mbenwood@ssics.ca.

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Bruce Creswick
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Will you heal my Valentine?

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Stewart Katz

MISADVENTURES IN HEALING

original heart-themed or rose-inspired gift. But really, celebrating the miracle of love should not be about heart-shaped diamond tiaras (sorry ladies), or rose-coloured Victoria's Secret lingerie (sorry men). It should be about healing our relationships. Think of what a miracle it is that we even have relationships, given morning breath and snoring.

I, for one, am unbelievably grateful to be in a relationship. I hate being single. The thing with being single is that you always operate under the hope that you may meet someone, fall in lust and have sex. There's so much anxiety. But when you're married, you know there's no chance of having sex. It's way more peaceful.

Okay, so relationships aren't always so peaceful. You've heard of that book, "Women Are From Venus, Men Are From Uranus?" The book was right. People are so different, no wonder miscommunication is so common. Like the time I told my wife to go to the store and put together an emergency preparedness kit. She came back with Doritos, an Oprah magazine and feminine napkins. Not quite what I had in mind.

The problem with communication is that nothing scares men more than hearing a woman say, "We need to talk."

Men will gladly go off to battle or into dark bathrooms to kill spiders, but talk? I'd rather sit through an Islands Trust meeting than share my feelings. However, in the interest of bettering my relationships, I attended a workshop on how people avoid intimacy. And it helped. I thought I was good at avoiding intimacy before, but they showed me ways

I'd never even dreamed of.

The Dalai Lama says the key to a healthy relationship is to approach it with a calm, balanced mind. My mother says, "That's easy for him to say. No wife, no kids. No wonder he's so peaceful!"

Well, my mother has a point, but so does the Dalai Lama. Relationships can be our greatest spiritual teachers, giving us the opportunity to choose peace and love and joy in every interaction we have.

So though Valentine's Day is over, I encourage you to go on cherishing the romantic love in your life every day of the year. And while you're at it, why not try to be better in all your relationships? Don't forget your bank teller, or bus driver, or even your Islands Trust representative. Everyone needs to feel appreciated.

Stewart Katz is a registered massage therapist, author, playwright, comedian and actor.

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NEWS UPDATES

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HIKING

Busy trail and nature club schedule planned for March

This month's presentation on East Jerusalem

On Thursday, March 31, Fran and Gil Schultz present A Year on the Mount of Olives, East Jerusalem at the Lions Hall starting at 7:30 p.m.

The Schultzes retired to Salt Spring in 2004 after spending 32 years in Calgary where Gil was on faculty at the medical school at the University of Calgary and Fran was a sessional instructor and high school biology teacher. In 2009-2010, they took a year off from retirement for a little adventure which involved volunteering through Canadian Lutheran World Relief at Augusta Victoria Hospital in East Jerusalem.

During their stay, they travelled over much of Israel and the West Bank. They actively watched birds, followed the changes in plants in the area and were exposed to the problems of water use and shortage in this arid region.

Spring trip

Spring trip to Tofino: three nights at the Tofi-

no Botanical Gardens. Date: May 3 to 6, 2011. For more information, visit the website <http://saltspringtnc.ca>. To register, please contact Nieke Visser at niekevisser@shaw.ca.

Hikers

March 1: Mystery Hike. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m.

March 8: Fred Powell leads a moderate hike on Hope Hill trails. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or meet at Drummond Park at 10 a.m.

March 15: Ashley Hilliard will lead a "grand tour" hike of Ruckle Park along some familiar and not-so-familiar trails. Moderate route with some short uphill sections. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or at the sign just outside the entrance to Ruckle Park at 10:05 a.m.

March 22: Susan Hannon leads a moderate hike on Reginald Hill trails. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or meet at the end of Morningside (by the mailboxes) at 10 a.m.

March 29: Lynn Thompson leads a strenuous hike up Mount Prevost on Vancouver Island. Carpool from Portlock Park at 8:30 a.m. to catch the 9 a.m. ferry to Crofton.

Walkers

March 1: Choose a

leader and a destination. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

March 8: A mystery will unfold. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

March 15: A daffodil walk with Marg Simons. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or the Burgoyne Bay triangle at 10:20 a.m.

March 22: Follow Terry Ison on a moderate walk on the south side of Burgoyne Bay. Some steep parts but no rocks to climb. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or at the bottom of Lee's Hill at 10:15 a.m.

March 29: Noreen Davies and Charles Kahn will lead a moderate walk in Maracaibo. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

Ramblers

March 1: Ramble in Channel Ridge with Sterling and Maureen McEachern. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m. or the Sunset Drive Entrance to trails at 10:15 a.m.

March 8: Ramble in Mouat Park led by Shelagh Tulloch. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 15: Ramble on Mount Belcher led Bob and Betty Ball. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 22: Ramble in the south end led by Harold Page. Meet at Centennial Park at

10 a.m. or Fulford Inn Parking lot at 10:15 a.m.

March 29: Walk around Chemainus Lake and then visit Chemainus to see the murals and other sights. Lunch is on your own. Meet at Portlock Park at 9:45 a.m. for the 10:15 ferry to Crofton. Return time to be decided by the individual drivers.

New members

Interested in joining us? Contact Barry Spence (membership) at 250-537-2332 or Kees Visser (president) at 250-537-5443, or come on Tuesdays to the meeting point for the activity you are interested in. Participants need to bring a lunch and wear appropriate footwear and outdoor clothing.

Membership fees

The annual fees for the 2010-2011 season are \$25 per person. Please complete and sign the membership and waiver form and leave it with your cheque in the Cobbler's Box or given to an executive member at any club activity. Forms are available for download from the website at www.saltspringtnc.ca, where you will also find more details on our activities.

Players prove love for the game

Despite various calamities

BRIDGETRICKS

BY JILL EVANS

DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It was the Good, the Bad and the Ugly on Feb. 7.

Good, the winners. Bad, the mixup when some people played the wrong hands, not having checked who was to sit NS and EW. Ugly — some of the hands, which were nearly impossible to bid properly.

Nevertheless, the indomitable Prem Margolese and Paul Retallack came out on top of the five and a half tables again, and there was a tie for second place between the Liz/Oleh Mycyk pair and Gisela Welsh partnered by Norma Hars, visiting from Ontario. Third spot went to Jean Elder and Irene Hawksworth.

Feb. 14 is, of course, Valentine's Day, and six and a half tables proved they love their duplicate games by showing up that evening, so there was a Mitchell movement with North/South remaining stationary and East/West circulating from table to table. The N/S win-

ners and first overall were the Margolese-Retallack pair (as usual these days) and second (fourth overall) were Zelly Taylor and Ian Thomas. Third N/S were Isabelle Richardson and Jean Elder.

E/W winners commented that they did nothing but go down all evening, but that's the thing about duplicate — everyone else was downer than they were with the same cards. So it wasn't a downer at all for winners Liz and Oleh Mycyk, who were also second overall. Next in line among the East/West group were Joanne Elizabeth and Jill Evans (third overall), and there was a tie for third place (fifth overall) between the Flo and George Laundry pair and newcomers Norma Hars and Lis Ker.

In order to begin games promptly at 7 p.m., players are asked to be at Seniors at 6:45 to get organized. For more info, please contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.



Linda Koroscil

LET'S EAT

This pepper jelly is yummyserved over warm brie or camembert.

- Habanero Gold**
- 1/3 finely sliced dried apricots
- 3/4 c. white vinegar
- 1/4 c. each finely chopped red onion, red bell pepper and seeded habanero or jalapeno peppers
- 3 c. sugar
- 1 pouch liquid pectin (85 ml)
- Combine apricots and

vinegar. Stand for four hours. Add onion, peppers and sugar and bring to a boil. Stir in pectin and boil for one minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, skim foam and stir to disperse peppers. Ladle into hot jars, following directions in pectin insert. Boil filled jars in canner for 10 mins. Makes six 125-ml. jars.



Islands Trust

You're invited
Community Public Forum
Riparian Areas Regulation

Find out about the regulation to protect streams and what it means on Salt Spring Island.

The implementation of the Riparian Areas Regulation is part of the Environmental Development Permit Areas Review which, in turn, is part of the next phase for reviewing the Salt Spring Island Official Community Plan.

Staff will be available to discuss the review process and receive comments.

A qualified environmental professional (QEP) will be making a presentation at 5:00 p.m. at both locations as follows:

Ganges area

Lions (Hart Bradley Hall), 103 Bonnet Avenue

Wednesday, February 23

Public Forum: 3:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.

Fulford area

Fulford Seniors Centre at the south end of

The Fulford Community Hall, 2591 Fulford-Ganges Road

Thursday, February 24

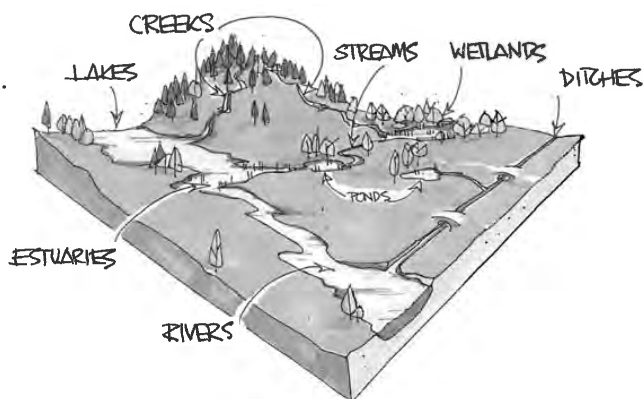
Public Forum: 3:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.

What is the Riparian Areas Regulation?

The Riparian Areas Regulation, is part of the province's Fish Protection Act enacted in July 2004. Riparian refers to the interface between land and streams or rivers. The regulation, requires local governments to protect riparian areas during residential, commercial, and industrial development by ensuring that proposed activities adjacent to fish bearing streams are subject to a science based assessment conducted by a Qualified Environmental Professional. The Salt spring Island Local Trust Committee is currently reviewing how best to implement the regulation through the Official Community Plan using environmental development permit areas.

RIPIARIAN AREAS ARE ...



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Please visit our website at www.islandstrust.bc.ca/lc/ss/default.cfm or contact us at:

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Mail: 1-500 Lower Ganges, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2N8 In Person: 1-500 Lower Ganges Road (the Hydro Building)

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday (except Holidays)

Notice of Other Voting

Highland & Fernwood Water Supply Upgrades Referendum Portion of Salt Spring Island Electoral Area

Take notice that below is a copy of the proposed bylaws for which the electors of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service area within the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area 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:

- a) *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*
- b) *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?

Bylaw No. 3753

A Bylaw to Establish a Service Area Within the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area for Construction of a Combined Highland and Fernwood Water Supply System

Whereas:

- A. The Capital Regional District may, under Section 796 of the Local Government Act, establish and provide any service that the Board considers necessary or desirable for all or part of the Capital Regional District;
- B. Under Bylaw No. 1937, "Highland Water System Local Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1991", as amended, the Capital Regional District established a local service for the provision, operation, supply, treatment, conveyance, storage and distribution of water for the Highland Water System Local Service;
- C. Under Bylaw No. 3580, "Highland Water system Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1, 2008", the debt servicing is funded from the Highland Water Service area;
- D. Under Bylaw No. 1772, "Fernwood Water Supply Local Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1989", as amended, the Capital Regional District established a local service for the provision, operation, supply, treatment, conveyance, storage and distribution of water for the Fernwood Water Supply Local Service;
- E. Under Bylaw No. 3581, "Fernwood Water Supply Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1, 2008", the debt servicing is funded from the Fernwood Water Supply Local Service area;
- F. The capital works to combine the Highland Water System Local Service and the Fernwood Water Supply Local Service are underway, and the Capital Regional District Board wishes to establish a service for the construction of works for the provision, supply, treatment, conveyance, storage and distribution of water for the combined area of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service;
- G. Debt servicing under subsequent loan authorizations will be funded from the combined area of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service;
- H. Participating area approval is required and shall be obtained by assent of the electors under Section 801.2 of the Local Government Act; and
- I. The approval of the Inspector of Municipalities is required under Section 801(1)(a) of the Local Government Act.

Now Therefore the Board of the Capital Regional District in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

Service

1. The Service established by this Bylaw is for the purposes of construction of works for the provision, supply, treatment, conveyance, storage and distribution of water for the area of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service.

Boundaries

2. The boundaries of the combined area of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service are shown in heavy outline on Schedule "A" attached hereto. (Not attached in this Notice)

Participating Area

3. Only the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area includes the participating area for this service.

Cost Recovery

4. As provided in Section 803 of the Local Government Act, the annual costs of providing the Service may be recovered by one or more of the following:
- a) the requisition of money under Section 806 of the Local Government Act to be collected by a property value tax, based on land and improvements levied and collected under Section 806.1 of the Local Government Act;
- b) parcel taxes imposed in accordance with Division 4.3 of Part 24 of the Local Government Act
- c) fees and charges imposed under Section 363 of the Local Government Act;
- d) revenues raised by other means authorized under this or another Act;
- e) revenues received by agreement, enterprise, gift, grant or otherwise.

Maximum Requisition

5. In accordance with Section 800.1(1)(e) of the Local Government Act, the maximum amount that may be requisitioned annually for the cost of the Service is the greater of:
- a) Sixty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$64,000); or
- b) A property value tax rate of \$0.4508 per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) that, when applied to the net taxable value of land and improvements in the Service Area, will yield the maximum amount that may be requisitioned for the Service.

Citation

6. This Bylaw may be cited as the "Highland and Fernwood Water Service Establishment Bylaw No.1, 2010".

Bylaw No. 3754

A Bylaw to Authorize the Borrowing of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) for the Construction of a Combined Highland and Fernwood Water Service

Whereas:

- A. The Board of the Capital Regional District adopted Bylaw No. 3753 "Highland and Fernwood Water Service Establishment Bylaw No.1, 2010" to provide a Service for the construction of works for the provision, supply, treatment, conveyance, storage and distribution of water for the combined area of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service (the "Service");
- B. The Board of the Capital Regional District wishes to provide funding for the provision of the Service;
- C. The estimated cost of the works for the Service, including expenses incidental thereto to be funded by debt servicing, is the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000), which is the amount of debt intended to be authorized by this bylaw;
- D. Pursuant to Section 823.1 of the Local Government Act, participating area approval is required and shall be obtained by assent of the electors under Section 801.2 of the Local Government Act;
- E. The approval of the Inspector of Municipalities is required under Section 819 of the Local Government Act; and
- F. It is proposed that the financing of the Service be undertaken by the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia pursuant to proposed agreements between that Authority and the Capital Regional District.

Now Therefore the Board of the Capital Regional District in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

1. The Board is hereby authorized to:
- (a) borrow upon the credit of the Capital Regional District a sum not exceeding Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) for the purpose of undertaking and carrying out or causing to be carried out the planning, study, design and construction of works for the provision of the facilities and equipment comprising and relating to the Service and doing all things necessary in connection with the Service;
- (b) acquire all such real property, easements, rights-of-way, leases, licenses, rights or authorities as may be requisite or desirable for or in connection with the Service.
2. The maximum term for which debentures may be issued to secure the debt intended to be created by this bylaw is fifteen (15) years.
3. This Bylaw may be cited as the "Highland and Fernwood Water Service Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1, 2010".

Taxation Impact: New funding of up to \$500,000 is required to complete the construction of a water treatment plant and related works to serve the Highland and Fernwood Water Service areas. The purpose of Bylaw No. 3753 is to establish a new service encompassing the boundaries of the Highland and Fernwood Water Service areas for repayment of the new debt. The purpose of Bylaw No. 3754 is to authorize the borrowing of up to \$500,000. It is estimated that the participants in the new Highland and Fernwood Water Service area would pay a new user charge of \$44 every three months for 15 years to repay the debt.

A copy of the complete bylaws and this notice may be viewed at the following offices of the Capital Regional District (CRD) from February 18 to March 18, 2011, Monday - Friday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm:

- CRD Headquarters, 625 Fisgard Street, 1st Floor - Foyer, Victoria, BC
- CRD Building Inspection, #206-118 Fulford Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC

The bylaws, and other information, may also be viewed on the Internet: www.crd.bc.ca/about/elections/index.htm

Voting Opportunities

Qualified electors may vote at the following places:

- On **General Voting Day for Other Voting:** Saturday, March 19, 2011 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm:
- Fernwood Elementary School, 150 Fernwood Road, Salt Spring Island, BC

On Advance Voting Days for Other Voting: Wednesday, March 9, 2011 and Wednesday, March 16, 2011 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm:

- Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC

Elector 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 Highland and Fernwood Water 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.

A copy of the consent form and information on acceptable classes of documents for proof of identity are available on the Internet: www.crd.bc.ca/about/elections/voting.htm
For questions regarding voting and voter registration call the Capital Regional District Toll Free 1.800.663.4425 local 3129, or 250.360.3129 or Mr. Tom Moore @ 250.472.0059.

DRIFTWOOD Classifieds

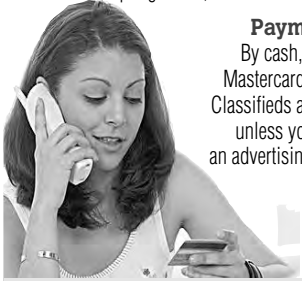
CALL 250-537-9933 or 310-3535

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

PLACE AN AD

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

Payment
 By cash, debit, Mastercard or Visa.
 Classifieds are prepaid unless you have an advertising account.



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Driftwood

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

Driftwood WEEKENDER

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



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 \$12.95 - additional lines 92¢ ea
 All ads are posted to BCClassified.com

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 All ads are posted to BCJobNetwork.com and BCClassified.com

DISPLAY ADS

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 Employment ads also listed on line at www.bcjobnetwork.com
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 Over 20,000 on-line ads updated daily



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Book your classifieds online - open 24 hours a day
www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com
 or
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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS **FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

BIRTHS

Nolan Langdon is happy to announce his little sister Mikayla Elizabeth Lyn Langdon born January 26, 2011, weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz. Dad and Mom (Tom and Jennifer Langdon) are proud and happy. We would also like to thank Dr. Peter Houghton and the amazing staff at Victoria General Hospital.

Buy it, Sell it, Find it!
Driftwood Classifieds

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAY MILESTONE
 for **Arthur Vernon Drake**.
 Former Island resident is turning 90 on February 23, 2011
Happy 90th Birthday Vernon
 Those who want to wish him well, can give him a call at his home at Royal Oak Village, 519-967-7066 or by email: bettyandvern@hotmail.com or A. V. Drake, 307-2400 Sandwich West Parkway, La Salle, Ontario, N9H 2S8.

WHAT'S ON?
PAGE B12

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

NEW GARDEN Centre Opening Feb. 26 @ 10:00. Specializing in tools for WOMEN and persons with DISABILITIES. The Victorian Bird House Home and Garden Shoppe 2428 Beacon, 250-656-5064

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

COMING EVENTS

Krayenhoff Memorial Lunch and Bridge
 Sat, March 26 at noon
 Fulford Community Hall \$20.00
 All profits to our local OPT clinic. Options for Sexual Health. (Planned Parenthood SSI)
250-537-0897

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP
 Guest Speaker Rev Phillip Hewett uses imagination to aspire to enlarge our lives with "The Upland Path". Sunday February 27, 11 am at S.S. Seniors' Centre

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

COMING EVENTS

seven stars tai chi club
 Crane Style Qigong:
 Begins Tues March 1st 10am to 11am for 12 weeks
 @ Cedar Lane Studio 210 Cedar lane phone Osman 250-537-5667

Salt Spring Island Community Affordable Housing Strategy
 Open Houses
 Mon March 7th Fulford Hall (OAP) 3-5 pm
 Lions Hall 7-9 pm
 Information 250-537-2158

COMING EVENTS

The Annual General Meeting of the Salt Spring Arts Council
 will be held at Mahon Hall 114 Rainbow Road, Ganges on Sunday, March 6, 2011 at 4:30 pm
 To elect Directors, receive and consider reports, and transact such other business as may be properly brought before the meeting. Dated February 16, 2011. By Order of the Board of Directors.

COMING EVENTS

SINGING LESSONS
 with Julia Beattie
 Fall series starts Tues. Mar. 1 and ends Apr 19. Learn one on one in supportive environment. 10 years experience.
juliabeattie@yahoo.ca

9th Annual "Support the Foodbank" STOREWIDE SALE
4 DAYS ONLY
Thursday, Feb. 24 to Sunday Feb. 27
 Bring a donation for the Foodbank and get **25% off one item**
 Bring **2** - get **25% off two items**
 And So on...
West of the Moon
250-537-1966

sock retreat
April 1-3, 2011 in Tofino!
 A weekend of learning about sock design with teacher **Cookie A.** at Long Beach Lodge.
 For more details please go to knitsbythesea.com

Salt Spring Climate Action Plan
 SSI Draft Climate Action Plan
Open Houses
Saturday, February 26
 Fulford: 10-noon, Fulford Hall OAP Room
 Ganges: 2-4pm, ArtSpring
 Hosted by the SSI Climate Action Council
Contact 250-537-2158
 Salt Spring's greenhouse gas emissions, 2015 and 2020 reduction targets, and sample actions.

KINDERGYM—everyone ages 0 – 4 is invited to the drop-in play time, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30am to 11:00am (except school holidays). Bring a parent or caregiver with you – coffee will be on. \$2.00/family. Located at the Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Rd. Call 537-2622 for more info.

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

OSCAR WILDE and VOLTAIRE
"Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities"
 - VOLTAIRE 1694-1778
"There is much to be said for modern journalism. By giving us the opinions of the uneducated, it keeps us in touch with the ignorance of the community."
 - OSCAR WILDE 1854-1900
 QUOTES PROVIDED BY JACK HALLAM

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words Workshop with Seth Bekowitz
 Having trouble photographing your art? Colour not right? Lighting all wrong? Looks like your framing is racked? This half-day work workshop addresses the challenges facing artists when documenting their 2D art photographically.
Limited space. Don't miss your chance to work with one of the top photographers and teachers on our island.
 Date: Saturday, March 5 1-4 pm
 Location: Mahon Hall
 Cost: \$50 for SSAC members, \$75 for non-members
 Registration; **Pre-registration required.** Registration forms available on line at www.ssartscouncil.com or in the mailbox at the side of Mahon Hall.

Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary Society is offering **two scholarships** to students presently attending **Gulf Islands Secondary School**
 Applicants must be continuing their studies in some health care related fields.
 Completed applications must be submitted to the GISS Counselling Department no later than March 30, 2011. No exceptions.

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

MARKET IN THE PARK
April 2 – October 29, 2011
Seasonal Vendors - Please renew your Permit no later than February 28, at the PARC office, 145 Vesuvius Bay Road, 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday to Friday. Seasonal Permit Fee is \$160.
Returning Day Vendors - Please register with the Coordinator on your first day back to the Market.
Potential New Day Vendors - Orientation/Product Review sessions will be held February 26. Call the PARC office at 250-537-4448 to book an appointment.
 Find the complete Vendor Guidelines online at www.crd.bc.ca/ssiparc/market.htm.
 For more information call 250-537-4448 or email marketinthepark@crd.bc.ca.
Who reads us?
88% of Islanders read the Driftwood each week.
 -Combase survey

DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

Your gift to the **Heart and Stroke Foundation** will help support life saving research and education in heart disease and stroke.

To donate In Memory or In Honour:
www.heartandstroke.bc.ca
Toll-Free: 1-888-754-5274

Mail to:
401-495 Dunsmuir St.
Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9



bcclassified.com

INFORMATION

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGALS

NINA SAUNDERS: Take notice that the Salt Spring Mini Storage will be seizing and selling the contents of your locker to pay for rent in arrears. You have until March 2, 2011 to pay your arrears or make other satisfactory arrangements for payment. Phone 250-537-5888.

PERSONALS

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

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 GayLiveNetwork.com 18+

INFORMATION

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND ALUMINUM boat adrift on St Mary Lake. Please call Gus with details. 250-537-8730



LOST
female 2 year old tabby named Cheetah in or around 105 Beddis Rd area. Please contact Marion Bankes at 250-537-0238. We really miss her.

TRAVEL

GETAWAYS

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

TIMESHARE

SELL/RENT YOUR TIME-SHARE FOR CASH!!! Our Guaranteed Services will Sell/Rent Your Unused Timeshare for CASH! Over \$95 Million Dollars offered in 2010! www.sellatimeshare.com (800)640-6886.

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FILM FESTIVAL
PAGES A11-14

HELP WANTED

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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80% COMMISSION Travelonly has 500 agents across Canada. Business opportunities with low investment, unlimited income potential, generous tax/travel benefits. Run your travel company, full-time, part-time from home. Register for free seminar, 1-800-608-1117, Ext. 2020. www.travelonly.ca

BE YOUR own boss with Great Canadian Dollar Store. New franchise opportunities in your area. Call 1-877-388-0123 ext. 229 or visit our website: www.dollarstores.com today.

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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

JEWELLERY SALES opportunity! New to Canada, trendy, affordable! Work from home, part or full-time, earn great money and vacations. Contact for catalogue and business information. 403-909-4302

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

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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

HELP WANTED

BCjobnetwork

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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

DRIVERS/COURIER/ TRUCKING

CLASS 1 OR 3 DRIVERS Terrific career opportunity with outstanding growth potential to learn how to locate rail defects using non-destructive testing. No Exp. Needed!! Plus Extensive paid travel, meal allowance, 4 weeks vacation and benefits pkg. Skills Needed - Ability to travel 3 mos. at a time, Valid D.L. & High School Diploma or GED. Apply online at www.sperryrail.com under careers. Click here to apply, keyword Driver.
DO NOT FILL IN CITY OR STATE

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

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! Prof. commercial Lic. or 3 yrs tow ing exp. Top Pay! Call Craig 1-877-890-4523. www.starfleettrucking.com

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HELP WANTED

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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.

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Taking a Bite out of Grime

Formerly "Partners In Grime" is now taking new clientele. I have more than three and a half years of local experience with dependable, reliable quality service. I am now doing meal prep as a part of my services. I will get your meals ready and all you have to do is put them in the oven or turn on the stove! You get a clean house along with meals ready to go. Pet friendly!
Call Cindy Toutant @ 250.537.5734



HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

Bookkeeper/Office Manager

Island Marine Construction Services Ltd. is looking for a Bookkeeper/Office Manager for 3-4 days per week. Tasks include bookkeeping using Simply Accounting Premium 2010, including Payroll, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Bank Reconciliations, and general office and secretarial duties.

Successful candidate must have a good knowledge of accounting practices and experience using Simply Accounting, Word and Excel. Wage commensurate with experience. Benefits.

Please submit resume and cover letter to jackie@islandmarine.ca.



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

Cut Your Debt by up to 70%
DEBT FORGIVENESS PROGRAM
Avoid Bankruptcy, Stops Creditor Calls. Much Lower Payments at 0% Interest. We work for YOU, not your creditors.
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www.4pillars.ca
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LEGAL SERVICES

CRIMINAL RECORD? Guaranteed record removal since 1989. Confidential, fast, affordable. Our A+ BBB rating assures employment, travel and freedom. Call for your free information booklet. 1-8-NOW-PARDON (1 866-972-7366). www.PardonServicesCanada.com

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HARMONY HOUSECLEANING Weekly, bi-weekly, move-ins & outs. We supply our own products! Call Kim 250-930-1008 or 250-221-0785.

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

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- READY MIX
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- BAGGED CEMENT

250-537-2611
345 Rainbow Road

PLACING SALT SPRING: Ready Mix 4 inches thick .65 cents per sq.ft. at 6 inches .75 per sq. ft. Call 250-537-7883.

DRAFTING & DESIGN

LET'S GET STARTED
Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.
HELSET DESIGN
250.537.1037
Ask for Jim

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

BCNDP
Leadership Contest Comes to Salt Spring
NICHOLAS SIMONS
Tuesday, Mar. 1
EACH at the United Church in Ganges at 5:00 for remarks and a Q & A session.
You are welcome to join the candidates for a potluck supper at 6:30 in the lower hall.
Information from
250-537-5347 or 250-537-4567

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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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Administrative Assistant
Salt Spring Island Company seeks a full time, top-notch Administrative Assistant for busy office. This individual would provide clerical and administrative support and must be able to multi-task.
Communication and word processing skills, including Word, Excel and Microsoft Outlook are required. The individual should have telephone and email skills, experience with maintaining a filing system, purchase order system, spreadsheets and databases.
Duties would also include arranging meetings, travel and appointments; liaising with members of staff or external contacts; taking orders, and overseeing logistics and shipping arrangements. Bookkeeping experience would be an asset.
Please fax resume to 250-537-8851 or call 250-537-8857 for an interview.

Position Available
Salt Spring Island Golf & Country Club
Grounds Maintenance Worker
Seasonal Employment
Qualifications:
• Knowledge of golf course maintenance and turf grass management
• Excellent team skills, attention to detail, flexibility
Duties under the direction of the General Manager to include but not limited to:
• Work with grounds staff to maintain the golf course in excellent playing condition
• Operate and care for tools used including gas and diesel powered equipment
• Train seasonal entry level employees
Compensation:
• Hourly wage commensurate with experience and qualifications
• Professional development and skill acquisition allowances
• Playing privileges at the Golf Club
Contact Information:
Steven Marleau, General Manager, Salt Spring Island Golf & Country Club
P.O. Box 242, Ganges Post Office, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2V9
Fax: 250 537-2126
email: smarleaugolf@shaw.ca

DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

HAULING AND SALVAGE

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

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

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

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Chainsaw Work For Hire
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• Clearing & Thinning Land
• Brush & Windfall Clean up
• Broom Pulling
• Demolition & Hauling
250-537-7536 Gabriel

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PETS AND LIVESTOCK

PETS

6 YR old Black Lab needs adult home. Loving and healthy. Call 250-537-5466 for info.

REAL ESTATE

ACREAGE

ARIZONA BUILDING LOTS FULL ACRES AND MORE! Guaranteed Owner Financing. No credit check \$0 down - 0 interest. Starting at just \$99/mo. Close to Tucson's Intl. Airport. Hear free recording at 1-800-631-8164 Code 4001 or visit: www.sunsetslandrush.com

OWN 20 Acres \$129/mo. \$13,900 Near Growing El Paso, Texas (safest city in America!) Low down, no credit checks, owner financing. Free Map/Pictures. 1-866-254-7755. www.sunsetranches.com

REAL ESTATE

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OWN 20 acres only \$129/mo. \$295/down near El Paso, Texas (safest city in America!) Money back guarantee, no credit checks, owner financing, free map/pictures 1-800-343-9444 www.20acreranches.com

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CORTES ISLAND 72.5 ACRES
Seven 10 acre shares, water views, garden sun. 2 of 7 sites on deposit. \$80,000 per share. Dick Hayes 250-935-6612.

FILM FESTIVAL CHECK IT OUT! PGS A11-14

REAL ESTATE

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

INVASIVE SPECIES

Alien invaders: giant hogweed

Health risks in addition to environmental damage

BY JEAN WILKINSON
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

A series of articles on how to identify and manage some common invasive species on Salt Spring Island written by Jean Wilkinson, Stewardship Committee, Salt Spring Island Conservancy.



Giant hogweed

"Giant Weed That Burns and Blinds Spreads Across Canada" (National Post, July 13, 2010); "Hogweed Response Team in the Works" (The Province, July 14, 2010); "Huge Noxious Weed Poses Health Risk" (Victoria Times Colonist, July 15 2010); "Giant Hogweed Leaves Mark" (Gulf Islands Driftwood, Aug. 4, 2010).

Giant hogweed made headlines last summer because it presents a serious and growing public health hazard. It's a very tall plant, native to Asia, and was introduced to Europe and North America as an imposing ornamental or curiosity. It has escaped cultivation, is highly invasive, and is currently found in B.C. in Greater Vancouver, Central to Southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, including Salt Spring.

Contact with giant hogweed's stems or leaves can cause severe burns, blisters and scarring of the skin. The sap contains photosensitive chemicals that become toxic in the presence of sunlight. Because of this, the effects may not be noticed for several hours. This makes the plant especially dangerous for children, who may be attracted to such an unusually large plant and have been known to use the thick hollow stems for "pea-shooters" or "telescopes."

The skin will first redden and blister, and painful inflammation follows two or three days later. The affected skin will often darken after a week and may remain dark for years. Hospitalization may be necessary, and the presence of minute amounts of sap in the eyes can lead to temporary or even permanent blindness. The chemicals in the sap are carcinogenic and can cause birth defects.

Clearly it is in everyone's inter-

est to get rid of giant hogweed infestations and stop the spread of this plant! Since it dies down each winter and grows up to six metres tall in the summer, it is recommended to remove it from February through April, when it is just sprouting and more easily dealt with.

So if you notice any tall dead stems, or recall seeing an unusually large plant with big leaves last year, check the area for new growth now and over the next few months. If you suspect you've found a giant hogweed plant, please report it to Linda Quiring at linda@saltspringsoapworks.com. If you need help to remove it, the new SWAT group, Salt Spring Weed Attack Team, will be happy to assist you. Let's work together to make Salt Spring a giant hogweed-free zone!

GIANT HOGWEED - QUICK FACTS ABOUT THIS HAZARDOUS HORTICULTURAL BULLY:

Identification: (Heracleum mantegazzianum). Very large perennial up to six metres tall with deeply incised compound leaves as big as 1.5 metres across. The stem can vary from purple to mostly green with purple blotches, and has distinctive bumps with stiff white hairs along it. Each fall the plant dies back until spring. After a few years' growth it blooms in summer, with large (up to one metre across) umbrella-shaped clusters of small white flowers at the top. After seeds have set the individual plant generally dies.

Look-alikes: Common cow parsnip, palmate coltsfoot, poison hemlock, Queen Anne's lace (wild carrot) — all smaller.

Impacts: poses serious public health risks as outlined above, reduces access to streams and

riverbanks, and increases risk of erosion as native vegetation is shaded and killed, leaving the soil unprotected during winter rains.

Found in moist to wet areas near streams, creeks, ditches, rivers, along roads, in vacant lots and some gardens.

Spreads via numerous flattened, oval seeds which drop on nearby soil, are blown by wind and float down streams.

Control: Cut the plant roots 10 to 15 cm below the soil surface with a sharp knife or long-handled narrow shovel. Try to minimize soil disturbance. Do not use a weed-whacker. Monitor the site for three to five years to remove any new growth. If the plant has bloomed, do not transfer any soil from within four metres as it may contain seeds.

Caution: Prevent skin contact. Wear heavy, water-resistant gloves and coveralls. Many fabrics will soak up the plant sap, which can then transfer to the skin. Plant "hairs" may also penetrate thin clothing. Wear goggles when disturbing or removing the plants, as small droplets of sap may be released into the air. Dispose of or wash tools, gloves and clothes thoroughly with soap and water.

First Aid: If any sap contacts skin, wash carefully with soap and cold (not hot) water. Keep exposed areas away from sunlight for at least 48 hours. If rash or blistering develops, consult a physician. If sap gets into the eyes, flush with large amounts of water, use sunglasses and see a physician at once.

Disposal: Put plant parts in double plastic bag marked to indicate that contents can cause skin damage, and take to transfer station. Note: Do not compost these plants.

Alternatives: Recommended non-invasive replacements include native species blue elderberry, sea-coast angelica and kneeling angelica and exotics rogersia, Chinese rhubarb, astilboides and ligularia.

More info: Salt Spring Island Conservancy Stewardship Committee, 250-537-4877; Coastal Invasive Plant Committee, www.coastalinvasiveplants.com; Invasive Plant Council of B.C., www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca.

This Week's Horoscope

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

Tip of the Week:

There is an opinion that the end date of the Mayan Long Count Calendar already occurred on 12/21/2010 due to the Lunar Eclipse on that day and that the 12/21/2012 end date is wrong. I highly doubt this is true. Attaching the end date of the Mayan Long Count Calendar to a Lunar Eclipse is simply convenient and perhaps opportunistic. Actually, it is not just the Long Count Calendar which is considered in Mayan Astrology; 17 calendars are in use. Among these is the cycle of Venus which completes an important cycle based on an exact conjunction with the Sun in June 2012. It is the convergence of these calendars culminating together which marks the end of the "World Age". This 5125 year cycle is 1/5th of a 25, 625 years Precessional Cycle. Many assert that the ending of this World Age is also the end of an entire Precessional Cycle. Some Mayan prophecies assert that this will bring about cataclysmic destruction. Some scientists say the winter of 2011/2012 will coincide with the 11 year 'Solar Max Cycle' which will be anywhere from 20-50 % larger than usual! While the Lunar Eclipse on 12/21/2010 may seem to be connected to these cycles, it is not important enough to override the cycle of Venus in Mayan Cosmology. Eclipse 'seasons' occur about every 6 months and their influence only lasts as long. From the standpoint of Western Astrology, the current rapid pace of change is synchronizing with Jupiter in Aries, Saturn in Libra, Pluto in Capricorn and as of March 11 Uranus in Aries — all initiative and action oriented Cardinal Signs. And the really big acceleration of social change will begin when Uranus forms its first Square aspect with Pluto in June 2012. The annual Solar Cycle (= "Haab" in Mayan Astrology) acting as the 'seconds hand' on the grand clock of the World Age/Precessional Cycle remains the symbolic key date, in justifiable honour of the importance of the Sun's cycle which begins at Winter Solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, where the Mayan's live.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Somewhere between dreams and realities you may find yourself adrift amidst many thoughts and feelings of late. Unless you already have established responsibilities, you may feel ungrounded. Yet you do feel the call of new mountains to climb and ambitions to achieve. Clarify your dreams to co-create them into reality.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)

The game of life truly does include discerning when to hold, when to fold, when to walk away and when to run. Rebellious urges vie with escapist and you may feel whether to fight or surrender. What would fight and/or surrender look like, what do they imply in terms of action? The best answer probably includes compassion and mercy for self and others.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)

Changes in your social status may be evident now. A rise in energy levels or blood pressure is a consequence of it. The future beckons and reaching out to new associations feels right. New perceptions will accompany this process. Shared visions, dreams and goals are taking on greater importance. You feel inspired to co-create a brighter future.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 21)

A new tide is washing in and the waves are big. Consequently, your mood may be more serious and sober than usual. Taking very calculated risks feels right. This includes obtaining new knowledge and perhaps training too. The time of simply thinking about it has pretty much run out and you feel pressured to take more deliberate action.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)

You may feel as though you are undergoing a metamorphosis of some sort. Changes in your overall sense and state of security are underway. A spirit of adventure is likely in the mix and you feel inspired to explore new territory, perhaps inside and out. This trend will continue for a few weeks so tune-in now and cooperate with the process.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

A lot of activity on relationship fronts is keeping you busy now. With returns rolling in thanks to prior efforts, you may have reason to rejoice, unless your input has been negative. You may also have a very full plate and are challenged to keep pace with things. The time is ripe to take a creative leadership approach to increase your sense of command over your destiny.

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)

Changes in your daily rhythm and perhaps lifestyle altogether are influencing affairs at home and vice versa. At best, a new found sense of freedom is coming in fast now. Changes on relationship fronts are at a boil and new decisions must be made. Take note of what you sense is happening there as the signs of change should be apparent by now. Heed your heart and mind.

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)

A creative wave full of color and rich texture is washing in. Ideally, regardless of some potentially confusing and possibly frustrating trends, you feel creative, playful, and perhaps sporty. Whether you use this energy to find the closest escape route or choose to ride the crest with faithful abandon depends especially on your attitude. Trust the flow.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)

A good deal of focus and activity on the home and family front is likely now. For you spring cleaning may have already begun. Clearing the old to make way for the new is on your mind. Ideally, you are tapping in to the spirit of adventure that is rising. It is calling you out to explore new creative possibilities. Work with visualization magic.

Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)

The time has come to dream a new dream. Big changes close to home are shaking your world and stirring your ambitions. Perhaps you have gone as high as you like or feel is possible and it is time for something else. Alternatively, making good of your successes, you are determined to perpetuate a momentum to achieve greater heights yet.

Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)

Increasing your sense of confidence and self-esteem is a central theme now. This may include new acquisitions. Breaking free of attachments is another possibility. Emphasizing quality over quantity is featured. This ideally includes the cultivation of spiritual values and disciplines. Whether for the love of power or the power of love, you are reaching out.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

The time has come to explore new territory. This may include your lifestyle, business, artistic expression and/or spiritual interests. Your health may be taking on greater importance now. Whether by inspiration or desperation, the time has come to raise your energy levels and overall state of health. Aim for long term solutions and be willing to learn from experts.

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY




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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY
HELLEBORES: Lizzie Woodley is among the greenthumbs who attended Fraser's Thimble Farms' Helleborganza last weekend for a special sales event of the February-blooming plant.



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- Wed, Mar 2, 5—6:30, Senior's Wing of Fulford Hall

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- Thurs, Mar 3, 5—6:30, Boardroom next to School Board Offices

EMPLOYEES

- Mon, Mar 7, 5—6:30, Boardroom next to School Board Offices

ALL INTERESTED PEOPLE AND GROUPS

- Tuesday, Mar 8, 2—3:30, Third Floor Office, SS Literacy

ZEN

Zen practice this Sunday

Half-day event at Ango Retreat

A half-day of sitting meditation and talk about Zen practice takes place Sunday at Ango Retreat on Salt Spring.

The talk and meditation will be led by Peter Levitt, Salt Spring Zen Circle's founding teacher, who has practised Zen meditation in the Soto tradition of Shunryu Suzuki Roshi for close to 40 years and has been authorized within the lineage to teach.

A press release on the upcoming circle says, "Zen Buddhism calls what we're all doing here, 'the great matter of life and death.' As grave as that may sound, Zen masters are famous for being quite humorous, challenging their students to lighten up as well.

"When he was dying, Shunryu Suzuki Roshi, one of the founders of Zen in North America said, 'We should be grateful to have a limited body . . . like mine, like yours. If you had a limitless life it would be a real problem for you.'"

Levitt adds, "Zen often speaks in paradox. Wisdom is expressed one way, and then by its opposite, to help us deepen our present experience and to encourage us not to be limited or constricted by the linear mind. This seeming paradox can make you frustrated, but it also can make you laugh really hard."

A better understanding of how Zen practice relates to daily life will unfold at the Feb. 27 circle, which runs from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Ango Retreat.

Beginners or experienced meditators are welcome to attend, and anyone who requires instruction will receive it. Comfortable, warm, loose-fitting clothing is best for meditation. Chairs are available.

There is no fee for this retreat. However, in the Zen tradition, donations for the teacher are gratefully received.

To register, enquire, or if you plan to attend, call Simon Rompre at 250-537-1721.

The Zen Circle also sits on Wednesdays, 7 to 9 p.m., at 210 Cedar Lane and is always open to beginners, newcomers and experienced meditators.

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B SECTION: A&E, S&R, WHAT'S ON

AGRI- culture!



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Stan Teitge with Jacob sheep at his Fulford-area farm.

Jacob sheep zoo creatures find a real farm

'Bombproof' breed lands on Salt Spring

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When the City of Vancouver's Parks Board confirmed plans to shut down the famed petting zoo at Stanley Park, a long-standing tradition for thousands of families came to a close.

And though residents' hue and cry over the closure persisted for months, fewer had more at stake than the menagerie of barnyard animals faced with eviction.

Things turned out fairly well for three of those creatures, who, after a sort of animal refugee process, found their way to Salt Spring earlier this month.

"I don't think they'd ever seen grass in their lives," said Stan Teitge, the proud owner of three Jacob sheep.

"It took them about three days to integrate with the flock."

Teitge's flock of fabled Jacobs now includes nine ewes and one very lucky ram, which roam on five acres of pasture off Hilltop Road on the island's south end.

"Now I think they are far better off," he said. "They seem quite happy to be here."



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

The breed's most characteristic feature is the two to six horns sported by both ewes and rams.

More than 100 applications from across the province were submitted by folks with the space and time to care for the petting zoo's animals.

The list of adoptable animals included horses, sheep, ducks, goats and just

about any other beast you'd expect to find on an average farm.

In spite of such an extensive list, Teitge had his heart set on the Jacobs from the very start.

"They're absolutely bombproof," he said.

Because the breed has survived without much assistance from human-guided breeding, the Jacob is considered a true heirloom species.

These "unimproved" breeds retain much of their wildness, patchy colour and shaggy appearance.

And, as if their rugged good looks weren't enough, the breed's extensive history sealed the deal.

Mature rams can weigh between 54 and 82 kilograms (120 to 180 pounds), while ewes weigh about 36 to 54 kilograms (80 to 120 pounds).

The breed's most characteristic feature is the two to six horns sported by both ewes and rams.

Vertical "side horns" on rams can reach up to two feet in length.

Although its exact origins are uncertain, the Jacob is believed to have descended from an old-world breed of sheep originating in the Middle East.

Trade and conquest extended the breed's range across North Africa and into Europe and, by the mid-16th century, the animals are rumoured to have literally washed onto the shores of England.

According to legend, the animals were among some of the few survivors of the Spanish Armada that sank off the English coast.

The animals had become popular features in North American zoos by the early 20th century.

"I don't think they'd ever seen grass in their lives."

STAN TEITGE,
Owner of 10 Jacob sheep

Despite the breed's uncanny ability to survive in virtually any conditions, including the confines of Stanley Park's petting zoo, there are fewer than 5,000 such animals registered in the world.

Though many Jacobs are raised for their wool, meat and hides, a clause in Teitge's adoption contract prevents him from slaughtering the animals. That's not a problem given the breed's popularity as pets or ornamental animals.

As an added bonus, many Jacobs have proven themselves quite capable of holding their own when it comes to watching over other farm animals and guarding farm property against predators or trespassers.

"The ram is sneaky. He only knocks me over when my back is turned and I keep telling him I'm not the least interested in his ladies," Teitge said.

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE

'Raw milk fans better off drinking close to home'

Controversy from national topic

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A food movement sweeping the nation has not left local regions behind, as islanders watching farmers fight for their right to distribute unpasteurized milk ponder taking up the milking stool.

With its long farming history, a community abattoir in the works and a strong movement toward localism and self resilience, Salt Spring seems the ideal place to satisfy fans of raw milk.

In his award-winning memoir *Trauma Farm*, island writer Brian Brett describes unpasteurized, or "wild" milk in seductively glowing terms. Living on Texada Island as a young man Brett openly bought it by the bottle from a local farm. Later on he milked his own Hereford-Jersey cross, Betty, on Salt Spring.

But strict policies meant to protect the public from bacteria such as bovine tuberculosis (which can cross to humans), and the even scarier brucellosis, have meant unless people keep their own dairy cows, raw milk has become hard to find.

"With Betty long gone, I have to search out raw milk," Brett writes in *Trauma Farm*, "— a secretive endeavour for most old-style islanders Underground milk has become like the drug world, a kingdom of whispers, politics and draconian policing."

That secret world has become more visible in recent months with several high-profile court cases. Raw milk activist Michael Schmidt was acquitted on charges of distributing raw milk and its products from his Ontario farm last month because he was serving the members of a cow-share cooperative and not the general public.

Schmidt is now advising Fraser Valley farmer Alice Jongerden as she defends her right to have a cooperative, members-only milk program before the B.C. Supreme Court.

Jongerden and her mentor believe raw milk is not only safe to consume but is actually much healthier than the pasteurized version. They claim that along with potential pathogens, pasteurization kills off the beneficial elements that make milk digestible and nutritious, such as the protein lactoferrin and the natural antibiotic lysozyme.

With the risk of disease so prevalent, Bond said anyone who wants to drink raw milk would be best to buy their own cow.

"Raw milk is much less likely to make you sick than milk that's been processed," said Jan Steinman, a member of EcoReality cooperative farm on Salt Spring. He explained that carefully cared for, grass-fed animals produce milk that has a high percentage of Omega 3 fatty acids and outlasts milk that's been pasteurized.

EcoReality members living on the farm have already enjoyed the raw milk produced by their herd of goats and are now preparing to share those benefits with the community. Steinman explained that since the land is held cooperatively, the group is looking to add a separate class of investment shares just for the goats.

The group is watching the Jongerden case closely to see what the court decides.

But so far government bodies in Canada have been extremely opposed to anything that challenges health legislation. Evan Duggan, a journalist with *The Tyee* online, reported three agents wearing HAZMAT masks and gloves



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

A Moonstruck Cheese dairy cow eyes the camera.

appeared at a North Vancouver restaurant where a private raw milk exchange had space.

In fact, its proponents say one of the biggest obstacles to getting unpasteurized milk is government backing of big-business dairies.

"The worst legacy of pasteurization is that, like most initially plausible farming schemes, it's been captured by industrial production economies whose main purpose is to increase profit and reduce perishability . . . at the expense of quality," Brett observed.

Steinman elaborated, "Confinement dairies cannot safely produce raw milk, so they put those that can out of business."

"At confinement dairies the bottom line is not the safety of the milk, it's to crank out the most product and use antibiotics to take care of any problems that occur in the process." These, he said, include blood, pus and feces getting into the milk.

However, Salt Spring farmer and veterinarian Malcolm Bond believes raw milk producers are ignoring the real health dangers pasteurization has helped subdue while exaggerating raw milk benefits.

"Pasteurization occurs at a temperature of 160 degrees for roughly 10 seconds — it's a long way from boiling," he explained.

"The minerals are not going to disappear from the milk, the proteins are unaffected and amino acids are not destroyed even by boiling."

Although he grew up on a farm drinking raw milk, Bond believes that any amount of retail sales would open the doors to profitability taking precedence over safety. And as he's seen professionally, there can be serious consequences to that arrangement.

Bond graduated from veterinary school in 1969 and went

to work in a Fraser Valley practice. He worked with dairy animals for 25 years. Bond's first employer had been awarded the government contract to test every herd of cattle between Mission and the ocean for TB in the late 1940s — and found only two herds out of thousands were disease free.

"What that means is it could come back at any moment," Bond said, adding the only reason TB is not here now is aggressive testing and culling of every animal that has tested positive.

Even worse, Bond said, is the brucellosis bacteria, which can cause undulant disease in humans. Similar to malaria, its painful fevers can reoccur again and again in a person's lifetime. A classmate of Bond's was infected in 1970 and continues to suffer to this day.

With the risk of disease so prevalent, Bond said anyone who wants to drink raw milk would be best to buy their own cow.

"Do it on your own, then you can control it," he recommended. Family cows would still need to be tested annually for disease, and no new animals could be introduced without being tested and quarantined.

Steinman agreed with Bond that opening raw milk to retail sales could be problematic unless there was strong monitoring in place, although he noted that some of the United States allow raw milk sales in some form. Retail sales are allowed in 10 states, including Washington and California. Farm stand sales are legal in 15 states including Oregon.

"The key is to consume your own milk to ensure you have a safe product," Steinman said.

"People who have a family, who are milking dairy animals and sharing the excess, are not going to put their families at risk."

Anyone interested in joining the EcoReality co-op can contact jan@ecoreality.org.

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AGRICULTURE

SEEDY SATURDAY

Food security drives growing initiatives

Lots of enthusiasm at seedy weekend events

BY MARSHA GOLDBERG
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Seedy Saturday events were well attended. The pouring rain did not stop the enthusiasm of the hundreds of gardeners streaming through the doors of the Farmers' Institute this past weekend.

Many of you had lists in hand and you were met by the largest number of seed vendors ever, ready and willing to answer your questions. The largest volume of different varieties of organic heirloom seeds, seed potatoes and perennial onions, to name a few, plus the food and plant vendors, combined to create a fantastic atmosphere of hope for the future of our vibrant farm community.

This was a chance to find out how to nurture the soil with beneficial bacteria, support projects of community building in Africa, purchase books by local gardeners, exchange seeds, have your questions fielded by Master Gardeners, sign up for the Mentor Gardener group of Transition Salt Spring, enjoy the first nettle soup of the season — and let's not forget the homemade pickles and organic chocolate.


No event on Salt Spring is ever complete without some politics too.

Elizabeth May and the Green Party, Seeds of Diversity and our own local chapter of Island Natural Growers, were our hosts for this weekend.



Seedy Sunday was a call to action. A core group of volunteers from Let's Grow More Food sponsored the morning gathering of action groups, facilitated by Transition Salt Spring. The topics included community garden options; skills sharing; crop co-operatives; a skills/resources directory; Food Tree Project, which aims to deal with the fruit harvest; Garden Angels, which is a sign-up for work parties; and the Mentor Gardeners. These are ongoing projects that are posted on the Transition Salt Spring website at <http://transition-saltspring.ning.com>

If there is enough community support, Island Natural Growers will pursue the option of creating local allotment gardens for those would lack their own garden spaces where they live. Many attendees were looking to connect younger gardeners with those who have land to share. The Mentor Gardeners are a group of experienced food growers and professionals who are volunteering their services to help those starting out or need help with garden issues. The issue of food security is the motivating factor behind all of these local initiatives.

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LOCAL GROWING

On-island food security

'Heavy-lifting' required beyond the planning

BY LESLIE WALLACE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Cheap oil has made it possible for us to take cheap food for granted. Cheap food has meant imported food, and that cheap imported food has replaced much of what communities used to grow locally. Buying garlic from China, or any other imported food, because it's cheaper, leaves more money in my pocket for other things. But what else are we buying when we buy garlic from China?

With economists such as Jeff Rubin, author of *Why Your World is About to Get a Whole Lot Smaller*, predicting \$200 a barrel oil prices in 2012, sourcing food from China or other distant places is going to become prohibitively expensive.

There is also the issue of speculation in commodities markets. Investors are buying up huge amounts of food, on paper, in the form of commodities futures, and then selling them back into the market when the price goes up, thereby inflating the price of food. At the time of writing, the possibility of disruptions in oil production and delivery from Middle East producers loom large as "Arab democracy revolutions" shake that region.

What do these changes in the global food economy mean for Salt Spring? As an island community, we are more vulnerable



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Craig Seedhouse at a past Seed Sanctuary event.

FOOD SECURITY continued on B5

B SECTION: A&E, S&R, WHAT'S ON

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AGRICULTURE

It's time to 'get real' with issue

FOOD SECURITY

continued from B4

than mainland communities to changes that impact the price of food sourced from elsewhere. B.C. Ferries' promised 50 per cent price hike by the end of four years is just the beginning of what is to come.

According to University of Guelph professor Evan Fraser, author of *Empires of Food: Feast, Famine and the Rise and Fall of Civilizations*, the current modern global food economy fits the pattern that he says has historically led to the fall of civilizations. At the core of that pattern is dependency on the food supply and distribution network of an over-expanded food empire.

As someone in the food business who is also a member of Island Natural Growers and a new board member of the Salt Spring Seed Sanctuary, Craig Seedhouse, co-owner of Natureworks food store, has given a lot of thought to these issues. I asked Seedhouse what he sees as the obstacles and the opportunities for growing more food on Salt Spring.

On the upside, Seedhouse noted that the island is blessed with all the natural elements required for a dynamic, diverse and productive local food economy: moderate weather, plentiful sun and rain, good soil, hard-working local farmers who are committed to growing more food on the island. There are a lot of young people who come to the island from other places eager to work on farms and learn how to produce great food. Unfortunately, says Seedhouse, while farmers' needs for labour are partly being met by these young people, they aren't being taught the real skills

that would keep them in the community.

As a retirement/retreat community, he says, "We need to bring that passion to us."

"If we offered them an opportunity to learn real skills — learning how to produce their own food plus learning how to participate in the market in a way that supports their own sustainability," says Seedhouse, "they would be queuing up from here to the end of time."

If some organization on the island were to offer for example a three-year accredited program, then people who are attracted to come here would also stay longer. The present lack of affordable housing, including agricultural housing, contributes to the problem of attracting and keeping young people on the island.

"We should all be lobbying local governance on the housing issue, especially around housing for farm workers."

Seedhouse identified the Growing up Organic Farm Food Link local food distribution system, building a local abattoir and creative use of the 60 acres of agricultural land donated to the community by Three Point Motors as exciting local food initiatives that have the potential to increase local food production, strengthen the local food economy and add to our food security. Each of these projects, he says, presents an opportunity to attract community support in the form of investment that could help them realize their potential and inspire others to do more — because they will see there is a market for local produce. According to Seedhouse, investors will be attracted to projects with a good business plan that demonstrate how a local food

initiative can make money and contribute to local food security.

Seedhouse expressed concern about the great divide between how some islanders think of Salt Spring and actual conditions.

As a retirement/retreat community, there are a lot of people who live here part time "who don't really understand what the challenges are in this community. We need to plan in a way that engages the 90 per cent of people who live here who are mainly concerned about prices."

"We have to be prepared as a community to do the heavy lifting, says Seedhouse. "Are we as prepared to do that as we are to talk about things?"

Specifically, he said, we need to identify the obstacles to growing more food locally, make plans to remove or get around them. Seedhouse yearns for a different "wise elder" kind of leadership around this critical issue. Who will do the strategic thinking required? And who will put the plan into place?"


"We also need to share more, coordinate our efforts and plan in such a way that we can measure our progress."

"We believe that we are an agricultural community at our peril," says Seedhouse.

Right now, 96 per cent of what we eat comes from off-island. At any given time, there is only a three-day supply of food on the island.

"We need to be asking ourselves: How do we survive for 100 days? What basics do we need? Where do we store them? How do we distribute them? Who is in charge?"

Right now, says Seedhouse, "We're not planning. We're just reacting."



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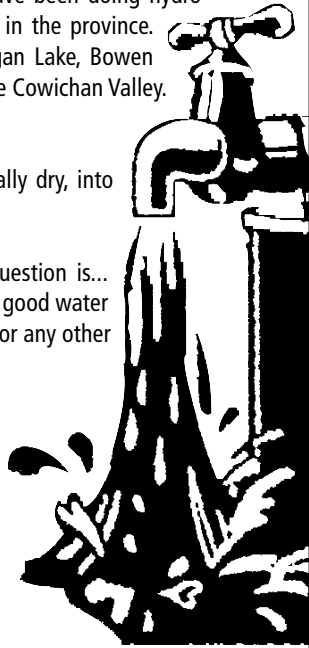
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FOOD STORAGE

Root cellar input sought

Anyone else interested in exploring below-ground project?

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders interested in creating root cellars at their homes or as a business venture are invited to submit their ideas to excavation contractor Ward Drummond.

As the owner of Canal Excavating and an importer of shipping containers, Drummond has a strong working relationship with the land and the machines that help shape it. Recently his thoughts have been turning to how his equipment might be used to help with food storage and security.

Drummond was born and grew up on Mayne Island. When he was a small child his mother bought the old Springwater Hotel, where he remembers his earliest work experience making toast for the guests. Eventually he graduated to more advanced cooking methods and serving.

At the Springwater, many foods were kept fresh in the cool basement. Years later, as an adult, Drummond lived in a couple of old farmhouses where a similar technique was employed.

"They always had a root cellar," Drummond said.

"Things kept very well in there — root crops, potatoes, cabbage kept better there than anywhere else."

In what he refers to as his hippy days, Drummond and his wife belonged to food co-ops where they purchased large sacks of rice, potatoes, onions and carrots. When they bought their own home they created a huge garden and planted fruit trees. Drummond was so committed to the venture he took his soil for testing with Agriculture Canada and kept beds with different PH levels for specific crops.

"I'd like to see our family get back on track food-wise because buying small quantities on a daily basis seems to make life fairly expensive, and I think it's part of getting back to eating good food."

Since moving to Salt Spring the family's gardening heyday has been left behind with the raised beds and the trees pruned to produce overflowing fruit. But Drummond said the shipping containers he's getting have made him reconsider bulk food storage.

"The more I read up on stuff the more it seems like a good idea to get your own food in order. I keep wondering, with our current population, how equipped for food shortages we are."

Drummond's idea for his home is to excavate an old-fashioned root cellar into a hillside. It would stand eight feet high and measure eight feet across and go 10 to 12 feet back. At a depth of five and a half feet, he said, the temperature is around 55 F or 13 C.

While in the past the cellar might have been lined with split logs, Drummond is considering constructing it with prefabricated forms or lining it with concrete blocks to be more rodent proof. He also plans to run a pipe into the cellar from a cool area and vent it out the top for air flow. Adjustable shelves drilled into the concrete could be used to store preserves.

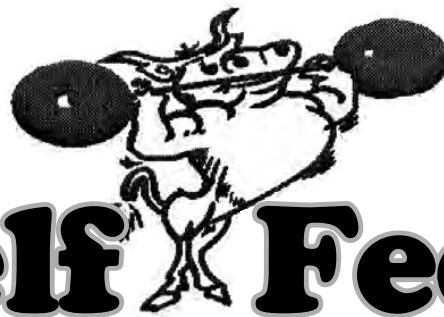
With plans for his own family's prototype in the works, Drummond is further wondering whether there could be a business venture out there for enterprising contractors. A specialized crew could employ some of the island's labourers and carpenters.

"I'm putting the idea out there to get some feedback," Drummond said. "Maybe there are some contractors out there who are interested in some concrete work."

Anyone who would like to share ideas on the plan can call Drummond's business line at 250-537-7195.

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AGRICULTURE

FOOD PRODUCTION

Food production projects set

From Hands on Lands to a Crop Co-operative

BY SHOSHANAH RAY WAXMAN
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Food self-reliance is a major focus of the Transition movement — a worldwide network of people who are taking their community's sustainability seriously.

In the face of climate change, peak oil and the myriad other pressing environmental challenges our lifestyle has caused, growing our own food is a powerful act towards healing both ourselves and our planet.

In this spirit, several exciting projects have been launched by Transition Salt Spring. We desire to make it easy for more people to become involved in growing their own food. If you wish to be a part of expanding Salt Spring's food self-reliance, have land or food to be shared, or the desire to grow more food yourself — please sign up one of these projects and Let's Grow!

Hands on Lands

The Hands on Lands project is a way to connect available growing space with those interested in growing food. Land arrangements can take many forms: from the friendship garden (a simple handshake and agreement to share the bounty between the grower and the land-owner), to a written agreement regarding rights of use, to a many-year lease. Both parties in a land-sharing arrangement are encouraged to be realistic in their goals, and to make the best possible effort at communication.

Other possibilities include cooperative gardens, where sev-

eral individuals or families garden together on a weekly basis, and crop co-operatives where a single crop is grown on a large scale by co-op members who share the labour and costs.

Transition Salt Spring is looking into creating a liability waiver for land-sharing on Salt Spring, and will assist in making the best possible matches between land and growers. If you have land you are willing to share, or are looking for land and/or people to garden with, email letsgrowaltspring@gmail.com.

Allotment Gardens

Island Natural Growers has started a dialogue with PARC about creating an allotment garden in the Ganges area. If sufficient interest is found, the project can move forward.

If you are interested in leasing a plot of land to grow your own vegetables or to find out more, please email Anne Macey at annemacey@shaw.ca.

Crop Co-operative

If you don't have the space or desire to grow your own bulk foods, you can join a crop co-operative and share both the time and cost amongst a few other people. The work is simple and fun, and the rewards are your share of the crop — whether it's potato, squash, beans, grain, or other crop that is easy to grow with minimal care.

To join a crop co-operative, or to offer crop growing space, email letsgrowaltspring@gmail.com.

Garden Angels

Put yourself on an on-call help

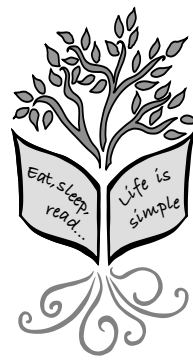
list for your neighbours and create a network of people who are willing to lend each other a hand. Join the Garden Angel group on www.transitionsaltspring.ning.com/group/gardenangel and let the community know that you may be available to help out in times of need. Learn while you work, make new friends, enjoy getting a job done efficiently and have fun! Angels may be called on for assistance in any project that requires many hands. When emergency strikes, who ya gonna call? Garden Angels!

Food Tree Project

The Food Tree Project will connect people who have trees with an excess of fruit or nuts and those that would like to harvest and distribute this food. It works like this: the land/tree owner would allow pickers on their land to harvest the food. The harvest is divided into thirds: one third to the owner, one to the pickers and one to either the food bank or other organization that could utilize the fruit to feed those who are hungry. As this project grows and takes a solid shape, the opportunity exists for harvesters to be involved in maintaining the health of the orchard: pruning, mulching and even planting more varied types of food.

Another major goal of this project is to increase the knowledge base of those interested in woody plant propagation, pruning and food storage. Over the course of this project there will be workshops teaching how to graft, prune, store and preserve.

If you have trees to pick or want to harvest, contact Molly Murphy at mollsmurphy@gmail.com



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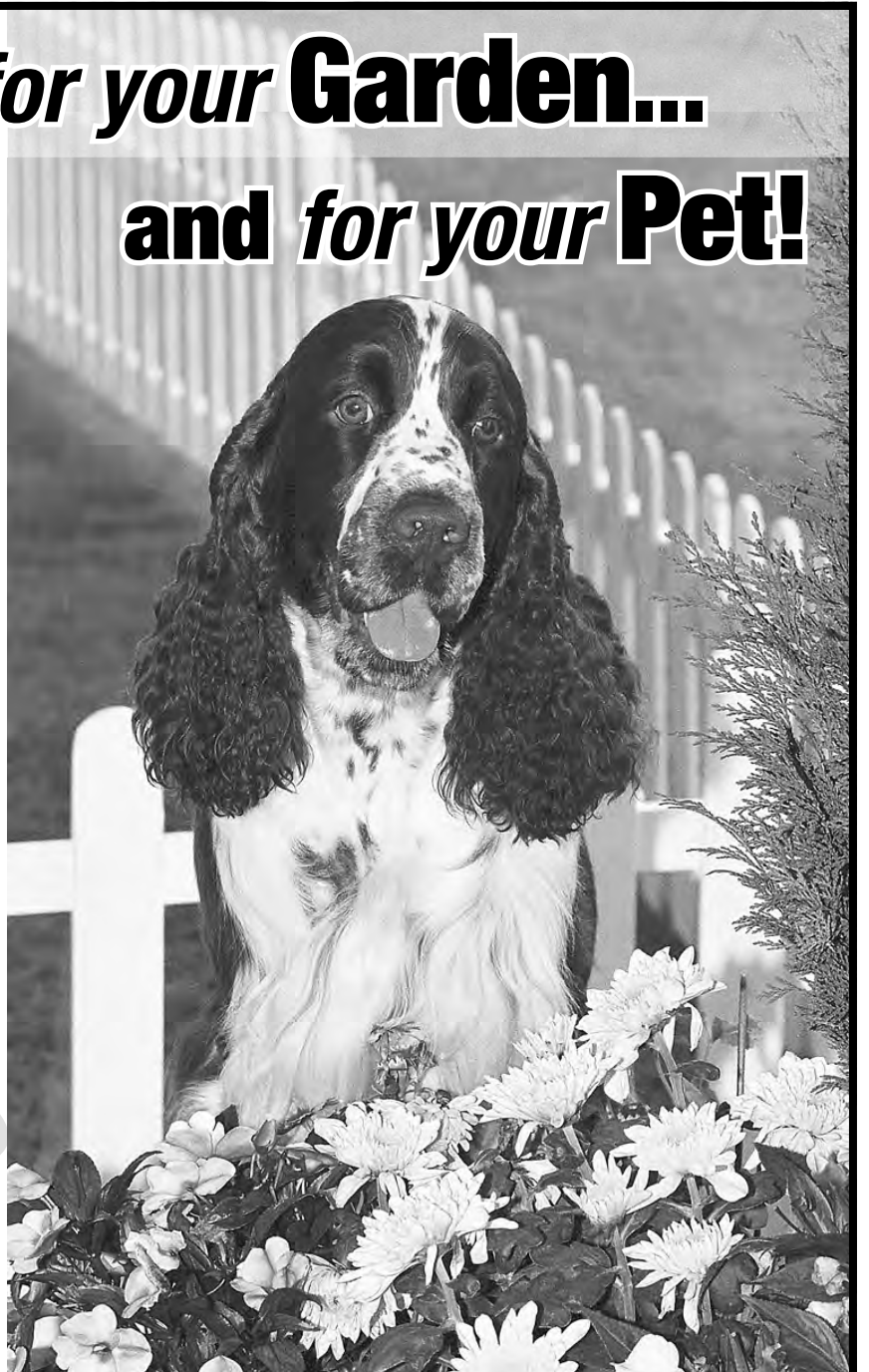
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SALT SPRING EGG STANDS

The not-quite-definitive list for spring 2011

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1. Sunset Farm Egg Stand
Sandy Robley
1325 Sunset Drive
250-537-2082

FROM CENTRAL TO VESUVIUS

2. Monica & Thomas Brainerd
135 Broadwell Rd.
250-538-0231

3. Eggs & Produce in 400-block Vesuvius Bay Rd.

FROM CENTRAL NORTH

4. Bon Acres Farm
300 LePage Rd.

5. North End Farm
2521 North End Rd.

6. Ragged Azz Ranch
370 Stark Rd.

FERNWOOD/WALKER HOOK

7. Nancy Wigen
324 Fernwood Rd.
250-537-1041
(Call for availability)

8. Kelly Bruce
160 Fort St.

9. Donna Martin
700 Walker Hook Rd.
Call first at
250-537-5340

10. Dave Phillips
147 Main St.
250-537-5375

NEAR GANGES

11. Kings Lane Medical Clinic (Ragged Azz Ranch eggs)
164 Kings Lane

12. Salt Spring Natureworks
116 Lower Ganges Rd.

13. Foxglove Farm & Garden Supply
Atkins & Lower Ganges Rds.

14. Roadside stand at 581 Rainbow Rd.

15. Between the Covers B&B
160 Sharp Rd.

BETWEEN GANGES & FULFORD

16. Hillis Family
605 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

17. Night Owl Farm
2100 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
250-653-9147

18. Irina Floercke
221 Armand Way
250-653-0077

19. Bradley's Farm Fresh Eggs
185 Kitchen Rd.
250-653-9910

20. Jay-West Farm
143 Kitchen Rd.

21. Paula & Loretta Minvielle
110 Kitchen Rd.
250-653-4301

22. Eco-Reality
2160 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

23. Farias Family
2450 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

24. Roadside Stand at 2640 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

25. Roadside Stand at 2800 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

BEDDIS ROAD

26. The Ogis family
736 Beddis Rd.

27. Moonstruck Organic Cheese
1306 Beddis Rd.

BEAVER POINT

28. Ruckle Farm
1801 Beaver Point Rd.

29. Roadside Stand at 1121 Beaver Point Rd.

30. Stowell Lake Farm
190 Reynolds Rd.
250-653-4032

31. Salt Spring Cheese
285 Reynolds Rd.
250-653-2300

SOUTHWEST CORNER

32. Ateahs
114 Isabella Point Rd.

33. Windsor Farm
210 Hamilton-Horne Way
250-653-0080



While we know this is not all of the places to get Salt Spring eggs on the island, it's the compilation created by Driftwood staff from submitted information, phone calls and observation. If you know of other stands not included here, let us know so they can be included on updated versions.

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Arts & Entertainment

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CONCERTS

Island singer-songwriter drops by on Canadian tour

Mae Moore at ArtSpring
March 5

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Pender Island-based performer Mae Moore will be at ArtSpring next week before heading off across Canada in support of her new album, *Folklore*.

Despite living nearby, it's a rare treat to hear the Juno-nominated roots artist, whose last album was *Oh My!*, a joint project with husband Lester Quitzau, released in 2004.

A committed organic farmer for most of the year, Moore schedules her tour dates around the growing season and typically adds just a few appearances at folk festivals during the summer months.

"It feels really good to have taken a break and it feels really good to be coming back to music," Moore said during a recent telephone interview.

Salt Spring on Saturday, March 5 will be Moore's last concert on the coast before she gets on a train to tour Canada — a mode of travel she prefers as an environmentalist, and also for the psychological ease of approaching an entirely new place.

"The slow tour is a bit like the slow food movement," Moore said, describing her ability to savour the communities she visits.

"It's really important for me to lessen my environmental footprint as much as possible — but I might have to go back on a plane with the new album."

Moore's early influences of Gordon Lightfoot, Neil Young and Joni Mitchell provided the inspiration to find her own voice. Growing up in a musical household with a father who was a professional jazz trumpet player, she bought her first guitar in high school



Mae Moore in her studio on Pender.

and taught herself to play through listening to the radio.

"Being a teenager and finding it very hard to express myself, songwriting really opened that door for me," she explained.

In her long musical career since then (Moore is now 54), she has continued to evolve and build on that early gift.

Moore's favourite musicians of the current day include independent Canadians artists like Basia Bulat, Rosie Cousins, Dan Mangan and Ray LaMontagne. And although she memorably burst onto the scene by writing a song that appeared in the hit movie *Top Gun*, her down-home Cana-

dian roots have remained as Moore's core strength throughout the decades.

Folklore, Moore's newest album, in particular is devoted to the Canadian experience, with songs like Tom Thomson's *Mandolin*. (The Group of Seven painter was a less well-known, but still accomplished, musician.)

The diverse nature of creativity is something Moore understands well. Herself a painter and a photographer, she released a new book of her work last November. The book includes a digital download card of Moore's music. But storytelling and narrative are equally important.

"Being a teenager and finding it very hard to express myself, songwriting really opened that door for me."

MAE MOORE
Singer/Songwriter

"I've always considered myself a folk musician, and the thing I love about folk music is the lyrics," Moore said.

Her inspiration comes from the myriad details of life as they occur around her. Everything from the natural environment to visual art to a conversation overheard in a cafe can spark a song.

Moore gets support from fellow musicians Bill Hicks (drums), Marc Atkinson (guitars), Dan Lapp (flumpet) and Scott Sheerin (soprano sax), as well as Joby Baker (drums) and Rick May (bass) who will accompany her at ArtSpring. Baker, who produced Alex Cuba's Grammy-nominated album, also produced *Folklore*.

Longtime fans of Moore will look forward to her soulful performance style, and will also be treated to a couple of surprises, such as hearing her play dulcimer on some songs.

But mostly, Moore said, the audience "should expect that they'll come away feeling really good and really energized, and maybe get some insight into some aspects of Canada they didn't know before."

Tickets to the show are \$23 in advance and \$25 at the door, available at the ArtSpring Ticket Centre.

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NIGHT LIFE

Toronto band plays Moby's gig Saturday

Jessica Stuart Few on busy west coast tour

After a successful fall tour through the Maritimes, Toronto-native Jessica Stuart is adding a few more miles to her Canadian concert tour with west coast shows that include Moby's pub on Saturday, Feb. 26.

The Jessica Stuart Few band is touring on the strength of its debut CD called *Kid Dream*, with a second album — *Two Sides to Every Story* — in the works.

A uniquely gifted singer, songwriter and guitarist, Stuart cites Stereolab, Led Zepelin, Stevie Wonder and Joni Mitchell as influences.

"That pretty much covers the entire spectrum of music genres, which epitomizes Stuart's vast range of talent," states press material.

The inspiration for *Kid Dream* is in part a result of the cultural influences from Stuart's international travel time spent in Japan, Israel and Australia.

The album's title track features Stuart performing on the

koto, a rare Japanese instrument she expertly utilizes in the reggae-inspired fantasy song.

The Jessica Stuart Few is also playing at the Chutzpah! festival in Vancouver.

"Additionally, industry critics are taking note of the band's newly released 2011 title-track music video from *Kid Dream*, which is the culmination of the band's creative spirit, carefree expressive appeal and dedication to their craft."

It's based on a highly collaborative technique called

Lunamation, which is a form of "rotoscope animation," using individual carbon tracings of video stills.

Under the guidance of Stuart and animator/director Evan deRushie, more than 100 animators participated in a number of "animation parties," at which most of the over 2,700 individual drawings used in the video were created.

The music starts at about 8 p.m. at Moby's.

For more information on the band, see www.jessicastuartmusic.com.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

TAKING SHAPE: Elaine Brewer-White leads a workshop on sculpting humans and animals at ArtSpring on the weekend. The event was organized by the Salt Spring Potters Guild.

M&M

QuintEssential set to rouse recital crowd

Jazz, swing, American songbook selections on tap

Producers of Music and Munch are excited to present the jazz quintet QuintEssential at the next lunchtime concert on Wednesday, March 2.

Founded by members of Salt Spring Island's Swing Shift big band in 2008, they have become well known on the Gulf Islands at various venues where their music has accompanied dining and thrilled patrons who love to dance or simply listen.

Salt Spring jazz fans will know them from the Tree House Cafe, the annual jazz festival and Moby's pub, most recently the Valentine Jazz Brunch held at the pub this month.

This is the group's first performance at Music and Munch, where they are anticipating a lively, toe-tapping audience ready to enjoy music from the swing era, the American songbook of the 20th century, some more recent compositions and a flavour of Latin to boot.

Band members are Randy Marchi on trumpet, flugelhorn and vocals; Karen Arney at the piano; Dave Milutinovic on drums; Donna Vanderweken, bass; and John Moore, saxophones, flute and vocals.

Infused with a passion for music, their lives are not only expressed through their playing, but they are also quintessentially Salt Spring in that they wear several hats in the community, are busy in business, retired from a full-time profession or volunteering.

Free music with QuintEssential jazz quintet begins at 12:10 p.m. in All Saints church, followed by a delicious, optional lunch for which tickets must be purchased before the performance.

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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 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.

VISUAL ART

Salt Spring life celebrated by school kids in Spirit Fest show

Banners on display

Elementary school students' vibrant, bright and rhythmic vision of motion will be the subject of an art show called Motion this weekend at Mahon Hall.

A series of collaboratively made banners, which draws on the imagination of some 300 of Salt Spring's youngest students, was created under the direction of Maureen Proctor.

The exhibit opens Friday, Feb. 25, with refreshments and entertainment from 5 to 7 p.m. The show can also be viewed on Feb. 26 and 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

After the show is over, the banners will be hung around Ganges "in celebration of our artistic young people," notes press material.

"This project reflects the ideas of the students of Salt Spring Island's elementary schools — how they view motion in their imaginative world," the press release states.

"From a billowy cloud, to the eagle on high, to the ocean deep, students from kindergarten to Grade 5 created a series of acrylic-painted outdoor banners reflecting movement. Using vibrant bright colours and rhythmic line and form, students have expressed their interest, wonder and joy of life on the island."

This project was funded through a Spirit Festival grant received from the Assembly of B.C. Arts Councils and through the support of the Salt Spring Arts Council.

Spirit of Salt Spring



Linda Burgess' Grades 2-3 class at Fulford Elementary School gathers for a photo after giving Leanne Brusatore, new manager of the Salt Spring branch of the BCSPCA, a cheque for \$100. Funds were earned through the Driftwood's Christmas story-writing contest and the class chose the SPCA to be the beneficiary.

The Spirit of Salt Spring is a regular feature in the Driftwood for local businesses and organizations to publicize charitable donations.

First-come, first-served basis as space permits.

Call Peter for details.

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What's On This Week

www.gulfislandstourism.com/calendar.htm



Wed. February 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

ACTIVITIES

Riparian Areas Regulation Update & Public Forums.
Islands Trust-held public forum at Lions Hall. 3:30 to 7 p.m. Qualified environmental professional Michelle Jones will speak at 5 p.m.
3rd Annual Scrabble Fundraiser.
Games at Falconshead Grill, 6 p.m. Info: 250-653-9406.

Thurs. February 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

ACTIVITIES

Transition Salt Spring Potluck.
Community potluck to explore the sharing of skills, tools, time on a neighbourhood level. Beaver Point Hall. 5 to 8:30 p.m.
SSI Weavers and Spinners Guild.
Designing Women: Karen Selk with many samples of elegant garments. ArtSpring. 10:30 a.m. All welcome.
3rd Annual Scrabble Fundraiser.
Games at Salt Spring Inn, 2 p.m.
Riparian Areas Regulation Update & Public Forums.
Islands Trust-held public forum at Fulford Hall. 3:30 to 7 p.m. Qualified environmental professional Michelle Jones will speak at 5 p.m.
Green Drinks.
Harbour House Hotel, 5 to 8 p.m.

Fri. February 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Departure.
Vancouver Island jazz group performs at All Saints. 8 p.m.

Lane 31.
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Sweetwater & Co. Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Spirit Festival Children's Art Show.
Opening of youth art show called Motion at Mahon Hall, with music and refreshments. 5 to 7 p.m.
Library StoryTime: February Finale.
Margaretha brings lots of stories and fun. For children in early grades and pre-schoolers. 1 p.m. at the library.
Taize Service.
Sung prayer and silent meditation at the SS United Church. 2 p.m.
3rd Annual Scrabble Fundraiser.
Games at Salt Spring Inn, 6 p.m.
Rollerblading.
Fridays at Fulford Hall. 7:30 to 9 p.m.
Tango Practica.
Core Inn. 8 to 10 p.m.

Sat. February 26

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Jessica Stuart Few.
Toronto band at Moby's.
Randy & Karen.
Live music from jazz to oldies at Raven Street. 6 p.m.

Lloyd English and Ian Van Wyck.
Jazz at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Iphigenie en Tauride.
Live Met Opera broadcast at ArtSpring. 10 a.m.
Julia Beattie. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Climate Action Plan.
Open houses on the draft plan. At Fulford Hall from 10 a.m. to noon and ArtSpring from 2 to 4 p.m.
David Suzuki.
Discussion and screening of the Forces of Nature at Fulford. SOLD OUT.
Canadian Federation of University Women.
Guest speaker is author Margriet Ruurs on the topic of Write Books, Will Travel. Harbour House Hotel. 10 a.m.

Sun. February 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Sue Newman & Peter Taschuk.
Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Zen Circle.
Half-day retreat at Ango Retreat. 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: Simon Rompre 250-537-1721

Mon. February 28

ACTIVITIES

Elizabeth May Potluck.
SSI United Church basement. 6 p.m. Info: Jan, 250-537-5251.
Salt Spring Community & Economic Development Commission.
School board meeting room. 4 to 6 p.m.

Tues. March 1

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Literacy Employment Focus Group.
For the unemployed and underemployed. At Community Services' outreach centre. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Wed. March 2

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

QuintEssential.
Salt Spring jazz quintet performs for Music & Munch. Free recital at All Saints at 12:10 p.m.
Open Stage.
Wednesdays with Stephanie Rhodes at Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Literacy Employment Focus Group.
For the self-employed and employers. Fulford Hall OAP room. 5 to 6:30 p.m.

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CINEMA

The King's Speech. Held over! Nominated for 12 academy awards. Critics and audiences alike are falling in love with this superb crowd-pleasing film based on the true story of King George VI of England and how he overcame a debilitating speech impediment to inspire a nation. Stars Colin Firth with a masterful Oscar worthy performance.

EXHIBITIONS

- Motion** — a children's art show of beautiful banners created by students from Salt Spring Centre, Fernwood, Fulford and Salt Spring Elementary schools. Opens at Mahon Hall on Friday, Feb. 25, 5 to 7 p.m., and Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 26-27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 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.
- The Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art** is showing the work of 14 local Salt Spring artists, including paintings, sculpture, glasswork, jewellery, pottery, and photography. Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 135 McPhillips Ave.
- 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**.

12th Annual Salt Spring Film Festival

Thursday, March 4th to Sunday, March 6th
www.saltspringfilmfestival.com

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LITERARY EVENT

A glimpse into diverse realities

"Writers Unwrapped" readings set for March 3 at B&B

Literature lovers of all persuasions are invited to Writers Unwrapped, an evening of prose and poetry featuring two touring authors from Ottawa and sponsored by Gays and Lesbians of Salt Spring Island.

The event takes place Thursday, March 3, 7:30 p.m., at Birdsong Bed & Breakfast, 153 Rourke Rd.

Acclaimed novelist Gabriella Goliger will read from her new work, *Girl Unwrapped*,



BLAINE MARCHLAND

a coming-of-age story set in 1950s and '60s Montreal.

It's about a young woman caught between her Holocaust-scarred parents' desperate need for family regeneration



GABRIELLA GOLIGER

and her own awakening to taboo desires.

Praised by reviewers in both the mainstream and gay press, the novel tells of forbidden love, isolation and the search for personal truth despite the

stranglehold of family history.

Goliger's first book, *Song of Ascent*, won the 2001 Upper Canada Writer's Craft Award. She was co-winner of the 1997 Journey Prize for short fiction and won the Prism International award in 1993.

Joining Goliger on her west coast tour is Ottawa poet Blaine Marchand, author of six books of poetry, a young adult novel and a work of non-fiction.

His two recent collections are *Aperture* (poems, photos and prose on Afghanistan) and *A Craving of Knives*, which explores male desire and identity.

Both books were short-listed for the prestigious Archibald Lampman Poetry Award.

Marchand has just returned from a two-year posting as an aid worker in Pakistan and has also travelled extensively in Afghanistan.

Questions and answers and informal discussion will follow the readings.

Organizer Gordon Handford expects a stimulating evening sure to appeal to a wide audience.

For more information, phone Handford at 250-653-0038, or email agordonhandford@gmail.com.



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FILM FEST

Film festival has hives of excellent movies set to run

Beekeeper reviews

Queen of the Sun

BY DEB MCGOVERN
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

The plight of the honeybee has become a repeated refrain in global media over the last couple of years. Almost everyone seems to have heard of the mysterious and calamitous colony collapse disorder in which commercial beekeepers have lost entire hives of thousands of bees without a trace or obvious cause.

As a hobby beekeeper here on Salt Spring, I am learning to cope with various known pests and diseases that attack my hives, but am watching nervously these new threats to "my girls." Like most hobbyists I was drawn to beekeeping by fascina-

tion for their amazing abilities to pollinate my orchard and put honey on my toast. Little did I understand initially how key all species of bees (as well as many other less-loved insects such as wasps) are to the pollination and perpetuation of so many food crops around the world. Without them, many vital food crops could fail entirely. I wish that there had been a film like *Queen of the Sun*, which is part of this year's Salt Spring Film Festival, when I started my beekeeping adventures.

This documentary is an engaging, far-reaching and thought-provoking overview of the fascinating and often quirky world of bees and beekeepers. It is beautifully filmed and thoughtfully scripted if at times a bit scattered in focus, perhaps due to the breadth of

topic covered. The eccentric and artistic types who speak passionately on behalf of the beleaguered bees and some neat animation counterbalance the sobering interviews with expert scientists, biologists and ecologists. It does an excellent job of summarizing the millennia-long associations of bees with human history, culture and even spirituality.

The main focus of the documentary is the potentially disastrous effect on bees and the entire eco-system upon which they and humanity rely, from habitat destruction and industrial farming methods. If we want to know what's killing the bees we need look no further than monocultures, pesticides and bioengineering. It is scary to learn, for instance, that three-quarters of the honeybees in the

USA are trucked to California each February to pollinate the endless acres of almond trees. They have to be fed high-fructose corn syrup, as there is so little natural forage in this monoculture desert.

Perhaps the fact that so many bees have started to die is not so much of a mystery after all. The story of the bees ("the legs of plants") exemplifies the interconnectedness and fragility of the natural systems upon which we all rely. As *Queen of the Sun* ably informs the viewer, the recent catastrophic losses of bees could translate into an equally huge impact on humanity unless we change our ways of farming. Look for this documentary at the festival on March 5 at Gulf Islands Secondary School, Room 210 at 12:30 p.m. and on March 6 in Room 210 at 4 p.m.

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- 2. Connect With Nature.** Nature is an amazing healer for the stresses and strains of modern life. Talk a walk, have lunch in the park or just stare at the sky.
- 3. Laugh.** E. E. Cummings once said "the most wasted of all days is one without laughter." How very true. Never be too busy to laugh, or too serious to smile. Instead, surround yourself with fun people and don't get caught up in your own sense of importance.
- 4. Have Simple Pleasures.** Enjoying a good cup of coffee, noticing how happy your dog is to be taken for a walk, talking to a friend on the phone. It's that simple.
- 5. Connect With People.** Make eye contact, smile and be aware of others in your daily life.
- 6. Learn.**
- 7. Rethink Your Mornings and Evenings.** Take a walk before work, or after dinner, instead of watching the television as much as you normally might. In other words, rush less to experience more.
- 8. Celebrate Your Successes.** No matter how small they might seem (got to work on time, recycled your litter, gave another car the right of way) then share the experience with someone else.

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Sports & Recreation

What went wrong with Salt Spring Coffee? Watch the video retrospective from the other "George" www.islandgov.org

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PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

CLEAT LEAP: Joss Krayenhoff — Salt Spring FC's lone goal-scorer — leaps over a Cowichan player at Portlock Park as the home team ties its opponents 1-1.



LACROSSE Locals top of pack

Regional lacrosse winners head to provincials

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Two Salt Spring boys are prepping for the provincial championships in field lacrosse after their team took the Vancouver Island title earlier this month.

Patrick and Connor Little, ages 11 and nine, are part of the U12 team Mid Island Lightning out of Duncan. They travel three to five days a week to play their preferred sport, which is not available on their home island.

The boys' father Andrew Little reported the island's championship match occurred during a terrible storm on the evening of Saturday, Feb. 12.

"Fifteen parents were crouched under a canopy during 60-km winds," he said.

Of the young players in the game, one boy actually had to stop because his hands were too cold to open.

Coach Dan Cleemoff said that even with the torrential downpour and high winds, and a couple of regulars out from sickness and injuries, the players prevailed over their Ocean-side opponents with the strategy of focussing on each quarter.

"We succeeded in winning each quarter [and] we ended up winning 10-5," Cleemoff wrote in an email to the Driftwood.

"An excellent team game was played — I am thinking the team has peaked in time for the provincials," he said.

"We accomplished our goal of going to the provincials as number one on the island. We are very excited for the provincials and are doing our last-minute tweaking so we can compete with the mainland teams."

Little will accompany his sons to Burnaby to the provincial championships this weekend with games starting Friday, Feb. 25 at the Burnaby Lake Sports Complex.

Gulf Islands secondary school basketball

upcoming schedule of events

- Feb 17/18/19 - Senior Boys away to South Islands
- Feb 17/18/19 - Senior Girls away to Islands
- Feb 17/18/19 - Junior Girls away to Islands

full schedule: www.gulfislandssecondary.ca/homeschedule.html



Meet four great GISS Junior Boys: when not flying down court to drive or leaping over the tallest opponents for a rebound or shot, acrobatic **Billy George** loves to bury the perimeter shot. Top notch playmaker, ball handler and shooter, **Tai Levitt**, moves between guard and forward position where he also loves to knock down the three pointer. **Sam Montalbetti**, soccer player par excellence, is fairly new to the game and has proved his athletic skill with tough, down in the paint play and rebounding. **Burak Kazancioglu** comes to us from Turkey and plays an energetic, driving game that keeps the team energy high. Pictured above, from right to left: #11 Billy, #3 Tai, #10 Sam, and #6 Burak.

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The Hornets' sting: Aquilini thinks NBA

If there ever was a perfect time to bring the NBA back to Vancouver — the time is now.



Patrick Cwiklinski

LET'S TALK SPORTS

Canucks Sports and Entertainment chairman Francesco Aquilini is reported to have interest in relocating an NBA franchise for a Vancouver redux. Aquilini, whose family owns the NHL's Canucks, is said to be targeting the struggling New Orleans Hornets franchise that is currently league-owned and in search of a new owner.

In an interview with ESPN earlier this week, NBA commissioner David Stern confirmed that one of the cities to have approached the league about the Hornets was Vancouver and although plans for acquiring the franchise have yet to be put in motion — the prospect is quite promising.

Of course, skeptics will choose to recall the failure of the NBA in Vancouver that was the Grizzlies. Six pain-

ful seasons in the basement of the league with zero playoff appearances and the Grizzlies were sent packing for Memphis just as quickly as they'd arrived.

Times are different now. Aquilini, who was already rumoured to have interest in the NBA's Indiana Pacers and Portland Trail Blazers, is a man who knows how to sell a product. And while you could look at the rich history of the Canucks to finger-point and say that has been the key to their success — Aquilini has upped that success to another level.

The Grizzlies were a poorly managed and dimly organized team in a league that didn't even want them to begin with. American-born players didn't want to be relegated to Canada (Steve Francis, I'm talking to you) to play out their careers in a city which knew next to nothing about basketball.

However, the tables have now turned. Vancouver has become one of North America's most desirable cities to live in and the NBA's popularity has grown tenfold since the Grizzlies left in 2001. Regular television broadcasts as well as the success of exhibition games at Rogers Arena (featuring Victoria native Steve Nash and his Phoenix Suns) have all added to the positive exposure the game is receiving in B.C. these days.

And then there's the dollar. One of the biggest reasons the Grizzlies flopped in Vancouver was because the city could simply not afford to create the team they wanted because of the state of the Canadian dollar. With the dollar in the best shape it's been in years, Aquilini would be hard-pressed to find a better time to jump on the NBA wagon than now.

Perhaps the only obstacle standing in Aquilini's way is his other, more prized asset — the Canucks. While basketball and hockey fans are cut from a different cloth, the sheer amount of support behind the Canucks could lead to yet another NBA franchise explosion in Vancouver. This is a city that is in a deep love affair with their hockey team and even if you've never followed them or watched a game of theirs in your life, you know — this is Canucks country.

Adding a basketball team into the mix at this time with an owner like Aquilini might seem like a great idea on paper, but with the way the Canucks are treated like royalty in Vancouver even a team with Kobe Bryant and LeBron James would play second fiddle and I know that's not what the NBA wants.

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SOCCER

United nabs win

First game in Sherwood Cup play

Salt Spring United found a suitably beautiful outcome when they played the first round of the Stephanie Shergold Cup on a gorgeous day for soccer on Sunday.

Matched against the Juan de Fuca Div 3. team, United's Div. 2 women came out on fire. Sue-Anne Donaldson scored the first goal on a break-away, calmly putting it through the keeper's legs. Not long after that, Donaldson received a through ball from Rhea Davidson to get another goal and put United up 2-0.

"We were starting to feel really confident on the ball and were passing it around nicely between our whole lineup," Donaldson said after the game. "There were a lot of nice 'give and go's' being played with our midfielders and strikers."

Before the half, Donaldson received a header from Joelle Morrison and hit the back of the net to cap off the hat-trick, bringing Salt Spring to the half with a deserved 3-0 lead.

"The second half was more of the same. I think our quality of play was just a step or two above Juan de Fuca on this day," Donaldson said.

United went up 4-0 on a well-taken strike from Liz Wilson, but Juan de Fuca managed to pull one back on a shot that keeper Tami Benoit couldn't do much about. United composed themselves well, however, and soon after Lorna Walde passed a great through ball to Davidson who fought hard to put the ball away and restore the team's four-goal cushion.

Juan de Fuca got another point on a well-taken free kick just outside the box that Benoit again had no chance of stopping, bringing the final score to 5-2 for United.

"Tami had another stellar game in net. Our entire defence had a solid game, they shut down JDF," Donaldson summed up.

"It was great to have Lorna Walde back in the midfield after her vacation. It was a great passing game for United."

The cup's second round match puts United against the Cordova Bay Cascades this Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at GISS. The players invite sports fans to come out and cheer for some great soccer action.



PHOTO BY DEVIN MILNER

Players fight for the ball during a U18 boys' soccer game at Portlock Park on Sunday. Salt Spring won the game 4-0.

SOCCER KICKS

U18s win, but goalie injured in collision

On Sunday afternoon at Portlock Park, Salt Spring's under 18 boys team dominated the Peninsula Braves with their speed and ball handling.

According to one game observer, the play by Mackenzie Pearson and leftwinger Russell Minvielle was exceptional and helped drive the offence. Pearson's goal on a break-away early in the first half proved to be the game winner.

The game took on a serious tone late in the first half when Salt Spring goaltender Byron Mussell was in a collision with a striker from Peninsula. Mussell was on the field for approximately 20 minutes before being transported to hospital by ambulance. His injury obviously had an emotional impact on both teams and neither side had the same drive that they both showed before the incident.

The final score was 4-0 Salt Spring.

SAILING

Exciting spinnaker reach ends Walker Rock Race

Wind appears just in time

BY MARTIN HERBERT
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Cold temperatures and almost no wind did not deter the small but enthusiastic fleet that assembled for the 17.5-nautical-mile Walker Rock Race on Sunday.

The start was delayed by half an hour as wind was seen filling in from the Channel Islands. And fill in it did, beautifully, with growing strength as steady as Walker Rock itself. The start line was perfectly square to the wind, offering no advantage to either end and, as a result, boats were off to a clear and close start.

The building wind was to the liking of the bigger boats, and Ole Andersen in Caliente and Bob Jones in Oasis moved to the front of the pack in the short-tacking phase out to Welbury Spar. At the spar buoy, all sails were eased for a fast reach into Captain Passage. Eric Van Soeren in Paramour and my Kay D were side by side for this stretch, and it was very exciting as first one boat then the other worked ahead.

Once through the passage and into Trincomali Channel, spinnakers were set and the tactical long phase of the race began in earnest. Caliente had worked out a good lead and was favouring the Galiano side of the channel, and so too was Philip Grange in Yolanda, along with Oasis and Kay D. Paramour on the other hand stayed to the Salt Spring shore, as did Gyle Keating in Empezar.

Yolanda gybed back to the Salt Spring side when it became apparent that Paramour was moving well, but Oasis and Kay D stayed out, hoping

Once through the passage and into Trincomali Channel, spinnakers were set and the tactical long phase of the race began in earnest.

for a better wind angle later, as well as less tide current. These hopes were dashed as Van Soeren's better course and superior steering on this leg were the turning point of the race.

At Walker Rock, the fleet threaded the gap between the reefs and kelp and reached over to the next mark at Governor's Rock in building wind, followed by the long beat back to Captain Passage. Oasis and Kay D played the Salt Spring side and made back some of their lost ground.

There followed a very exciting spinnaker reach for all boats from Welbury spar to the Sisters, with spray flying and boats surfing down the backs of waves.

Caliente took line honours with elapsed time of three hours, 38 minutes and 55 five seconds. The fleet was widely spread as the slower boats had to fight building tide on the homeward leg.

With boat handicaps applied, Paramour won the day with skipper Van Soeren and his efficient crew, with Ole Andersen on Caliente in a very well-sailed and close second place, and your reporter in third place on Kay D.

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