

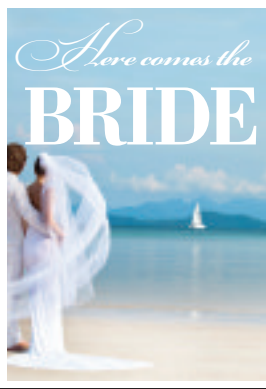


## CIBC Angel Tree

Holiday charity season  
underway  
**PAGE A15**

## Here Comes the Bride

Annual wedding planner.  
**PAGES B1-12**



# Driftwood

Wednesday, November 21, 2012 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 52ND YEAR — ISSUE 47 **\$1.25** (incl. HST)



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Atkins Road was blocked off for several hours on Monday as Hydro crews worked to replace a fallen transmission line.

### STORMY WEATHER

# Windstorm downs trees, power

Thousands of islanders left in the dark

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Nearly 1,500 BC Hydro clients were still without power late Monday morning, more than 16 hours after the season's first major windstorm swept through the southern Gulf Islands.

The storm, which brought heavy rain and strong winds to the Gulf Islands and southern Vancouver Island, is reported to have caused little damage, although up to 7,400 BC Hydro customers were without power at one time during the outage's peak just before midnight Sunday.

A portion of Atkins Road near the Mead-

owbrook Seniors Residence was closed for much of the day on Monday as BC Hydro staff worked to restore a fallen transmission line.

BC Hydro spokesperson Ted Olynyk said the storm is believed to have affected approximately 9,500 clients in the southern Gulf Islands alone.

Power to all but a few pockets of the region was restored by Monday evening.

The storm was also responsible for the cancellation of 42 BC Ferries sailings on Sunday. A BC Ferries spokesperson recommends travellers check their ferry's status before they head to the terminal as high winds and

stormy weather could wreak havoc with schedules this week.

Olynyk asks BC Hydro clients to call 1-888-POWER-ON to report outages in their neighbourhood. Despite the installation of smart meters in the Gulf Islands last month, Olynyk said the devices will not be able to detect specific outages until they are hooked into the system-wide wireless grid in 2013.

"Until that time, we still need people to call in and report outages," he said.

Even when the smart meter grid is activated, he added, residents are urged to report cases of fallen lines so crews can pinpoint problem areas more efficiently.

### FRAUD

# Rampant credit card fraud strikes

Spate of unauthorized charges

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A surge in the number of unauthorized charges billed to credit cards belonging to Salt Spring residents in the past few weeks has encouraged local police to get serious about the likelihood of an island-based fraud operation.

"To have so many from one area would indicate that something has been compromised," said Sgt. George Jenkins on Tuesday morning.

Since Monday, at least 10 islanders have reported unauthorized charges to the Driftwood of between several hundred and several thousand dollars billed against their credit cards at locations in Vancouver, Montreal, Scarborough, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, the U.S. Midwest and Baden-Baden, Germany.

In most cases, users realized something was up when purchases were denied by local retailers after credit card privileges had been cut off. Others received warnings by telephone that their accounts had been compromised.

Salt Spring's Jill Evans said she's been the victim of two cases of fraud within the past month alone and three within the past year. The drama has meant she's spent hours with call centre employees trying to figure out what's going on.

SCAM continued on A2

## Wishing you a Red Letter Day

This issue of the Driftwood marks the first week of our Red Letter Contest.

Check out the many specials advertisers are offering in this week's paper and pay special attention to the ads with red letters.

"Shopping locally keeps our economy strong," said Driftwood

publisher Amber Ogilvie. "Local business owners work hard to be competitive and offer a wide variety of products both unique and economical. "We hope you enjoy this contest and please shop locally this season and support our community."

Contest rules are on Page A4.

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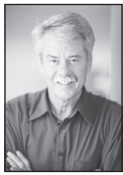
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# NEWSBEAT

## FERRIES

# 'Ferry-highways' argument persists

Ferry meeting hears resistance to cuts

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Ferry users were less interested in suggesting cost-saving measures and more concerned with locating ferries in an integrated transportation plan at a series of consultation meetings held on Salt Spring on Thursday.

"Is BC Ferries part of the public transportation system or not? I don't think it is, I think it's being singled out," said Gary Holman, the NDP candidate for Saanich North and the Islands. "You're treating BC Ferries in a different way than you're treating other transportation infrastructure in the province."

Holman summarized the majority of Salt Spring responses at the afternoon's small group meeting. Meetings and public open houses are taking place at coastal communities through to Dec. 8 at the direction of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. The Salt Spring meeting was attended by assistant deputy minister Kevin Richter and BC Ferries' director of strategic planning, Dave Hendry, among other officials.

Stakeholders across B.C. are being asked to look at the immediate challenges facing B.C. Ferries, including the need to come up with \$26 million in savings by 2016, and to rethink how the system operates for long-term sustainability. But for many participants, the basic framework of government funding is what needs to be addressed.

"As a resident of Salt Spring, your organization has lost my

trust, rather thoroughly, as a result of developing corporate values over service values," said Peter Robinson.

Questions from the public emphasized the fact that BC Ferries' shortfall for Performance Term Three amounts to just \$6.5 million per year over four years, compared to a total operating budget of \$750 million per year, which includes about \$200 million in capital costs.

A loose funding breakdown provided by Richter was illuminating for participants. Richter said fares account for \$450 million of the company's revenues and ancillary services, such as food and gift shops, add another \$150 million. Government contributions make up the remaining \$150 million. In comparison, the ministry puts \$350 million per year into maintaining the province's roads and bridges.

Richter said it was not possible to compare the two services, however, and he also denied comparisons with the free inland ferry service, which has a different history.

At one point Richter returned the question to the community and invited members to consider: "What is the level of government funding of BC Ferries you would feel is appropriate?"

Returning the service directly to the ministry does not sound likely, however much participants wish it otherwise. Richter noted BC Ferries carries \$1.3 billion in debt that would have to be absorbed, which would potentially have a negative effect on the province's credit rating.

Like the afternoon session, people who attended the evening open house were interested



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Kirk & Co. meeting facilitator Nancy Spooner and MOTI assistant deputy minister Kevin Richter listen to a speaker at the Nov. 15 consultation session held at the Harbour House Hotel.

in finding ways to increase revenue rather than looking for service cuts. A man who had lived in Scandinavia gave the example of the successful private service that runs in the region and includes alcohol sales and gambling. He said at present, BC Ferries is caught between acting like a cruise line and not offering the amenities.

Another participant pointed to statistics provided in the engagement package showing the Duke Point-Tsawwassen run operates at 47 per cent capacity and carries an almost \$30 million shortfall per year. Getting rid of that one route, he suggested, would solve the entire problem. However, he noted that it would mean rerouting freight traffic through the Lower Mainland, something the ministry is unwilling to do.

"It feels like we on Salt Spring are subsidizing the Duke Point run because we don't want to inconvenience the people in

Vancouver by putting that commercial traffic on the highway," he said.

Hendry explained the corporation would still have to pay for the route if it shut down because the investment in the Duke Point terminal and vessels is amortized.

While Richter said all public response was valuable and urged participants to convince friends and family members to fill out engagement forms, many who attended the Salt Spring sessions came away feeling the exercise was worthless.

"BC Ferries wants us to believe, and all those of us who go to these meetings want to believe, that what we say will make a difference — alas, it's all flummery," one resident said after the evening session.

"I just wish I had a ferry pass for every time I've heard 'This consultation is a significant first step.' Would that it were significant and not as it usually turns out, a first step going nowhere."

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11:38	3.4 11.2	08:28	2.6 8.5
18:51	1.7 5.6	13:40	3.1 10.2
		21:10	0.8 2.6
22 00:19	2.3 7.5	26 05:08	3.1 10.2
TH 05:02	1.8 5.9	09:29	2.7 8.9
12:14	3.4 11.2	14:07	3.1 10.2
19:33	1.4 4.6	21:40	0.7 2.3
23 02:06	2.5 8.2	27 05:48	3.3 10.8
FR 06:13	2.1 6.9	TU 10:24	2.8 9.2
12:45	3.3 10.8	14:34	3.1 10.2
20:08	1.1 3.6	22:10	0.6 2.0
24 03:24	2.7 8.9	28 06:26	3.4 11.2
SA 07:23	2.4 7.9	WE 11:16	2.8 9.2
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## RCMP investigating fraud cases

### SCAM

continued from A1

"If you see a bald lady walking around that's because I've been tearing my hair out in frustration," she said.

During the most recent incident, which took place on Nov. 13, Evans said she only used her new card at a popular online book seller and four local businesses before it was cancelled.

Since the incident, she's learned of at least four acquaintances who've faced similar experiences. Even the courier driver who dropped off her new card reported an unusual number of recent credit card deliveries, she said.

Ross King became suspicious after both he and his wife were told their cards had been compromised. Several people he knows have had similar experiences.

"I think we have a problem and it's right here on the island," he said.

Monika Keen said she was contacted by a VISA employee on Tuesday morning who told her someone tried unsuccessfully to use her card in Illinois. The call came only a few days after she learned of a surprise charge of \$266 from a store in Lansing, Michigan.

"VISA said 'don't slide your card,'" she said. "I just use the card." Although the newer chip technology offers more security features, the devices aren't necessarily immune to the latest techniques used by scammers.

Sgt. Jenkins said some cases of credit card fraud he's familiar with involved the replacement of entire card reader units.

According to the RCMP's credit card fraud website, many cases are committed by counterfeiters who "use the latest computer devices

to read and copy data encoded on a credit card's magnetic stripe, eventually transferring the data to a counterfeit or blank (white) card."

People are advised to check their monthly statements and report any suspicious activity to their credit card provider. Salt Spring RCMP have begun to compile information from anyone who has experienced credit card fraud during the past few weeks. By doing so, it's hoped a better picture of what's taking place can be pieced together if a formal investigation is launched.

RCMP can be reached at 250-537-5555 or in person at the detachment during regular business hours. Credit card fraud can also be reported to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre by visiting their website at www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca or calling 1-888-495-8501.

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# Newsbeat

## Heads up!

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Saturday, NOVEMBER 24

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### AGRICULTURAL LAND

## Agricultural Land Commission prepares for 're-think'

LTC members urge proactive solutions for island farmland

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The ongoing duel between a desire to protect farmland and the need to accommodate non-agricultural uses has regained the spotlight in the wake of a series of Agricultural Land Commission decisions about the use of lands within the province's Agricultural Land Reserve.

Citing the property's "reasonable agricultural potential" and the availability of industrial land in other areas of the island, ALC members nixed an application in October to convert a 1.8-hectare (4.5-acre) property at the corner of Atkins and Rainbow roads into a business park for light industrial and commercial uses.

At the same time, ALC members have called upon the ecologically minded and agriculturally aware owners of a Burgoyne Valley property to review their strata application in such a way that "the long-term interests of agriculture and the ability to change or diversify agricultural pursuits are better served . . ."

Earlier this week, Rainbow Road resident Richard Murakami travelled to Burnaby for a Monday afternoon appearance at the ALC office as part of an ongoing investigation that

alleges uses on a portion of his land violate the Agricultural Land Commission Act.

While the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee prepares to launch its new industrial advisory planning commission — deadline for applications is today (Wednesday) — as a way to assess the need for more industrial-zoned land on the island, LTC members have begun to call on the ALC to reassess how its policies play out on Salt Spring's unique agricultural landscape.

"As we have explained to them, they can't use the same rules about farming for our islands that they use on the mainland," said LTC member Peter Grove during an LTC meeting on Nov. 8. "We do not have a large alluvial plain with fertile soils, we don't have vast lands for farming and we are pretty limited in our farming abilities."

The nature of modern farming on Salt Spring, Grove added, makes it imperative for farmers to branch out and consider alternate sources of income in areas that most often do not involve agriculture.

"Our farms are small, the soil is pretty poor for the most part and farmers have managed to farm but, generally speaking, because they receive income from other sources. Most people are doing something else," he said.

Grove encouraged island residents with an interest in local agriculture to take a more pro-



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

LTC members argue the time has come to take a serious look at ALR land policy on Salt Spring Island.

active position to encourage ALC policies, such as the ability to construct farm worker housing, that would make it easier for people to farm and maintain other sources of income.

Although undesirable and not entirely necessary in the "lush plains of the Lower Mainland," an ability to construct additional buildings for farm worker housing is crucial for the future of farming on the island, Grove added.

The timing coincides with a candid declaration made by ALC chair Richard Bullcock in August to undertake a thorough reassessment of his department's structure and

priorities.

"The time has come for the ALC to take control of our agenda and workload," he wrote.

"To avoid remaining a largely reactive organization whose priorities are dictated by the volume of applications received, the ALC has had to seriously re-think the resource allocation given to applications relative to other functions."

Based on a discussion he had with ALC members earlier this fall, LTC member George Grams said the group is on the brink of a profound change, driven largely by a limited budget and proliferation of applications.

"One of the problems with the ALC, frankly, is they are short staffed. They've got \$1.9 million of a budget, they have over 1,000 applications for the removal of land from the ALR. They're inundated with applications. Rather than function in a proactive way, they are firefighting these applications and, as a consequence, it's using so much manpower, they can't fulfill their functions."

Grams said the prospect of a 400 per cent application-fee increase is a reality that property owners on Salt Spring can expect to face as the commission reassesses its priorities.

"We'll just have to accept them and look for other solutions," he told participants at the Nov. 8 LTC meeting.

Islanders will get a rare opportunity to hear the ALC chair speak to recent and planned changes to the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission during a two-hour session that will be included as part of Trust Council's quarterly meeting on Salt Spring Island. Bullcock will be at the Community Gospel Chapel between 10:15 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 5 to discuss issues and answer questions related to the province's Agricultural Land Reserve in island communities.

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

## News briefs

### Pascas fundraiser at golf club

Islanders will be getting together to help the ongoing recovery of a hairdresser who was hit by a cyclist in early October.

Mary Lynn Pascas, owner of The Local Barbershop, had just exited a vehicle in downtown Ganges on the afternoon of Tuesday, Oct. 2 when she was struck by a passing cyclist.

Tim O'Connor and John Dolman are among a group

of concerned friends and acquaintances who've helped organize the event on Saturday, Nov. 24 to help pay for dental work valued at up to \$10,000.

Participants are encouraged to participate in a 50-50 draw and silent auction that will feature donations from local merchants. The festivities are set to get underway at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club at 4 p.m. O'Connor said people who can't make the Saturday event are welcome to drop off their financial contribution at Islands Star Video or TJ Beans.

### Resilience think tank

A special edition of a popular Capital Regional District think tank is hitting Salt Spring on Friday, Nov. 23 with the Resilient Region Breakfast Exchange at the Harbour House Hotel.

Established in 2011 through the CRD Climate Action Program, the monthly event held on "the big island" brings together movers and shakers from business, the non-profit sector, government, and academia who are working

to create healthy, green and vibrant communities.

"Our goal is to provide a space for ideas generation, project incubation, and partnership development," a press release explains.

Through a fast-paced and interactive format, participants will have a chance to enjoy tasty local food and strategize with neighbours and colleagues on community sustainability issues.

The event takes place from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Participation is free but RVSPs are requested to plan properly. Email Nikki Elliott at

nelliott@crd.bc.ca with the subject line SSI Breakfast to attend.

For more information, call Sarah Webb, CRD climate action program manager, at 250-360-3123.

### Galiano sculpture stolen

Galiano Island artist Sam Hesse has reported a large stone sculpture destined to aid BC Children's Hospital was stolen from his studio warehouse last month.

The 175-pound black

chlorite original stone carving titled Superfly is valued at approximately \$20,000. It has been featured at the Van Dusen Botanical Gardens, the Black Rock Oceanfront Resort in Ucluelet, Black Tusk Gallery in Whistler, the Sooke Fine Art Show and the Galiano Oceanfront Inn.

Hesse was planning to donate the work to the Super Heroes of Victoria Charity Group for the BC Children's Hospital in the spring.

Galiano RCMP are investigating the theft reported Nov. 13.

### Widow has three professional items to sell:

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## NEWSBEAT

### FIRE DISTRICT

# Firehall could be had for \$4.25 mil

Borrowing figure compared to price of coffee

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring ratepayers could finance a new firehall for as little as \$3 a month, according to new figures received from the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and announced at the Salt Spring Fire Protection District's regular meeting on Monday night.

Michael Schubart, chair of the fire hall building committee, reported that with the current rate of 3.5 per cent, the cost of borrowing \$4.25 million over 30 years

would increase taxes just 8.6 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value per year. The cost of borrowing \$4 million would cost the average property owner \$37.20 per year, while \$5 million would bring it up to \$47.50.

"It's about the cost of a cup of coffee a month, depending on what kind of coffee you like," Schubart said. "If you like really expensive coffee, it's not even that."

Schubart said a borrowing amount of \$4.25 million was arrived at somewhat arbitrarily, based on the board of trustees' desire to not go above \$5 million and the estimated \$500,000 to \$1 million the sale of the existing Ganges firehall would bring in.

The different borrowing amounts and the projected

increases to local taxes will be shared with the public at an open house at the Ganges hall scheduled for Monday, Dec. 3 at 6:30 p.m. Architect Kim Johnston will be in attendance to present design ideas and discuss the possibilities.

The process of getting the lands owned by Tristar Properties subdivided to allow the donation of two acres for the future firehall site has meanwhile become mired in bureaucracy.

Schubart explained that Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure procedures require the applicants to submit their plans to bodies that might be affected, which in this case include the North Salt Spring Waterworks District and the Ganges Sewer service.

The water and sewer providers are in turn requiring the fire district to install the infrastructure necessary for service hook-up on the site before the subdivision is allowed. However, only the current owner can authorize any engineering or construction work on the property.

In order to get movement on an issue that's made no headway in the past three to four months, the board authorized Schubart to prepare a contract with the property owner. If the contract is accepted, the board will agree to underwrite the cost of water and sewer line construction to CRD specifications, either by reimbursement or by posting a bond, with provision the fire district gains title of the property.

### ISLAND POLITICS

# Governance nominations sought

Committee application deadline is Dec. 6

Anyone with an interest in local politics and the future of Salt Spring's political structure has just over two weeks to submit an application to join the island's new Governance Study Committee.

The group will consist of 12 members who represent "the broadest possible range of interests for islanders," according to information posted on a new website dedicated to all things governance related.

Salt Spring LTC members George Grams and Peter Grove, and CRD director Wayne

McIntyre launched the site earlier this month to provide a one-stop resource for people to get the latest information about the ongoing governance study process.

The site includes downloadable application forms and a full set of requirements for potential members. It also provides information on the governance study's background, progress report, terms of reference, a library of relevant publications and links to provincial government resources.

According to the website, the GSC is hoped to include community members who represent environmental protection

and conservation, farming, construction, tourism, education, the Chamber of Commerce, business, infrastructure management, housing, arts and crafts, health, judiciary and legal services, local government, finance and banking, marine interests, social services, seniors, youth and families as well as single parents and other minorities.

Since there are more interests and sectors than there are seats available, preference will be given to individuals who can represent multiple interests.

For more details, visit the governance website at [ssgovernance.wordpress.com](http://ssgovernance.wordpress.com).

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### TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE

# Kinder Morgan confirms Salt Spring visit for January

Residents of Salt Spring Island will get an opportunity to have their say on a proposal to expand capacity of a pipeline that runs between Edmonton and Burnaby.

Kinder Morgan Can-

ada has announced it plans to host an open house-style community consultation session on Saturday, Jan. 12. The meeting's specific time and location have yet to be determined.

The company's trip to the island marks the final stop on a public consultation tour that visited 36 towns and cities along pipeline and tanker traffic routes in Alberta and B.C.

The decision to host a meeting in the Gulf Islands follows a letter penned by Sheila Malcolmson in which the Trust Council's chair takes the company to task on behalf of the Islands Trust

for a failure to establish a proper consultation process.

For more information, visit Kinder Morgan Canada's project website at [www.transmountain.com](http://www.transmountain.com).

# Entry ballot for Salt Spring Island Red Letter Days Contest

Participating merchants will have a red letter appearing in their advertisements each week for five consecutive weeks. Contest participants must check the ads each week to spell out the winning phrase. The red letters will change in the ads each week.

All correct entries will be entered into a draw for 250.00 Driftwood Dollars. The Driftwood Dollars may be redeemable at any business participating in the contest (those with red letters in their ads).

**Drop your entry off at the Driftwood.  
All entries must be in by no later than  
5pm on December 20.**

**Winner will be announced on Friday,  
December 21st on the Driftwood website.**

*Fill out here*

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# NEWSBEAT

## AWARDS



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

From left are South Vancouver Island District Women's Institute president Donna Jack, treasurer Sandra Hemming and Sandy Robley at an event bestowing Robley with the Rural Woman of the Year Award on Friday.

# Robley wins Rural Woman award

Women's Institute honours

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Sandy Robley of Sunset Farm was named the Rural Woman of the Year at a South Vancouver Island District Women's Institute event on Friday.

Members of the Salt Spring Island Women's Institute hosted a special luncheon in the United Church basement in Robley's honour with district president Donna Jack, district agricultural convener Jessie Ander-

son and several more regional members in attendance.

"Today it gives us great pleasure to gather here to make this announcement, and to acknowledge the service this recipient has made to her community," Jack said before bestowing the award. "[Robley] is one of those community-minded individuals who share their knowledge and experience with those who want to learn more about their agricultural ventures."

Community support for Robley's nomination included letters from

Margaret Thomson and Rick Vipond, representing the Salt Spring Livestock Producers and the Farmers' Institute.

Participants heard that Robley is a farmer who raises chickens both as laying hens and meat birds. She is well known for her lamb and wool products, which she sells at her farm stand and studio and at the Saturday market and Christmas fairs.

"She is active in the Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute, hosting seminars and farm tours at her farm for local sheep breeders, and for

the Vancouver Island Sheep Breeders Association. A lamb from her 2000 flock won the Grand Champion Market Lamb at the Pacific National Exhibition," Jack read.

"Since the change in provincial meat regulations, she has been a key member of the livestock producers, which was formed to organize the fundraising for and building of a local abattoir."

Robley is the second person to receive the award. Jessie Anderson of Cobble Hill was its first recipient.

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# Public Notice

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Trustees will be holding their second public meeting to discuss our new fire station.

Public participation is encouraged. The architects will also be in attendance to answer questions.

*Hope to see you there*

DATE: DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2012  
PLACE: GANGES FIRE STATION  
TIME: 6:30PM



## ST. MARY LAKE

# Water Council meeting addresses lake's health

Special public event set for Saturday, Dec. 1

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Water Council invites anyone who shares a concern about the plight of the island's major source of potable water to attend an upcoming public meeting about the state of St. Mary Lake.

"Since its inception, Water Council has made an effort to provide public education on a wide range of issues related to the quality and quantity of our water supply," said George Ehrling, chair of the Water Council. "We have been closely following the situation in St. Mary Lake regarding the long-lasting algal bloom."

The Saturday, Dec. 1 meeting will include short presentations by experts John Sprague, Rick Nordin and Ken Ashley on topics that include the history of St. Mary Lake, how our actions affect the lake and options to restore lake health. An expert panel will also be convened to respond to various questions from audience members.

Although the meeting will focus on St. Mary Lake, Ehrling said, much of the information presented will be applicable elsewhere on the island and of interest to people who live outside the St. Mary Lake watershed. He said the inspiration for the

meeting sprang from interviews with lakeside residents conducted this summer and publication of a brochure that outlined the causes and threats posed by algal blooms in the lake.

"Those interviews clearly showed that there is significant public concern about St. Mary Lake — from water users, property and resort owners, and people who use the lake for recreation," Ehrling said.

The Water Council assembles representatives from island water districts as well as individuals with an interest in the field to discuss water-related issues that directly affect Salt Spring residents. The group meets every other month to share information and resources, and to advise local and provincial governments on planning and legislative issues related to water quantity and quality.

"Water Council has no formal authority or jurisdiction, but it provides an important role in communication among its members and in public education," Ehrling said.

The meeting is being organized by the Water Council with support from the North Salt Spring Waterworks District. Members of the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee have authorized financial support up to \$3,000 for the session.

The event will be held at Community Gospel Chapel between 2 and 5 p.m.

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# Opinion



Gold - Coverage of the Arts | Gold - Photo Essay (Day in the Life of SSI)  
 Gold - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)  
 Silver - Front Page  
 Silver - Outstanding Reporter Initiative (Sean McIntyre & Gail Sjuberg for incorporation series)  
 Bronze - General Excellence  
 Bronze - Historical Story (Elizabeth Nolan for First Nations history)  
**2012 Canadian Community Newspapers Association Awards**  
 Gold - Photo Essay (Day in the Life of SSI)  
 Gold - Sports Photo (John Cameron for longboarder)  
 Silver - General Excellence  
 Silver - Special Publication (Aqua magazine)  
**2012 BC & Yukon Community Newspapers Association Awards**



EDITORIAL

## Not engaged

**C**all us petulant children, but few island residents appear interested in playing the BC Ferries “coastal engagement” game.

If what transpired at Salt Spring’s consultation sessions is representative of meetings on other islands and centres — and it sounds like it was — people in ferry-dependent communities aren’t buying into the rationale for the exercise.

While some people welcomed a chance to express what they don’t like about the ferries or the provincial government’s philosophy about BC Ferries being a corporate rather than a service-focused entity, they pretty much said “no thanks” to proposed cost-cutting/revenue-raising measures.

When those attending the afternoon round-

table in Ganges realized they were part of an effort to eliminate a shortfall of only \$6.5 million per year on a \$750 million per year operating budget, the whole thing seemed rather trivial. Learning that the provincial government contributes only \$150 million per year to the effort (with users covering the rest), while paying \$350 million each year to maintain the province’s roads and bridges just added to that sensation.

**THE ISSUE:**

BC Ferries consultation process

**WE SAY:**

Take time to participate

The whole B.C. Coastal Ferries Consultation and Engagement exercise does have some value, however. Looking in depth at ways to make a government service more efficient, having the province and BC Ferries share information with the public and involve them in helping meet challenges of the future are smart things to do.

It’s also a good opportunity for taxpayers and travellers to learn more about how the provincial ferry system works and is funded.

With no concrete results expected before the May 2013 election, which makes the current exercise even more toothless, it would be easy to ignore the whole thing. However, it’s not often that government puts such effort into soliciting opinions on a critical topic for islanders, so we shouldn’t scorn the opportunity presented.

Feedback forms on various proposals are being collected by the consultant until Dec. 21. Take a ride on [coastalferriesengagement.ca](http://coastalferriesengagement.ca) and tell them what you think.



## POD volunteering boosts safety

BY DEBBIE MAGNUSSON

Fire! It was July 2007 at the Bullock Lake resort.

When the fire occurred, I was impressed both by the firefighters and the volunteers from the Maracaibo neighbourhood who showed up to help fight the fire. These people were organized, prepared and had enough training to be helpful to the first responders.

I felt motivated enough to check in about emergency preparedness. Two years ago, I received a call from Elizabeth Zook, who had become our island’s emergency preparedness coordinator. What a “dynamo” she is!

Only two months after meeting with her, our West Long Harbour POD had eight “neighbourhoods” with two leaders in each neighbourhood. We developed phone/email lists for potential call-outs and passing along alert bulletins (weather, cougar/bear sightings, fire). Now, our POD is almost finished with evacuation site listings, including muster stations and one first aid location. We’re still weak on radio communication, but seven people attended a first meeting. Each neighbourhood leader knows who has equipment, water supplies, a generator and other “emergency supplies” that could be shared if needed. We also know who our trained resource people are. We know who can deliver a baby, provide first aid, assist some experiencing severe emotional distress, bring a tow-truck and are trained in search and rescue. We discovered we are rich with people resources. Neighbourhood leaders know who has pets and where the people with mobility issues live should an evacuation be necessary.

All this slow but steady accumulation of information has happened because enough people in our area have stepped forward. Every hour of support work has helped build our capacity to sustain our area in case of emergency.

It’s become clear to me that every area on the island should have a minimal level of preparedness. Each of us needs to create our own kit in case of evacuation notice and have water, food, and basic supplies for at least 10 days. We must know our neighbours, and those likely to

### VIEWPOINT

require assistance.

Anything we do for ourselves means first responders can help those who require their expertise. We need to be aware of the needs of first responders to have clear roads and to follow the instructions of the people seeing the “big picture” of the island’s needs.

Further to our own awareness and preparedness, connecting to those within our POD is another step towards being aware of how to respond to an emergency near your hoe. Do you belong to an active POD? When speaking with Elizabeth Zook, she reported that there are still 15 out of 50 PODs that are not yet organized. If your household has not been approached to fill out a form that gives your contact information, are you willing to make a phone call to Elizabeth at 250-537-1220 and find out more?

After serving as POD leader for two years, I will be stepping down from this role and allowing one of my neighbours to step into it. I’m happy to work in the capacity of “past president,” share what I’ve learned, guide and suggest. I urge someone to sign on for two years. Then they can allow a new person to take the role. I’m hoping to model the concept that “volunteering doesn’t have to be a life sentence.” Especially in the emergency preparedness realm, rotating leadership means many people have the skills and capacity to step forward if needed.

Believe me, I know all of this viewpoint is filtering down to this simple concept: Do you want to be an emergency preparedness volunteer? I know that some people don’t want to be contacted, nor want to build connections with their neighbours. I know the people likely to step forward are the ones who are already stretched in their “giving.” And, I know that the evidence is out. Natural and man-made disasters occur. And, there are plenty of ways to ensure that we and we all are as safe as possible.

*The writer is an emergency preparedness volunteer and retired teacher.*

**THIS WEEK’S QUESTION:**

**Are you concerned about credit-card fraud?**

Yes  No

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

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

**LAST WEEK’S QUESTION:** 50

**Should B.C. pursue marijuana legalization?**



## Driftwood

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# IslandVoices

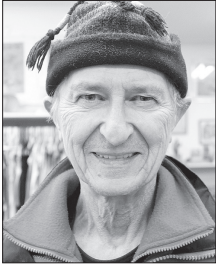
QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"If you see a bald lady walking around that's because I've been tearing my hair out in frustration."

JILL EVANS, CREDIT CARD FRAUD VICTIM

## SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What should BC Ferries do to improve service for coastal residents?



ALEX DIAKUN

*I think there should be fewer runs to places where there are fewer cars ... but I think the province should give BC Ferries more money.*



JENNY PENNEY

*I am worried that they're going to be reducing service because a lot of people rely on it. Personally I think the executives get paid too much and they need to trim those costs.*



ARLO MCGOWAN

*Anybody who lives on any of the Gulf Islands and has valid ID should get the discount when returning to their home island without having to load up an Experience Card.*



SUSAN PAYNTER

*I think it should be given back to the highways department.*



MARY NEIL

*Lower the fares and let's make it part of the highway system.*

## Letters to the editor

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

### Did I miss WWII?

Did I blink once too often? I seem to have missed WW III ... us vs. the Evil Empire (a.k.a. BC Hydro/Corix).

Judging by the shrill rantings, ventilations and posturings, to say nothing of the posters, warnings and chastity-lock-ups, I'd at least have expected mass demonstrations, blocked traffic, recumbent bodies across the streets, Pankhurstian chainings to meters, overturned Corix vans set afire and terrified Corix employees running for their lives, hounded into the ocean by irate, pitchfork-wielding Salt Springers.

Where were you, guys?

(Hmm! Let me think now ... is some conspiracy brewing instead? A sledgehammer party for mass destruction of smart meters? Trouble is that Halloween would have been ideal, and we've missed that. I don't think so because we don't seem to be sufficiently well-organized.)

Will someone please bring me up to date, because there's a very puzzling discrepancy between the hyperbole and threats beforehand and the subsequent outcome. Is it really game, set and match to Corix? (Where are those riot-happy French when we really need them to lob paving-cobbles and dump truck-loads of rotting fish on Hydro's doorstep?)

Or are we saving our

breath for the recently mooted proposal (according to my Calgary spies) to re-route the pipeline across the southern Gulf Islands to a deep-sea port on the west coast of Vancouver Island so as to save the Fraser estuary? (Makes sense — it panders to millions of mainland protestors vs. thousands of hot-air islanders, many of whom can't agree with each other most of the time anyway. Another damp-squib?)

That other evil(est?) empire, Alberta, is watching with great interest as to whether we can walk the talk ... We need some bodies trampled under cat-tracked vehicles a la Tiananmen square. Volunteers, please?

ROSS KING,  
BEDDIS ROAD

### Still more questions

I am responding to Ted Olynky's "Hydro update" letter of Nov. 7.

Ted Olynky states that some customers have asked to have their installation put "temporarily on hold." He promises that BC Hydro is committed to working with these customers on an individual basis to address their concerns and ensure that they have the facts about the updated system. Then he provides a computer link.

What does that mean? Will islanders who have refused a smart meter be given more "information" to help them change their minds? But as the installations are "temporarily on hold," if they don't change

their minds voluntarily, they will be forced to change their minds?

None of my questions has been answered. On question I have is why does it matter if one person has a smart meter and their neighbour has an analogue meter? Why must everyone have a smart meter? The USA has opt-out programs, why not Canada?

I talked to many people about meter change. Some did not agree or think the same way I do, but I respect their opinion. Unfortunately, we did not get the same respect from BC Hydro or Corix.

I met more than a few people on Salt Spring who had sings of refusal posted, yet they came home and found that their analogue meter was gone. That contradicts Ted Olynky's published statement

in the Oct. 24 Driftwood.  
JENNY MCCLEAN,  
ATKINS ROAD

### Keep original library name

I noticed that the name of the library has been changed. According to the history information on the library website, "The library building is named the Mary Hawkins Memorial Library to honour the dedicated woman who worked so diligently to provide library services to the island."

Is her diligent work no longer worthy of recognition?

I'm so disappointed.  
MARIT CHRISTENSEN,  
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on A8

## Check 'best before' dates for emergency prep

The recent series of earthquakes and aftershocks centred in Haida Gwaii and reverberating down the west coast of B.C. have given many of us cause for pause. For me, personally, it brought back vague memories of the emergency preparedness kit my wife had packed for me (because I could never quite be bothered enough to do it myself). I had fully intended to take the rather bulky backpack out to my crew cab and deposit it amongst the vast assortment of reusable grocery bags presently occupying the back seat, but I was waylaid by the Stanley Cup hockey playoffs early last summer. As a result, the emergency kit never really made it out the front door.

The first task, therefore, was to retrace last year's steps and find the backpack. This process is akin to an archaeological dig in our household, as both my wife and I tend to begin more projects than we finish and most lost items can be dated by how deep a layer of stuff they are buried in. When I finally unearthed the lost artifact between the layers of floating air mattresses that needed patching and single socks that required matching, I decided to go through the emergency supplies contained inside the pack just so that I knew what items I could rely on in case my life was threatened by an apocalyptic catastrophe.

The first objects I encountered upon unzipping the main compartment of the backpack were four rolls of toilet paper (manufactured from recycled fibres, of course). Now I'm not one to belittle the importance of toilet tissues when faced with the alternatives of dry leaves and pungent moss, but it was slightly disconcerting to realize there wasn't a hell of a lot left in my emergency kit once the toilet rolls had

been removed. It was also a bit unnerving to think about how useful the t.p. rolls would prove to be if my emergency kit and I were floating in flood waters or "hanging ten" on the crest of a tsunami wave.

What else did I have stuffed away inside the pack? There was a light, fleece blanket to keep me warm in case I became stranded in the wilderness (or ran out of gas on Stewart Road), and several large, orange garbage bags that could be fashioned into raingear by cutting holes in them to accommodate head and arms.

Beneath the garbage bags I found a good quality flashlight but, unfortunately, the batteries inside had deteriorated to the point that they didn't even produce enough light to attract a firefly. As I scavenged deeper, I discovered a couple of packages containing several fruit and nut energy bars as well as peanut butter and chocolate chip candy bars. The problem was that all the energy treats were well past their due dates. I unwrapped one or two of them and gave them the taste test. Although still "edible," they had a bit of a mealy texture to them and the inside of my mouth felt like it had all of the saliva sucked right out of it.

If the chocolate bars and energy bars were past their "best before" dates, what about the rest of the emergency supplies we had gathered and which had made us feel so smug and superior to ordinary mortals? After a bit of rustling through a variety of boxes piled in the closet of the mudroom, I was able to uncover three large Tupperware containers that had our emergency supplies stashed in them. Sure enough, the



Shilo  
Zylbergold

NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

two cases of canned milk were well beyond their expiry dates, as were the packs of creamed corn, baked beans and tomato soup. Luckily, the cans of pressed ham and processed beef packed tightly in plastic shrink wrap had no markings stamped on them to identify the date these "foods" would be any less healthy than they already weren't. In addition, we had several large cello bags of raw walnuts, hazelnuts and almonds which had almost certainly reached a very mellow stage of rancidity by now.

All this waste gave me food for thought. Forget about what the experts recommend; what are the real necessities we need to survive the most harrowing of disasters? A spare TV remote springs to mind just in case a flat screen, high density television were to wash up and there was still enough infrastructure left to plug it into the grid. Many of my "guy" buddies would claim that a few cases of brew will get you through pretty much any "worst case" scenario, but you just might want to have some back-up for when the beer haze wears off.

Besides the aforementioned flashlight (and some fresh, replacement batteries), you probably want to pack some emergency fire-starting paraphernalia. Waterproof matches or regular matches enclosed in a water-tight container seem like essential equipment. So do candles, butane lighters and possibly flares. Just in case the disaster takes place in the winter when dry wood is at a premium, you may also want to include a small package of newspaper and cedar kindling to help get a fire going. Mind

you, there is always the possibility that the catastrophe you are trying to survive could be a raging forest fire and all the pyrotechnics in your backpack would make you a prime suspect as the guilty arsonist.

There's always the dilemma of where to store your emergency preparedness kit. Keeping it somewhere in the house is convenient, but not very practical if something drastic were to happen to your sweet abode. Even a shed or outbuilding could fall victim to the impending hazard and be reduced to ashes or be last seen floating out in the strait.

The safest fix might seem to be a hidden cache dug into the earth and reinforced with metal screening to prevent intrusion from scavenging animals (or neighbours). The down side to such a solution can be learned from what happened on Hot Spring Island in Gwaii Haanas National Park after the recent earthquake: namely, the ages-old hot spring disappeared. So might all your survival equipment and provisions if a chasm in the planet's terrain were to open and deposit your well-meaning foresight into the bowels of Mother Earth.

Nobody asked me, but I think it's time for me to get down to business and finally carry my emergency pack out to my truck (particularly since I don't have NHL hockey as an excuse any more). Funny, it seems much lighter now, especially after I devoured the whole lot of energy bars to make sure they wouldn't get any staler. The toilet paper got used too, so now there's tons of room for other stuff. I think I'll start off by packing it full with all those reusable grocery bags lying on the back seat.

thyme2001@hotmail.com

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**OPINION**

**Recipe for disaster**

The following was sent to Prime Minister Stephen Harper and filed with the Driftwood for publication.

I presume that you too have seen the horrific devastation caused by Superstorm Sandy.

But this, of course, is only the most recent in a series of environmental catastrophes: floods in many parts of the world, unusual tornadoes, the worst drought to hit the central United States in memory — and so the list goes on. The cost, in lives lost, property damage, clean-up and economic loss is beyond imagination.

It should not be a surprise, however, because knowledgeable people in the scientific community have been predicting these kinds of outcomes from climate change for a long time. One of the principal causes, if not the most important, is the rate at which the world population has been burning fossil fuels.

I have to wonder how many more of these environmental catastrophes must be visited upon us before you begin to get it through your head that there is indeed a connection between these events and the aforementioned.

Unfortunately, we have abundant evidence that we have little time for the advice of people who actually know what they are talking about. I can only hope that the seri-

**MORE LETTERS**

ousness of the situation is enough to change that.

The outlook is bad enough with the present rates of consumption and our efforts should be directed towards lowering, not increasing, the use of fossil fuels. Climatologists warn us that if the tar sands project proceeds on the scale that you are promoting, we can anticipate more frequent and more violent weather events than those we have been having. This planet is the only place we have to live, and if humans insist on making it uninhabitable, no amount of economic benefit from such projects is relevant.

This is why your relentless promotion of the development of the tar sands is so wrongheaded and irresponsible to humanity.

Never mind the risk of dilbit ruptures, tanker groundings or collisions, and the extraction of petroleum from the tar sands being so horribly energy wasteful. The enormous acceleration in the use of petroleum that you promote is a recipe for disaster in itself. It is time for sober reconsideration.

**HAROLD I. PAGE,**  
SALT SPRING

**FIPA a greater threat**

On Monday, Oct. 22 at the B.C. Legislature, I was a witness to the beginning of a

social movement that may echo the Clayoquot protests of the '90s.

It was a remarkable joining of forces by representatives of diverging groups from First Nations to labour unions, to political parties and environmentalists, that all coalesced to express their defence of our beloved West Coast. We were moved, informed and enraged. We cheered, laughed, cried, sang, jumped and shook our fists. The prospect of oil spills on our coast seems to have everyone disgusted with the politics of our time. Oil spills are the dark reality of a future that is ever more dependent on oil. Citizens are feeling frustrated that their voices are not heard in the undemocratic process that is supporting the drive for more oil.

Although the main purpose of the actions on Oct. 22 in Victoria and in over 70 communities throughout B.C. on the 24th was to protest the Enbridge and Kinder Morgan pipeline projects and oil expansion in general, another key issue that arose was the Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements. Critics have labelled this agreement as "secretive," since Prime Minister Stephen Harper seems determined to ratify this investment deal without debate in Parliament, without a vote, and without a transparent report made to government and the public.

Even NAFTA warranted an election, which had far

less impacts than the current FIPA would. Apparently, the FIPA would bind Canada to foreign corporations for 31 years, guaranteeing their profits for this period. If the Canadian government, at any level, were to create any obstacles to their investments or profits, the corporations could sue Canada for the damages that they perceive are the consequence of these obstacles. These lawsuits would be held in tribunals outside of Canada's court system.

This agreement is especially aimed at China, a country that does not have the same environmental or human rights standards as Canada, and is renowned for putting profits first.

What we as Canadians have to gain from this deal is unclear. There is only one guarantee: we will be handing our tax dollars over to foreign corporations, or we will be faced with many more projects such as Enbridge or Kinder Morgan's, where our voices of protest will be ignored. Then we can watch our landscape change indefinitely. Thirty-one years is an entire generation of wreaking havoc on our environment and our democracy. Is this the world that we want to leave our children?

I wrote to everyone I could possibly think of, I urge you to do the same, if you want to stop FIPA now!

(See Fipafacts.ca and Defendourcoast.ca.)  
**SUZANNE NIEVAART,**  
PENDER ISLAND

**RANTS and Roses**

**Roses**

The Special Olympics executive would like to send a dozen steel roses to Greg Bellavance for the outstanding repairs that he made to our bowling ball slide. The bowling alley is closed but our bowling team has qualified for the provincial championships. We required the slide for our wheel chair athlete to be stronger and portable. Our team will be travelling to Duncan to bowl and we will also be taking the slide to the provincials. Greg's work is a huge help in preparing our

team for the provincials. Merv Anderson

Roses for everyone who worked so hard to create another successful flea market at Fulford Hall. The delicious homemade food was really appreciated. Together we raised over \$1,000 to support our grand old hall. Jan

A glorious bouquet of peach roses to Ann at Seafirst Insurance. Your quick, clear response to my emergency last week greatly helped to ease my anxiety. The response of Paul and Ryan were outstanding.

Many, many thanks. N. Anderson

A firetruck-load full of yellow roses to Dale Lundy and all the fabulous firefighters who came quickly to deal with a smouldering fire at my house over a week ago. You all dealt with the situation in a professional, confident, careful and compassionate way. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. N. Anderson

Copper roses to the Salt Spring Folk Club and the many concertgoers who showed support for Copper Kettle at the Nov. 12 concert at Fulford Hall. Warm thanks and best wishes to all. The Copper Kettle folk

Many roses to the ladies

who had a private auction and brought us the proceeds. Yeah for us! Thanks so much. Lady Minto Thrift Shop

Stacks and stacks of roses to the army of Salt Spring Literacy Giant Book Sale volunteers, and a special, unique one for sale coordinator Lynne Johnson.

To Kim: Thank you for paying for my groceries when I forgot my credit cards at home. First-time I had it "paid forward" and the feeling was ecstatic. Bless you.

A cherry picker full of roses to the BC Hydro crew. Thank you for "uniting" us. Summerside residents

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**Christmas Story Writing Contest**

- Write a story of 500 words or less whose topic relates to Christmas or the Christmas season.
- All Gulf Islands students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are eligible.
- Stories will be judged by retired teachers and librarians on quality of writing, clarity of presentation and originality of theme.
- Winning entries will be published in the Driftwood in December.
- The name, age, address and telephone number of the writer must be written on the back of each entry.
- Send entries to the Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3, email to news@gulfislands.net or fax to 250-537-2613.
- For more information, call 250-537-9933.

The deadline for our annual writing contest is Friday, December 7th. Win a cash prize for a story of up to 500 words about Christmas or the Christmas Season.



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# NEWSBEAT

## SCHOOL BOARD

# Literacy and behaviour get funds

Drake Road housing project also progressing

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands School District will hire two teachers to provide literacy and behaviour support across the region with funds from the Ministry of Education's new Learning Improvement Fund.

"This will make a really big difference in our schools, I think. It's something we haven't been able to do before," district superintendent Jeff Hopkins said during his report at the board's regular monthly business meeting held on Galiano Island last Wednesday.

SD64 was awarded \$240,235 in the fund's first year, with a minimum of \$30,000 to be spent on enhancing educational assistant hours. Hopkins said that \$48,000 had actually gone to EA hours and the remainder would go toward hiring the two new teachers.

The decision on how to use the fund was made after needs were assessed at all Gulf Islands schools and discussed during District Review Day. Hopkins said he believes there are already people working within the district who are qualified for the positions.

"Hopefully they'll come forward and want to do this exciting work," he said.

The teachers will share the same responsibilities and will have regular and predictable visits at all schools to work with teachers and students, rather than being scheduled according to referral.

Participants at Wednesday's meeting also heard how the district's longstanding Drake Road affordable housing project moved one step further along the slow road to realization with two public consultation sessions. The meetings were held by invitation and involved community partners at one session and neighbouring residents and the Phoenix School community at the other.

Consultant Donald Gunn presented inno-

vative ideas for the site that included the possibility of remediating the damage caused by another development further up the hill at Bishop's Walk.

Rob Pingle, a trustee for Salt Spring Island, noted that much work has yet to take place before any site design actually occurs, including finding a source of funding. The school district has now transferred ownership of the property to the Capital Regional District but remains a partner to ensure families benefit from the project.

Also in school board news, treasurer Rod Scotvold reported the district is currently running at 7.25 per cent under budget.

"We're definitely on track. There's nothing crazy happening, and that's kind of the point of the exercise," he said.

"I think that's the highest variance I've ever seen," commented May McKenzie, who chairs the board.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, Dec. 5 at the school board office on Salt Spring.

## INTERNATIONAL TOPICS

# GISS hosts public workshop with UBC graduate students

Multiple sessions on foreign policy themes

BY COLE SMITH  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Is there a "Harper doctrine" of Canadian Foreign Policy?

That's the question that nine graduate students from the University of British Columbia will answer this weekend. A series of presentations will be made at the Gulf Islands Secondary School on Saturday, Nov. 24 and Sunday, Nov. 25 on cutting-edge topics concerning Canadian foreign policy.

In conjunction with the Salt Spring Forum, the GISS Student Council will host the UBC students as they present their findings to the public and engage in discussion with them.

Subjects to be covered include: cybersecurity, the use of military force abroad, Canada as an energy superpower, Canadian foreign policy towards a rising China, and human rights and national security.

Community members are warmly invited to attend the event free of charge (though donations to help cover costs are encouraged).

The event's structure will allow for maximum community interaction and involvement. Each speaker's individual session will be one-hour long, with the first 15 minutes allocated to the speaker, and the final 45 minutes to discussion with the public.

With the worsening situation in the Middle East, the Foreign Investment Protection Agreement between Canada and China, the Northern Gateway Pipeline project and many other current developments, Canada's presence on the world stage is an active issue on several fronts — many of which will be covered in the talks this weekend.

The workshop begins on Saturday at 1 p.m., continues until 6 p.m., and restarts on Sunday from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

In the middle of a global economic crisis, and with countries around the world feeling the tight-

ening strain of diplomatic tensions, the value of these students' research may be higher than ever, and the idea of a "Harper doctrine" more than mere speculation.

The schedule is as follows:

**Saturday, Nov. 24**  
1-2 p.m. Rimmy Riarh, The Ideological Roots of Canadian Foreign Policy

2-3 p.m. Will Gochberg, Using Military Force Abroad

3-4 p.m. Émilie Horrocks-Denis, Human Rights and National Security

4-5 p.m. Ashley Dawson, Cyber-space Security and Governance

5-6 p.m. Mark Stoller, Offshore Oil Drilling in the Arctic

**Sunday, Nov. 25**  
9-10 a.m. Anton Bezglasnyy, Is Canada an 'Energy Superpower'?

10-11 a.m. Linting Zhang, Canadian Foreign Policy Towards Rising China

11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Dennis Do, Trade and Investment Agreements: Too much of a good thing?  
12-1 p.m.: Katie Meredith, Trade Policy and Human Rights

## SMART METERS

# Anti-meter film debuts Thursday

The director of a new documentary that tackles contentious issues surrounding smart meters invites Salt Spring residents to a special test screening and panel discussion Thursday evening at Central Hall.

"This is really a galvanizing event," said Josh del Sol on Tuesday. "We're encouraging anyone who's expressed a concern about smart meters to come out."

The film's director has devoted much of the past year to collecting and assembling interviews, news clips and statistics related to the opposition to the deployment and installation of smart meter technology across North America.

Thursday's audience will be treated to a shortened prescreening version of the full-length film called Take Back Your Power: A "Smart" Agenda Unveiled.

The film will be followed by a panel discussion and Q&A session with del Sol, contract law specialist Cal Washington and members of Gulf Islanders for Safe Technology.

"The talks after or before the film are really going to tackle what direction we're going and the future of the movement," del Sol said.

Admission to the event is free, but donations will be accepted. The event begins on Thursday, Nov. 22 at 7 p.m.



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# NEWSBEAT

## COMMUNITY

# District 64 helps redress historic wrong

Diploma bestowed at Galiano event

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Galiano school trustee Bonnie MacGillivray and the Gulf Islands School Board helped a former resident of the district achieve a longtime wish on Nov. 14 by presenting her with the high school diploma certificate she never had a chance to earn.

"Thank you very, very much," Mary Ohara said at the end of a surprise celebration arranged by her grandson Reed Oishi at Galiano Community School.

"This is the dream I've had all my life and I never thought would happen. I always wanted a Grade 12 certificate."

Ohara was born on Galiano Island to a Japanese-Canadian family in 1929. When she was seven, her family moved to Salt Spring because they felt the education opportunities for their children would be better. Their forced removal from the island in 1941, imprisonment in the horse stables at Hastings Park and subsequent internment in the B.C. Interior interrupted Ohara's schooling permanently.

As an adult she followed her drive for self-education and passed on the importance of learning to her family. Because her husband had died at Lemon Creek during internment, and the Canadian government had an official policy discouraging

Japanese people from living in British Columbia after the war ended, Ohara's mother decided to go to family members in Japan.

Conditions were terrible and food severely limited, and more importantly, Ohara never felt at home there. She worked for eight years to save enough money to return to Canada (\$US 280) while still providing for her mother, by acting as a secretary and interpreter for Mitsubishi.

Ohara ostensibly went to Galiano last week to deliver a presentation on her experience, telling students at the island's modern elementary school to learn from the past. It's something she has been doing at Lower Mainland schools for the past 20 years.

"The reason I am sharing this story with you young people is you are the leaders of tomorrow," she said.

"I'm not bitter about what happened. I've learned a lot from it. But I want you as the leaders of tomorrow to keep Canada a good country."

Giving Ohara an honorary diploma during her visit was made possible by three months of email correspondence between Oishi and MacGillivray, the support of the school board and permission from the Ministry of Education.

"This has been the gift to me, the Galiano community and School District 64," MacGillivray said.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Steve Nemtin, left, reads out a list of honorary titles for Mary Ohara, right, as her family members look on. Ohara was interned as a Japanese Canadian during WWII, and received a diploma from the Gulf Islands School District at a surprise event held on Galiano Island on Nov. 14. Check the [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) website for a video clip of the event.

The graduation portion of the event started when Oishi approached his grandmother at the podium where she had just finished speaking, and began clothing her in the traditional cap and gown. Her astonishment at the proceedings only increased when the rest of her family — three children, their spouses and all four other grandchildren — appeared.

Ohara was also treated to several honorary titles and a harmonica jig, all composed for her by her friend Steve Nemtin. Nemtin is an educator who restored a group of Japanese

charcoal kilns on Galiano and had one area named an historical site with Ohara's help and strong encouragement.

"This is the kind of world I want Canada to be," Ohara said after the ceremony.

"And you are it. You are all my family members."

Oishi said he was inspired to start the process of getting the diploma for his grandmother by the book *Righting Canada's Wrongs — Japanese Canadian Internment in the Second World War*. Ohara had been interviewed by the authors, Pamela Hickman and Masako Fukawa.

## LIBRARY

# Library services on hold after Sat.

Move to new space set to begin

The Salt Spring Public Library will close the doors to its temporary location on Jackson Avenue at the end of business on Saturday, Nov. 24 as staff and volunteers prepare for the move to the new building.

The new library, located at 129 McPhillips Ave., is anticipated to open in mid-December with details to be confirmed in the coming weeks.

Returns will not be accepted at either location until the library re-opens. Due to the move to the new library and the usual Christmas shut-down by all public library interlibrary loan departments, the interlibrary loan service on Salt Spring will be closed from Nov. 24, 2012 to Jan. 2, 2013.

Borrowed ILL books should be returned on the indicated due date, and incoming books will be processed and patrons notified to pick them up when the new library opens. New loan

requests will be processed as of Jan. 2.

It is recommended that new and existing patrons obtain or renew their library cards at the temporary library to ease demand when the new library opens. Anyone living permanently on Salt Spring or owning property on the island is eligible for a library card.

Visitors to the island who hold a library card from another B.C. public library, can be issued a BC OneCard to use library services.

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NEWSBEAT

# FOCUS ON EDUCATION

EDUCATION SERIES — THIRD IN THE SERIES

## Private or public: a matter of choice

The rise of independent schools and public system accommodation

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When asked if the growth of private schools in British Columbia is a threat to the public school system, 29 per cent of respondents to a poll conducted by Angus Reid earlier this year agreed.

Enrollment in independent schools started its rise back in 1977, when B.C. Premier Bill Bennett allow partial funding through tax dollars. Continued growth may be attributed to parents who want a specialized education for their children, whether based on religious principles or an education philosophy.

Between 2001/02 and 2010/11, the total numbers of students enrolled in schools across the province dropped by 40,603, going from 689,996 to 649,366 and reflecting Canada-wide population trends. Enrolment in public schools dropped at a higher rate, however, losing 50,955 students in the same period (from 630,049 in 2001/02 to 579,094 in 2010/11). At the same time, the number of students enrolled in private schools rose from 59,947 to 70,272.

The fact that a question about private schools appeared on a poll with the primary purpose of asking whether the public education system is broken is an interesting marker of public opinion. While some (represented by the 29 per cent) probably blame private schools for diverting government funds from where they're needed most, others see their growth as an indicator of shifting social values and the public system's difficulty in addressing them.

"I actually think [the system] is not broken at all," said Jeff



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

May Day celebration at Salt Spring Centre School.

Hopkins, superintendent of the Gulf Islands School District.

"I think the system is doing what it was designed to do very well. I think what's changed is what we want the system to do.

"I don't blame independent schools," he continued. "It's almost like shooting the messenger. If independent schools are growing, why is that? To me it's a message that we're doing something that needs to change."

Hopkins made headlines in October when he announced his reaction to the need for educational change with plans to open his own independent high school in the Victoria area next fall. Although he says he is a strong believer in public education, the project-based learning at the heart of his program won't be easy to enact across a large system.

"I think there will be slow changes at the provincial level, and they'll be in the right direction. They're just not fast," he explained.

"I think we'll be there eventually — it will just be really slow, incremental change. I don't want to be that slow."

On Salt Spring, independent options have focused mainly on

the early years, and have included several Waldorf education programs, the Wolf Kids nature immersion program and the Salt Spring Centre School. The latter started as an alternative to homeschooling for parents living at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga in 1983 and now offers a Montessori-based program for students from pre-kindergarten to middle years ages. Parents at the Centre School most often cite class size as the reason for their choice. Having a strong school community also ranks high on the list.

The success of such alternatives is reflected by the district's willingness to offer more options within the public system. Phoenix Elementary School, which also started as a bridge between homeschooling and the school environment, has seen an upsurge in interest over the last few years and now has a waiting list.

Learning Design Partners, a program within school communities at Phoenix School and on Mayne, Galiano and Pender Islands, continues the bridging by connecting homeschool parents with teaching staff. The Saturna Ecological Education Centre has spawned a middle

school program on Salt Spring and now brings in high school students from other districts for intensive semesters.

Hopkins feels parents partly choose such options because they want their kids to be safe, and by entering a "special program" they are separated from the herd — a practice commonly seen in the French Immersion program at Salt Spring Middle School. But there is also a real interest in expanding the curriculum to include different education philosophies. Fulford Elementary, for example, has identified two different teaching styles for the Grade 1/2 classes, and offered parents the choice between a Montessori-based plan or a nature-based one for the 2012/13 school year.

Jack Braak, president of the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association, said it's good to have choices within the public system — so long as it doesn't impact other programs.

"The school district has been fairly aggressive at meeting certain needs . . . to attract parents who believe the public system wouldn't accommodate their needs," he said, but added special programs shouldn't be offered to the detriment of the district overall.

"You have to balance what benefits an individual child and how it affects the entire system," he said.

Just as independent schools face issues of equity — not everyone can afford to pay tuition — Braak said the district's desire to accommodate more interests has led it to walk a tricky line between public and private education. He points for example to the Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts, "a school within a school that not everyone can afford or get into."

"Applying to enter a public school program is a lot different than having a discussion with parents about what would be a good fit," he observed.

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BC POLITICS

## Salt Spring hosts NDP tourism and arts critic

Friday meeting scheduled

Islanders can talk tourism and the arts with the B.C. NDP official opposition critic for tourism, arts and culture at a public meeting on Friday, Nov. 23.

Spencer Herbert is spending the day on Salt Spring, with the meeting set for 1 to 3 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Earlier this month, the BCNDP promised to restore Tourism BC as the agency in charge of marketing the attractions of the province to the rest of the country and the world if the party is elected to form government in May 2013.

The agency was abruptly eliminated by the Liberal government in August 2009, just six months before the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Said Herbert at the time of the announcement, "Stable, formula-based funding will ensure the industry is not at the mercy of annual budget decisions. We need to put the tour-



Vancouver-West End MLA Spencer Herbert visits Friday.

ism industry in charge of its own destiny and reverse the damaging drop in tourism visitors, revenues and related employment."

Herbert has also been active in human rights issues for many years. Most recently he has proposed to amend the BC Human Rights Code to better protect the rights of transgender people.

He is the MLA for the Vancouver-West End riding.

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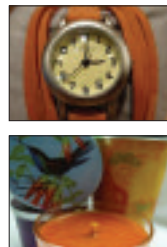
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# Arts & Entertainment



## News Updates

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## CONCERT

# BOTR explores Mozart-Salieri myth

Chamber opera, Haydn and Rossini on program

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Chamber Orchestra will delve into classical music mythology for its next set of concerts on Nov. 24 and 25, with a treatment of the Rimsky-Korsakov chamber opera Mozart and Salieri at the heart of the program.

"It's really one of those discoveries," said Jim Stubbs, who directs the orchestra under the Bach on the Rock umbrella group.

However, because chamber opera has lost popularity to the sweeping theatrics of grand opera, the Rimsky-Korsakov work is seldom heard today. Stubbs notes many musicians have heard of the opera but have no personal knowledge of it. Once they hear it, "Everyone loves it because it's very powerful and very dramatic."

The apocryphal tale of Salieri's poisoning of Mozart is one that has fascinated creators and audiences ever since Pushkin wrote a tragic poem on the topic in 1831. Rimsky-Korsakov adapted Pushkin's work as an opera in 1898, and modern audiences know the story through Peter Shaffer's award-winning play and movie adaptation, Amadeus.

Stubbs said the rivalry between the two greatest composers of the Hapsburg period continues to provide great dramatic material, though the poisoning has been much discredited by historians and musicologists.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring Chamber Orchestra members rehearse for Nov. 24-25 concerts.

"Opera is usually emotionally true to life, although the stories can be fantastic. There's a kind of freedom and spontaneity of feeling in human voices in opera that's quite different from anything else we've done," Stubbs said.

Chamber singers will be performing the work in English, with a libretto that is an almost word-for-word translation of Pushkin's original poetry.

Two young soloists anchor the major roles: Josh Lovell, as a tenor Mozart, and Sam Marcaccini, as the baritone Salieri.

"We were absolutely bowled over to meet and hear the two young soloists

for the concert," Bach on the Rock member Richard Moses said. "[They] left us gaping . . . I don't know what we were expecting, but when they opened their mouths — well, this is going to a very special pair of concerts."

The opera also features a solo by pianist Matthew Stubbs, playing Mozart as he improvises something for Salieri.

"In the beginning he sounds like Mozart and by the end he sounds like he's gone crazy," Stubbs said.

Surrounding the masterful opera at the concert's centerpiece are two works that are as well known as the Rimsky-Korsakov piece is unknown. The overture to Rossini's opera Tancredi offers a taste of the composition that Stendahl called "a genuine thunderbolt out of a clear, blue sky for the Italian lyric theatre."

Interestingly, Rossini was writing to deadline and didn't have time to write a whole new overture for Tancredi, so he borrowed from one of his own earlier works. It was written using the crescendo format, something Rossini developed and that has been followed by other composers ever since.

The orchestra will also play Haydn's Symphony No. 104, the last of the 12 London Symphonies and the final one he composed. It premiered at the King's Theatre in 1795.

Performances take place at All Saints By-the-Sea with a 7 p.m. start time on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$15 for seniors and \$5 for youth. They are available at RE/MAX and at the door.

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## CHRISTMAS FAIR

# Warmth of WinterFaire returns to church

Beyond-the-bazaar event on Nov. 24

BY PAT BARCLAY  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

On Saturday, Nov. 24, the United church in Ganges will host its annual WinterFaire.

Featuring a wide variety of arts and crafts, children's fish pond, silent auction and the Christmas Cafe for lunch and snacks, this beyond-the-bazaar event makes getting ready for Christmas easy and fun.

For sale in the

lower hall will be family gift items, from hand-made walking sticks, BBQ aprons and denim log carriers to texting mitts, knit scarves and fabric bags; Christmas cards, reusable crackers and stockings; decor galore in tree decorations, wreaths, swags, bouquets and centrepieces, and greenery by the bunch to take home and create your own. You can also order perishable green items for pick-up closer to Christmas.

An awesome array of home baking will include fruit cakes and shortbread. And

don't miss the jams, pickles and recipe mixes, so ideal for hostess gifts and to enjoy at home.

The United church's WinterFaire is an upstairs, downstairs event, from the well-stocked tables in the lower hall to the upper hall's fish pond, silent auction and Christmas cafe for lunch and snacks.

Little information had emerged from silent auction cupboards by press-time, but for sure a hand-made crib quilt, child's rocking horse, Chinese vase, sumptuous duvet cover and attractive gift bags

will be on hand.

On the cafe's menu this year are chicken pie, vegetarian quiche and authentic tourtieres, all served with cole slaw; chili with bread; and cupcakes, muffins, cookies and various beverages.

Again this year, tourtieres and chicken pies will be sold whole to take out or by the piece to eat in.

The church's annual decoration crew will also be out in force, enhancing the setting that does so much to make WinterFaire a special occasion.

WinterFaire runs this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## CONCERT PREVIEW

# Acclaimed German pianist performs

Martin Helmchen at ArtSpring on Monday

BY GEORGE SIPOS  
ARTSPRING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The world of classical piano music in our time is plagued by a curious paradox.

As recently as a generation ago, large numbers of people took piano lessons, most of them ending up as more or less adequate recreational pianists, but these days knowledge of and an appetite for piano music is very much in decline. The resale value of household pianos has collapsed, and even concert grands are being crushed in landfills in huge numbers.

At the same time, more and more amazingly brilliant young pianists are emerging around the world, not only in Europe and America but also in Asia. Lang Lang is perhaps the best known of this new generation, at least where flamboyance is concerned. But there are enough others that a recent British review of German pianist Martin Helmchen starts this way: "Young virtuosos are as plentiful as rabbits



Pianist Martin Helmchen.

these days . . ."

From that somewhat backhanded start, the review goes on to say: "More importantly, and harder to come by, Martin

Helmchen plays with a fluidity that allows him to refine and colour a deeply romantic spirit."

Translate that into practical terms, what the reviewer means is: "Go listen to this pianist because he's really unusual and really something."

The CBC's Tom Allen said much the same thing a couple of months ago when he aired some of Helmchen's playing and told the national audience to come and hear him on Salt Spring in November.

We, of course, are already here, and so have a chance on Monday, Nov. 26 to hear this amazing pianist perform a joint concert with his wife, cellist Marie-Elisabeth Hecker.

The repertoire includes both well known and less well known music by Bach, Schumann, Beethoven and Schubert.

Tickets for the 7:30 p.m. concert are available from the ArtSpring Ticket Centre at 250-537-2102 or online at [www.tickets.artspring.ca](http://www.tickets.artspring.ca).

Full price tickets are \$28 and youth tickets are \$5.

A wine tasting hosted by Garry Oaks Winery precedes the performance.

## ROOTS MUSIC

# Fresh gospel and blues at Grooveyard gig

Kelly Joe Phelps performs Monday

The Southend Grooveyard house concert series continues on Monday, Nov. 26 with a visit by dynamo roots and blues performer Kelly Joe Phelps.

Singing and playing bottleneck slide guitar, Phelps has just released his 10th album. Titled *Brother, Sin-*

*ner and The Whale*, and produced by the renowned Steve Dawson, Phelps' website says his lyrics "use poetry from the Book of Jonah and the vintage gospel blues of Mississippi John Hurt with aspects of the early gospel work of Bill and Charlie Monroe thrown in for good measure to create what surely must be the most literary gospel songs recorded since Bob Dylan's incendiary Christian albums came

out three decades ago."

Reviewer Dave Smith of Hero Hill said "Phelps lets the melody — a gospel/blues riff picked gently from a bottleneck — glide and carry his story along. He's not a street corner prophet, yelling to be heard or stomping the floor for attention. No, Phelps expresses his new inspiration and devotion in the quietest of tones and nestles his technical proficiency smoothly

into the melody."

Southend Grooveyard concerts are at 128 Holmes Rd. (off Isabella Point Road). Showtime is 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for the show are \$20, with all proceeds for the artist. They're on sale at Salt Spring Books, Stuff and Nonsense and Fever Tree, or by calling 250-526-1295.

Next up on the Southend Grooveyard roster is Linda McRae on Friday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m.

## HOUSE CONCERT

# Simpson and Ogilvie heat up Home Routes

Stride piano specialist

Salt Spring welcomes Yukon performer Grant Simpson tonight (Wednesday) at the next Home Routes house concert.

Simpson will per-

form with Don Ogilvie at 270 Robinson Rd. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with music beginning at 7 p.m.

Originally from Nanaimo, Simpson has been a professional musician for more than 30 years, and has released a number of recordings, both solo

and with bands like New Orleans North.

According to his website, his first solo CD, *Stride and True*, garnered rave reviews from jazz publications around the world. Since then Simpson has taken his folk, jazz and blues music from the Caribbean to

Korea and back again.

He enjoys directing the famous Frantic Follies at Whitehorse's Westmark Hotel Theatre, playing stride piano, and working hard on behalf of Yukon music.

Ogilvie is a world-class guitarist who played with Simpson

in New Orleans North.

The two also toured in China in 2008.

Admission for the Nov. 21 show is \$20 with all proceeds benefiting the artists.

For Home Routes info, call Martin Oloriz at 250-538-1713 or send an email to [martin.oloriz@gmail.com](mailto:martin.oloriz@gmail.com).



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## LITERATURE

# Literary night brings thrilling threesome to ArtSpring

Greco, Gunn and Brett form final TA session for 2012

The final literary evening in the 2012 Theatre Alive! series runs this Saturday night with a trio of illuminating writers.

Heidi Greco, Genni Gunn and Brian Brett will converge at ArtSpring for an event that begins at 7:30 p.m.

Greco is a Surrey-based writer and editor who leads workshops at locations as diverse as SFU to Matsqui Penitentiary. Last spring she was commissioned to write a poem for her city as part of the cross-Canada Mayor's Challenge. Her poetry collections include *Siren Tattoo* and *Rattlesnake Plantain* (both



HEIDI GRECO



GENNI GUNN



BRIAN BRETT

from Vancouver's Anvil Press) and a chapbook of speculative poems about Amelia Earhart from Lipstick Press, *A: The Amelia Poems*. In 2011, Toronto's Quattro Books published her novella, *Shrinking Violets*.

Gunn is a writer, musician and translator born in Trieste, Italy, but a Canadian resident since the age of 11. She has pub-

lished nine books, including the novels *Solitaria*, *Tracing Iris* and *Thrice Upon a Time*, short story collections called *Hungers* and *On The Road*; and two poetry collections — *Faceless* and *Mating in Captivity*. Gunn's latest novel, *Solitaria*, is on the Scotiabank Giller Prize longlist.

Brett, former chair of the Writers' Union of Canada and a journalist for four decades, is best known as a poet, memoir writer and fictionist. He is the author of 12 books, including the poetry collection *The Colour of Bones in a Stream*, and the novel, *Coyote: A Mystery*. His memoir, *Uproar's Your Only Music*, was a

Globe and Mail Book of the Year selection by Ronald Wright: "The most exciting Canadian book I've read all year." His best-seller, *Trauma Farm: A Rebel History of Rural Life*, won numerous prizes, including the Writers' Trust annual award for best Canadian non-fiction book. His new poems, *To Your Scattered Bodies Go*, won the CBC poetry prize in 2011.

A collection of poems and prose poems about an endangered watershed in the near-Arctic, *The Wind River Variations*, has just been released. He is currently completing the third of a trilogy of memoirs, *Tuco* and the *Scattershot World: A Life With Birds*.

Admission to the Nov. 24 event, co-sponsored by the Salt Spring Theatre Alive Society and the Canada Council, is free, with donations appreciated.

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There is a vaccine that can help to prevent shingles. It does not protect everyone and therefore requires careful consideration. Pharmacist Jane O'Connell at Pure Integrative Pharmacy can provide you with information on the risks and benefits of the shingles vaccine. The vaccine does not require a prescription and can be administered on site.

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# People & Community

SEASONAL GIVING

## Angel tree needs generous donors

CIBC gift drive gets underway

You don't have to be a CIBC client to get into the giving spirit at the bank's branch in downtown Ganges this holiday season.

Bank employees will accept unwrapped gifts for underprivileged boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 14 years of age until Dec. 14 as part of the branch's annual angel tree gift drive.

"The purpose being to bring gifts in for the less fortunate families here on the island that don't quite get the opportunity to create the Christmas they would like to give their

children," said Danielle Head, a CIBC employee who helped organize this year's event.

Donors are asked to select a boy or girl angel from the tree near the bank's entrance and return to the branch with an appropriate gift.

Head said an emphasis has been placed on age-appropriate gifts for preteens, who tend to receive fewer donations.

People are advised to avoid "accessory style" gifts that require expensive equipment to use. Stand-alone gifts of any cost, shape and size will be considered.

For more information about the cam-



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

From left, CIBC employees Dana Menghetti, Danielle Head and Carla Copeland-Rice at the bank's famous Angel Tree.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

## Hamper sign-up begins

Forms must be submitted by Dec. 7

Families who wish to receive a holiday food hamper in time for Christmas have until Friday, Dec. 7 to submit their completed registration forms to Community Services.

In 2011, food bank volunteers distributed 215 hampers to islanders in need. Organizers expect about the same level of demand for this year's hampers.

Boxes of food and Santa's Workshop toy donations will be prepared and delivered on Sunday, Dec. 23 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Pick-up by individual recipients is not available.

The Salt Spring Food Bank needs approximately \$100,000 to cover

hamper costs and supplies for weekly food bank recipients.

"We are completely dependent on the generosity of our local community, both individuals and businesses, to donate both money and food to the food bank to assist us and carry us over into the new year," said a community food bank spokesperson. "We receive no funding from any government sources whatsoever."

The Christmas hamper service is made possible thanks to the efforts of between 60 and 75 volunteers who participate in the event each year, while 15 weekly volunteers handle year-round food bank duties.

The food bank will be closed for two consecutive weeks this holiday season because the Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 holidays fall on Tuesdays.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

## Explosions nixed at bridge

Winter of coping without Nick's chocolate ahead

### BRIDGETRICKS

BY JILL EVANS

DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

"Remember, remember the fifth of November, /gunpowder, treason and plot, /I see no reason why gunpowder treason/should ever be forgot.

Guy Fawkes, Guy Fawkes, /'twas his intent/ to blow up the King and the Parliament./

Three score barrels of powder below, /Poor old England to overthrow:/ By God's providence he was catch'd/With a dark lantern and burning match.

Holloa boys, holloa boys, make the bells

ring./Holloa boys, holloa boys, God save the King!/ Hip hip hoorah!"

And that's the whole story from the Tower of London archives. Although there was duplicate bridge that day with four and a half tables, fortunately there were no explosions or bonfires to burn the Guy as they do in England, but guys George Laundry and Paul Retallack did flame to the heights of the contest.

Patricia Brown and Hilde Dieterich were on fire too, in second place. Flickering up to the third spot were Joanne Elizabeth and Jill Evans, with

Gillian Mouat and Jennifer Quick smouldering in fourth.

By Nov. 12 the fires had subsided, not only those of Guy Fawkes Day, but the heat of the following U.S. election day's too, so five full tables arrived with, probably, a sigh of relief.

The Laundry/Retallack pair won again, followed by Liz and Oleh Mycyk. The Brown/Dieterich combo slipped to the third spot, with Patricia Sutherland and Nick Beringer gaining fourth place just before Nick's departure (sadly for those deprived of his chocolate distributions and cheery friendship) for a sublime winter in Puerto Vallarta, to return in March.

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This year Wintercraft will be running the "Wintercraft wish list", a gift registry where

you can come in and pick out something wonderful for yourself and then send in someone to make it appear under your tree on Christmas day.

Wintercraft is open 10am-5pm, 7 days a week, from Friday November 30th until December 16th at a festive Mahon Hall on Rainbow Road. Don't miss it!

SSAC MEMBERS NIGHT 6pm, December 7th.

10% off all Christmas shopping for members. Sign up on the night!



# What's On This Week

www.driftwoodgimedia.com/calendar



## Wed. November 21

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Simply Organic.** Con Conley performs Bach toccatas and fugues and other works at free recital. All Saints By-the-Sea. 10:10 a.m.  
**Grant Simpson & Don Ogilvie.** Home Routes house concert at 270 Robinson Rd. 7 p.m.  
**Open Stage with Richard Cross.** Every Wednesday at Moby's. 8 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Coral Reefs of the World.** Slide show presentation featuring the underwater photographer of Ken Sutherland, presented by Ann Donahue. Lions Hall. 7:30 p.m.  
**Habana Eva.** First in the 55 Film Festivals' Best of the Fest series: Cuban romantic farce starring celebrated Venezuelan actress Prakriti Maduro. Carlos Enrique Almirante. Juan Carlos Garcia and Yuliet Cruz. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.  
**SWOVA AGM.** AGM for SWOVA Community Development and Research Society. All are welcome. SWOVA office. 5 p.m.  
**Islands Trust RAR Mapping.** Public meeting at Central Hall. 6 p.m. with doors open at 5:30 p.m.

## Wed. November 21

### ACTIVITIES

**Poker night at The Local.** Sign in at 6:30 p.m. — poker starts 7.  
**Stitch Dimension Quilt Guild.** New members and visitors always welcome. Meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Salt Spring Baptist Church. 7 p.m.  
**SS Beekeepers' Association Meeting.** Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute. 7 p.m.

## Thurs. November 22

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Thursday Open Mic.** Hosted by Richard Cross. The Local. 6 to 10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.** Public business meeting. Lions Hall. 9:30 a.m.  
**Pickle Ball.** Thursdays at Fulford Hall. 1 to 4 p.m.  
**Rollerblading to Music.** Every Thursday. Fulford Hall. 7 p.m.

## Fri. November 23

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Bill Nash and Dale Bishop.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.  
**Swing for the Kitchen Sink!** Music by Quintessential Jazz Quartet. Fundraiser for Mahon Hall kitchen reno. Mahon Hall. 7 p.m.  
**Jukebox Social.** Rock/dance music. \$5. Moby's. 8 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**CRD Resilient Region Breakfast Exchange.** RSVP with subject line "SSI Breakfast" to nellioatt@cdrcb.ca. Harbour House Hotel. 8 to 9:30 a.m.  
**BC's Tourism and Arts Critic.** Public meeting with Spencer Herbert, NDP Opposition Critic for Tourism, Arts and Culture about the issues that affect Salt Spring. GISS multi-purpose room. 1 to 3 p.m.  
**Cortes Island Children's Forest Art Auction.** Fundraiser for forest land purchase. Ann Mortifee and Paul Horn host afternoon tea at ArtSpring Gallery from 3 to 5 p.m.; Ann will speak at 7 p.m., auction winners announced at 9 p.m.

## Sat. November 24

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**The Barley Bros.** The Local. 3 to 5 p.m.  
**Jason Lowe.** Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.  
**Barley Bros.** Salt Spring Inn. 6 p.m.  
**Antonio Delgado.** Come and enjoy traditional music with Cuban pianist. Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
**Salt Spring Chamber Orchestra.** Music of Rossini, Rimsky-Korsakov and Haydn. All Saints By-the-Sea. 7 p.m.  
**Kemal Evans Band Electroacoustic/hip hop/pop** at Moby's. 8 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Emergency First-Aid & CPR Course.** Level C certified course taught by Charlene Wolff. Community Gospel Chapel. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**WinterFaire.** Salt Spring United Church Christmas Bazaar and Cafe. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**Santa Fly-in.** Santa flies in to Ganges Harbour via Salt Spring Air at 1 p.m.; photos with Santa and craft activities from 1:15 to 3 p.m. at Mahon Hall.  
**UBC Graduate Student Public Workshop.** Presentations of papers on the broad topic of: Is there a "Harper Doctrine" of Canadian Foreign Policy? GISS Multipurpose Room. 1 to 6 p.m.

## Sat. November 24

### ACTIVITIES

**Heidi Greco, Genni Gunn and Brian Brett.** Literary evening. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.  
**Fundraiser for Mary Lynn Paskas.** Silent auction and more. SS Golf Club. 4 p.m. onwards.

## Sun. November 25

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Salt Spring Chamber Orchestra.** See Saturday listing. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2 p.m.  
**Antonio Delgado.** Come and enjoy traditional music with Cuban pianist. Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Half-Day Meditation.** Zen Circle event at 210 Cedar Lane. 7:50 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Info/register: 250-537-1721.

## Sun. November 25

### ACTIVITIES

**UBC Graduate Student Public Workshop.** See Saturday listing. GISS multipurpose room. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**Pickle Ball.** Sundays at Fulford Hall. 9 a.m. to noon.  
**Lower Back Health: Sitting & Standing.** A one-day Feldenkrais Method workshop with Alice Friedman. Still Point Yoga Studio, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
**100th Grey Cup Party.** At the Legion. Pre-game show at 3 p.m. Members and guests welcome. Royal Canadian Legion. 3 p.m.

## Mon. November 26

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Kelly Jo Phelps.** Roots-blues-gospel performer at Southend Grooveyard house concert. 128 Holmes Rd. 7:30 p.m.  
**Martin Helmchen & Marie-Elisabeth Hecker.** Two of the most exciting German musicians, pianist Helmchen and cellist Hecker perform Bach, Schumann, Schubert and Beethoven. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Garry Oaks wine tasting at 6:30 p.m.

## Mon. November 26

### ACTIVITIES

**Blood Pressure Clinic.** Free clinic at Salt Spring Seniors. Salt Spring Seniors Services Society. 10 a.m. to noon.  
**Toastmasters Weekly Meeting.** Our Lady of Grace Church. 7 p.m.

## Tues. November 27

### ACTIVITIES

**SSI Liquid Waste Disposal Local Service Commission AGM.** Portlock Park Portable. 10 a.m.  
**Pickle Ball.** Tuesdays at Fulford Elementary. 6 to 9 p.m.

## Wed. November 28

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Open Stage with Richard Cross.** Every Wednesday at Moby's. 8 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Genealogy Group.** Casual group meets to share and discuss all things genealogical on the last Wednesday of each month. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 7 p.m.

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- **The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2** — The astonishing conclusion to the series, The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn, Part 2, illuminates the secrets and mysteries of this spellbinding romantic epic that has entranced millions.

**EXHIBITIONS**

- **Undercurrents Artists' Show** opens at **Salt Spring Fine Art** on Friday, **Nov. 23** with an artists' reception from 5 to 7 p.m., and runs through **Dec. 8**.
- **Salt Spring Fine Art** holds its 3rd Annual Jewellery Show and Sale on **Nov. 23-24**, sharing the Nov. 23 opening with the Undercurrents show.
- **Ulriek Benner** of Ulriekie - Art you Wear holds her annual Christmas Show and Sale at **193 Monteith Rd.** on Saturday, **Nov. 24** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Open House** at **Ilse Leader's Place**. Original handmade garments and accessories by renowned weaver. **1241 Isabella Point Rd.** on Saturday-Sunday, **Nov. 24-25**, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Fine art documentary photographer **Susan Huber** shows photos at **Fernwood Road Cafe**. Huber shoots in large format and hand prints her work using 19th-century printing techniques.
- **Wendy Ffrench** shows new work at the **Harbour House Hotel**, Restaurant and Organic Farm through **November**.
- **Desert Dreams**, a show of new works by **P.F. Brown**, is in the **ArtSpring lobby** through **November**.
- Paintings by **Carol Leslie** are at **Salt Spring Coffee Company Cafe** through **November**.
- **Kathy Robertson** shows her landscape paintings at **Bruce's Kitchen** through **November**.
- Salt Spring Photography Club member **Margaret C. Benmore** shows images at **Country Grocer Roaster Cafe** titled **Hollywood** comes to the Salish Sea, inspired by a trip to the Shaw Ocean Discovery Centre in Sidney.
- **Migs Edwards** watercolours are hanging at **Island Savings**, with sales supporting an art scholarship for GISS graduating students.
- **Nirmal Dryden** has an exhibition of photos at **Penny's Pantry**.
- **Carol Adam** shows her artwork at **Salt Spring Books**.
- **The Porch Gallery**, Mother Tongue Publishing books and art, fall/winter hours: open by appointment only, 250-537-4155.
- See **Lyman Whitaker's** wind sculptures at **Grace Point Square**.
- See the sculpture garden outside of **Mahon Hall** in Ganges.
- **Duthie Gallery** will be closed until **mid-December**.

**Santa Day**  
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# PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

## RELATIONSHIPS

# Sisters take gaming swing at conflict resolution skills



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Marla Sloan, left, and Clare Sprowell with their Mediator in a Box invention.

Invention brings professional mediation skills into the home and office

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Boxing it out may not be the first thing that pops to mind when it comes to solving a minor interpersonal conflict, but it's exactly what creators of a new dispute-resolution tool want people to consider.

Mediator in a Box is a board game-style tool designed to help people diffuse conflict, navigate through issues and agree on a solution.

Say, for example, you're sick and tired of always getting stuck with the stack of crusty dishes. Rather than implementing an indefinite withdrawal of dish-washing services and retiring to the man cave (or female equivalent) in a huff, Mediator in a Box encourages people to gather around the kitchen table and "box it out."

The "game" includes seven cards that guide people through their conflict while they discuss their personal take on the issue, a sort of road map to domestic

peace.

Sisters Marla Sloan and Clare Sprowell devoted more than six years of planning and research to package their extensive conflict-resolution experience into a tiny cardboard box.

Sprowell offered her legal background as a Colorado-based attorney while Sloan, who started Salt Spring's West of the Moon toy store, brings business savvy and her recent experience in professional mediation.

The box reverts to a basic principle of mediation, a process which places the onus of a solution on the people engaged in the conflict rather than relying on an authority figure such as a judge, arbitrator, teacher or other third party to implement a solution.

By getting people to work through their issues and agree on a mutually acceptable solution, Sloan and Sprowell hope the invention will address the dirty dishes question and so much more.

"In mediation, the solution returns to the people who have the problem. The process itself is very powerful," Sloan said during a recent interview. "People are meant to understand and discuss what they really want and this leads to unique solutions that last

longer and work better.

The tool's creators estimate that an average box-it-out session should last about an hour. For those who feel the process is getting too intense or off-track, the pack even includes a pair of timeout cards meant to give participants a bit of a breather. For those whose conflicts are too complex to get resolved in one sitting, the package offers a whack of resources to help participants understand the nature of their frustration and methods to address a variety of conflict situations.

"The more you do this, the more you realize how many levels there are to every problem," she said. "It really helps get beneath the superficial."

The Mediator in a Box is recommended for spouses, co-workers, parents and teens, siblings, roommates and any other relationships where conflict is likely to occur.

Needless to say, the sisters have tapped into a large and growing market.

Mediator in a Box has received positive reviews from customers across North America since its release in early 2012. More information about the product is available at [www.simplehelpinabox.com](http://www.simplehelpinabox.com) and West of the Moon.

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## PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

### BIRTHDAYS

# Celebration for the century

Festivities planned for B. Nevill's 100th birthday

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Janet "B." Nevill has called herself a centenarian for years, but it isn't until Friday that the longtime islander and environmentalist will finally celebrate her hundredth birthday.

More than a decade ago, at 88 years of age, Nevill made headlines for her role in the road blockades to bring an end to logging in the Burgoyne Valley in May 2000.

A memorable photograph of RCMP officers leading Nevill away from the dispute's frontline made it into the pages of the Vancouver Sun and Nevill was featured in a documentary film about the Texada dispute presented on CBC's The Nature of Things.

In spite of getting carted off by local law enforcement authorities, Nevill had few complaints about the way she was treated.

In a newspaper clipping kept by her niece, June Gauntley, Nevill is quoted saying, "I've never been arrested for anything in my whole life; but the RCMP were very nice. They didn't rough us up or anything."

Gauntley recalled her aunt, who eventually received a suspended sentence with no fine, confided she really wouldn't have been averse to a bit of prison time.

"At one time during all this, she said to me before her court date: 'You know, Junie, I wouldn't mind going to jail for a day - it would



B. Nevill, left, with Sgt. Paul Darbyshire during logging protests in 2000.

be fun to see what it's like."

It's moments like this, she said, that give her aunt an inspirational sense of fun and wonder.

During much of the past century, Gauntley added, her aunt has set a worthy example for others to "keep a little bit of 'fairyland' in everyday adventures, to work for what you believe in, to enjoy good art and music, and to learn about the birds and plants."

Another niece, Ellen Edwards, appreciates her aunt's love of nature. She speaks proudly of Nevill's vibrant individuality and personal conviction.

"Keep going, as long as you can. Stay young. Dye your hair red. Set goals to paint 10 flower pots for sale at the local craft fair," she said when questioned about her aunt's lessons for today's youth. "Get involved with naturalists and learn about trees and birds and wildlife, so your generation will carry on the desire to have forests with birds singing, and fresh water with fish in the creeks."

Nevill's penchant for environmentalism encouraged the Salt Spring chapter of the Raging Grannies to make her an honorary club member. Audrey Wild recalled how the island's

grannies banded together to sell cookies in front of the courthouse in Ganges when Nevill was due to appear in court for the Texada blockade.

"Keep our granny out of jail, we're selling cookies for her bail," she recalled singing.

Born in Vancouver on Nov. 23, 1912, Nevill devoted much of her life to her career as a piano teacher and artist.

**"Keep our granny out of jail, we're selling cookies for her bail."**

### RAGING GRANNIES

She developed a deep attachment to her home on Shepherd Hills Road and the forested areas of nearby Mount Maxwell.

Salt Spring-based amateur historian and filmmaker James Falcon sees Nevill as a friend and determined individual with a feisty personality, strong will and wonderful soul.

"She is a doer," he said. Falcon got to know Nevill during the Texada logging standoff in 2000. He recalls being the first person she approached with an interest about

blocking logging trucks. From those early days at the protests, Falcon recognized an individual who "represents what it means to be concerned and to act as an environmental steward of the land."

These days, Falcon still makes a point to visit with Nevill at the Greenwoods eldercare facility, in spite of her poor eyesight and hearing.

"I try to listen, hold her hand, or point to something she is familiar with," he said. "B. was a real story teller and could go on for hours about history and family. Turning 100 was her big goal in life. Once she told me that every morning she would recite Pythagorean mathematical theory in order to focus her mind and step by step get up from bed."

Although Nevill's birthday is on Friday, a celebration of Nevill's 100th birthday is scheduled to take place on Nov. 29 at Greenwoods on Blain Road, although with other November birthday celebrants.

To share Nevill experiences, contact Ellen Edwards at ellenonpine@shaw.ca or 604-526-1265.

For information about the Nov. 29 celebration, contact Carla at Greenwoods at 250-537-5561.

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# ISLAND WHEELS

a driftwood guide to island transportation, sales, service, accessories and more!

## NEW CAR REVIEW

# Subaru Crosstrek adds fun to compact CUV segment

All-wheel drive with a track record appreciated

BY JIM ROBINSON  
METROLAND MEDIA  
WHEELSTALK.COM

Subaru has very successfully carved out a niche as the maker of tough, long-lasting cars and CUVs with the bonus of proven all-wheel-drive.

It has made this a virtue that people know and appreciate resulting in constant market growth.

For instance, August saw record sales. Subaru feels confident it can hit three per cent market share in Canada, something that was a dream just a decade ago.

And to do this, Subaru wants the brand also to be seen as fun in addition to safe and solid. This aim started earlier this year with the BRZ sporty coupe.

Considering it already had all the ingredients in the parts bin, Subaru is arriving a bit late in the exploding compact CUV segment.

Subaru says it has had time to think about what buyers in this market want and have concluded "fun" is missing.

Subaru will sell the XV Crosstrek in three trim levels: the XV Crosstrek Touring, Sport Package and Limited Package starting at \$24,495/\$26,495/\$28,995 respectively.

Standard equipment includes: tilt/telescoping steering wheel with

audio and Bluetooth control switches, power windows, door locks and body coloured side mirrors, 4.3-inch colour multi-function display with fuel economy information, automatic climate control and heated front seats, auto on/off headlights, outside temperature display and carpeted floor mats.

Additional standard creature comforts include heated front seats, heated exterior mirrors and a windshield wiper de-icer.

There is one engine, two transmissions and standard Subaru Symmetrical Full-time All-Wheel Drive.

The 2.0-litre "Boxer" or horizontally opposed four-cylinder DOHC engine with direct injection is the same as found in the Impreza, here producing 148 hp and 145 lb/ft of torque.

There is a transmission choice of a standard five-speed manual or Subaru's Lineartronic CVT with six-speed sequential manual mode. Both come with hill holder mode and an ECO gauge to help the driver be as fuel efficient as possible.

The CVT adds \$1,300 to the price of the XV.

With the CVT in manual mode, steering wheel paddle shifters allow the driver to control the transmission via six pre-set ratios. The transmission also allows "second gear" starts in order to limit the likelihood of wheel spin on slippery surfaces.

With the CVT, fuel consumption numbers are 8.2/6.0/7.2L/100 km city/highway/combined and



8.9/6.7/7.9L/100 for the manual.

Another standard feature is the Vehicle Dynamics Control system that monitors and analyzes driver inputs. If the vehicle approaches the limits of stability, the AWD torque distribution, engine output and brakes at each wheel adjust automatically to assist in keeping the vehicle on course.

Canadians will appreciate that the "off" switch allows the driver to negotiate slushy roads, deep snow or very loose gravel by deactivating the system's torque-reduction control while the ABS and traction control remain active.

In normal conditions, torque split on the manual is 50:50 and on the CVT 60 per cent goes to the front and 40 per cent to the rear.

Turn the key and you hear that classic, muffled "Boxer" engine sound peculiar to Subaru and Porsche.

With the five-speed (as with the six-speed BRZ I drove earlier this year), the best way to drive is with the revs up using the gears to maintain your pace.

With 145 lb/ft of torque to work with, challenging terrain defeats many small CUVs, specially those with front-drive only.

Part of the drive route south of Ontario's Blue Mountain area was rock strewn back roads with large, ominous signs warning the surface was not maintained in winter.

With the five-speed, holding it in second or third was the trick and I could actually feel each wheel dig as it passed over an out-crop.

Helping was 220 mm of ground clearance, one of the highest in the segment and better than some SUVs.

SUBARU continued on A22



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\*MSRP of \$24,495 on 2013 XV Crosstrek 2.0i Touring Package (DX1 TP). Taxes, licence, registration and insurance are extra. \$0 security deposit. Dealers may sell for less or may have to order or trade. Offers applicable on approved credit at participating dealers only. Vehicle shown solely for purposes of illustration, and may not be equipped exactly as shown. See your local Subaru dealer or visit [subaru.ca](http://subaru.ca) for complete program details. Japanese image shown. Canadian model may vary.



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# ISLAND WHEELS

CLASSIC CARS

## Second 1948 Dodge Custom convertible welcomed

Bill Barlow recounts purchase made as a youth and elder

BY ALYN EDWARDS  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

It's not often you can replicate an amazing part of your life when you are in your senior years. But Bill Barlow did that by acquiring a classic car that was identical to the 1948 Dodge Custom convertible he had bought off a used car lot at 21 years of age.

The year was 1951 and it was amazing to have a convertible in those days. There weren't many of them and used convertibles were usually worn out. Bill had known this convertible all his life as it was a stand-out in his home city of Galt, Ont., an hour west of Toronto. Barlow is a lifelong resident of Cambridge — the amalgamation of Galt, Hespeler and Preston.

A convertible was a rare sight in Galt when Barlow was young and he loved the blue convertible that George Schultz bought new at the local Chrysler dealership. Within two years, ownership of the car passed to local realtor Spencer Dalton.

"I always admired that car and saw an opportunity in 1951 when I drove by a used car lot and saw it for sale," Barlow recalls.

Then 21 years old, he traded in a 1949 Austin.

"I went to see my banker to

borrow the money and he said, 'You're supposed to trade up not down.'"

He says the only other convertible in Galt was a black Mercury of similar vintage owned by another young man. They would wave when they passed each other.

In 1952, Barlow and two pals drove his "new" Dodge convertible to Massachusetts to see a friend one of them had met while attending the worldwide Scouts jamboree in Switzerland. When they got to his house, his mother and sister said he had joined the navy. So they visited him at a submarine base near Boston.

**"I got my driver's licence at 15 after my father told the licence office that I was needed in the business."**

BILL BARLOW  
Classic car owner

Barlow got married in 1955. He had taught his bride how to drive the Dodge. By 1956, the couple was starting a family and it was time to sell his cherished convertible. He traded it in on a 1951 Studebaker Starlight coupe.

He had been driving for Bar-



PHOTO COURTESY BILL BARLOW

Bill Barlow's 1948 Dodge convertible is loaded with options like a spotlight, fog lights and backup light

low Cartage and Storage, a trucking company started by his grandfather and operated by his father.

"I got my driver's licence at 15 after my father told the licence office that I was needed in the business," he says.

The years went by with Barlow and his wife raising a family and keeping the business going. He was a city councillor for 10 years and the local Conservative member of the provincial parliament for two terms.

In 1982, Barlow spotted an advertisement for a 1948 Dodge Custom convertible for sale in the Toronto Star classified sec-

tion. He called the owner in Fort Erie and held his breath when he asked for the colour. Discovering it was a blue car, he agreed to look at the car and bought it from the elderly owner.

He drove the Dodge home and used it occasionally until 2004 when he committed it to a full restoration. Both Dodge convertibles owned 60 years apart by Barlow were very well optioned cars for the era. Powered by a six-cylinder flathead engine driven through a Fluid Drive semi-automatic transmission, other features include a radio, electric clock, lighter, spotlight, dual fog lights, a backup light, grille guard and an

external valve to check the pressure in the spare tire while it is stored in the trunk.

Barlow's car shows 81,000 miles on the speedometer. Barlow is now 81 and has fond memories of cruising his three-year-old 1948 Dodge Custom convertible all the way to Boston and back in 1952 and how the memory of that car was brought to life with the purchase of the identical car 30 years later.

Alyn Edwards is a classic car enthusiast and partner in Peak Communicators, a Vancouver-based public relations company. He can be reached at aedwards@peakco.com

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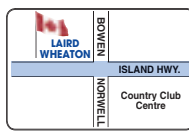
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# ISLAND WHEELS

## Crosstrek a mix of Forester attributes in smaller form

**SUBARU**  
continued from A22

This, I thought, is why people buy a Subaru. In that one great snowstorm of the year, or the driving rain or just when you need it, knowing there is a proven AWD system on your side is worth it.

With the CVT, the best thing to do was leave it in drive and let it seamlessly and silently

go about its business. On the drive route, I experimented with the paddles but about the only time I'd use it would be second gear starts in snow or three to four gears in road-drenching rain where it would be handy.

As for the fun part, the Crosstrek will never be a STI or BRZ, but by keeping the revs up, the potential is definitely there.

The interior was very

Subaru — being simple and uncluttered. The two XVs I tried both had the coal bin black interiors Subaru is so fond of, but there is an ivory offered as well.

On the exterior there are the usual hues but also a tangerine orange and a khaki that were both quite attractive and, with the orange in particular, making the Crosstrek stand out.

Cargo space is what CUVs buyers want and

the XV has it with 632 litres (22.3 cu ft) behind the second row 60/40 split fold second row seat. That's enough for three golf bags or a mountain bike with both wheels attached.

It will tow 680 kg and carry another 68 kg on the roof.

Subaru arguably invented the crossover utility vehicle (CUV) with the first generation Forester sold here starting in 1998.

Based on the Legacy sedan, the Forester and the Crosstrek have a lot in common. For instance, the Crosstrek is based on the Impreza sedan. Both share the same architecture of "Boxer" engine and AWD that can be traced back some four decades.

Subaru Canada won't like me comparing the two as the Forester is its bread-and-butter seller and they see Crosstrek as very much a stand-alone vehicle, not son-of-Forester.

Either way, what the Crosstrek does is offer all the attributes of the Forester but in a smaller package, while retaining the rock solid core Subaru design/build qualities.

It worked for Forester — and Outback for that matter — and I'll bet it works for Crosstrek.



The 2013 Subaru XV Crosstrek has a ground clearance of 220 mm that, with standard AWD, lets it travel on most surfaces owners will ever encounter.



Standard equipment on all Crosstreks is an eco monitor that gives an instant reading on fuel consumption and encourages the driver to go easier on the gas.

### SAVE 15% ON ALL WESTWARD TOOLS UNTIL DECEMBER 31

**Open Sundays 10-4**

**KENWOOD CAR AUDIO MP145 CD PLAYER**  
ONLY **\$95<sup>95</sup>**

**9 DRAWER 26" TOP CHEST** **COMBINED for only \$530<sup>00</sup>** **7 DRAWER ROLLER CABINET**

**Saltspring Auto Supply** **JB GROUP** **Auto Parts Plus**  
106 Jackson Ave., 250-537-5507  
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 am - 6:00 pm / Sat. 8:00 am - 5:00 pm / OPEN SUNDAYS

### SUBARU XV CROSSTREK 2013 AT A GLANCE

**BODY STYLE:** Compact crossover CUV.  
**DRIVE METHOD:** Front-engine, all-wheel-drive  
**ENGINE:** 2.0-litre, horizontally opposed DOHC four-cylinder (148 hp, 145 lb/ft)  
**FUEL ECONOMY:** (Regular) CVT automatic, 8.2/6.0/7.2L/100 km city/highway/combined; five-

speed manual 8.9/6.7/7.9L/100 for the manual  
**CARGO:** 632 litres (22.3 cu ft)  
**TOW RATING:** 680 kg, roof limit, 68 kg  
**PRICE: Manual/CVT:** Touring, \$24,495/\$25,795; Sport, \$26,495/\$27,795; Limited, \$28,995/\$30,295  
**WEB:** www.subaru.ca

## LEXUS December to Remember Event

EVENT STARTS NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>.  
(CLEARLY, WE COULDN'T WAIT EITHER)

**LEXUS**  
THE PURSUIT OF PERFECTION.



COMPLIMENTARY LEASE PAYMENTS ON SELECT MODELS\*  
**OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR**  
LOW LEASE AND FINANCE RATES

The New 2013 RX Series Starting From: **\$46,945<sup>†</sup>** Includes freight/PDI

**RX**  
2013 RX 350

Down Payment	Monthly Lease Payment
\$5,000*	\$508*
\$2,500*	\$559*
\$0*	\$617*

Lease or finance for 48 months  
**2.5%<sup>\*\*</sup>**



**METRO LEXUS**

625 Frances Avenue, Victoria (250) 386-3516

\*Complimentary lease payments offer available only on select 2012 CT 200i and 2012 IS 250/350 models. See your Lexus dealer for details. †MSRP is \$46,945 for a new Lexus 2013 RX 350 Six 'A'. \*\*Upgraded RX 350 F Sport package shown: \$59,895. MSRP includes freight and PDI (\$1,995). License, insurance, registration (if applicable) and taxes are extra. \*Lease and finance offers provided through Lexus Financial Services, on approved credit on new Lexus 2013 RX 350 Six 'A' models. Lease example based on a 48 month term at an annual rate of 2.5% and MSRP of \$46,945 (includes \$1,995 freight/PDI). Monthly payment is \$508/\$559/\$617 with \$5,000/\$2,500/\$0 down payment or equivalent trade in, \$0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$29,388/\$28,355/\$29,637. Taxes, license, registration (if applicable) and insurance are extra. 80,000 kilometre allowance; charge of \$0.20/km for excess kilometers. \*\* Finance example includes taxes and is based on 48 month term at annual rate of 2.5% and MSRP of \$46,945 (excludes taxes and includes \$1,995 freight/PDI). Monthly payment is \$1,152. Cost of borrowing is \$2,727 for a total obligation of \$55,306. License, registration (if applicable) and insurance are extra. Lexus Dealers are free to set their own prices. Limited time offers only apply to retail customers at participating Lexus dealers. Dealer order/trade may be required. † Offers are subject to change without notice. Offers expire at month's end unless extended or revised. See your Lexus dealer for complete details.

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or fax 250-537-2613

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By post to Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd.,  
Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3

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By cash, debit,  
Mastercard or Visa.  
Classifieds are prepared  
unless you have  
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# Driftwood

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WEDNESDAYS**

Display deadline: Monday 4 pm  
Word ad deadline: Tuesday 9:30 am  
Too Late To Classify: **Tuesday 2 pm**

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**3 LINE CLASSIFIEDS**  
\$12.95 + additional lines 92¢ ea  
All ads are posted to BCClassified.com

**EMPLOYMENT ADS**  
3 line rate \$14.96 + additional  
lines 1.25¢ ea  
All ads are posted to  
BCJobNetwork.com and  
BCClassified.com

**DISPLAY ADS**  
\$12.32 per col. inch

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All ads booked in the Driftwood  
Classifieds appear on-line at  
[www.bcclassified.com](http://www.bcclassified.com)  
Employment ads also listed on line at  
[www.bcjobnetwork.com](http://www.bcjobnetwork.com)  
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[www.bcautocentral.com](http://www.bcautocentral.com)  
Over 20,000 on-line ads updated daily

## BOOK YOUR AD ON-LINE

Book your classifieds online  
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**bcclassified.com**



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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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DEATHS

DEATHS

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IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

### Ann McLeod (nee Cameron)



With great sadness, we announce that Ann passed away peacefully on November 17, 2012. She will be missed by her loving family: her husband Gundy of 57 years; children Joanne McLeod, Julie (Walter) Wysota, Alix (Bob) Ross and Cameron (Moira Chichio); grandchildren James Potter, Gordon and David Wysota, Lael and Ian Ross and Ella McLeod; her brother Nick Cameron; and many other family members. Ann is predeceased by her parents Ian and Dorothy Cameron.

Born on December 11, 1932 and raised in Vancouver, Ann attended Kerrisdale Elementary, Point Grey and Magee. She received her Bachelor of Arts from UBC (1954) and her Masters in Education from University of Saskatchewan (1981). Ann devoted her energy to many educational interests primarily as a women's advocate at the University of Saskatchewan, Fraser Valley College and Open Learning Institute.

The family lived in Vancouver until 1965 when they moved to Saskatoon where they lived for 20 years before Ann and Gundy retired to Salt Spring Island in 1989. They moved back to Vancouver in 2010.

A Celebration of Ann's Life will be held on Saturday, November 24, 2012 at 3:30 PM at St. Mary's Kerrisdale Anglican Church, 2490 W. 37th Avenue, Vancouver. In lieu of flowers, donations in Ann's memory to Alzheimer Society of BC are greatly appreciated.

### Veronica (Bonnie) Curran

1916 - 2012



Bonnie passed away peacefully on November 11, 2012 at the age of 96. Bonnie was born in Haileybury, Ontario and met her husband, Bud in Kirkland Lake, Ontario. She was one of thirteen children. Bonnie worked for many years as a caregiver for mentally handicapped children in Orillia, Ontario. She loved all children.

Bonnie is survived by her brother Clifford of Vineland, Ontario, son John (Ina) of Salt Spring Island, grandchildren, Bonnie, Mike and Tom, great grandchildren, Sage, Chris and Justin and many nieces and nephews.

We thank all the kind and compassionate staff at Greenwoods for the exceptional and loving care given to Bonnie over the years of her residence.

## REMEMBER...

a loved one with a gift to the  
Lady Minto Hospital Foundation's  
Memorial Gifts program

135 Crofton Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1T1  
tel: 250-538-4845

### PLEASE INCLUDE:

- Name of your loved one
- Name & address of next of kin so we can notify them of your gift.
- Your name and address for tax receipt



**Lady Minto Hospital Foundation**  
[www.ladminto.org](http://www.ladminto.org)

DEATHS

DEATHS

### Harry Peere Williams - Freeman

July 16, 1923 - November 9, 2012

Capt. Harry Peere Williams-Freeman of Salt Spring Island, B.C. died peacefully at age 89 after a lengthy and devastating illness. Harry was born in Duncan, B.C. and moved to England in 1934 with his family. As a teenager he attended Blundell's School and afterwards served in the British Army from 1941 to 1946 in the UK, India, Burma and West Africa. He then worked in Nigeria as a timber agent for the United Africa Co. He returned to B.C. in 1948 and was employed by the Inventory branch of the B.C. Forest Service doing fieldwork. In 1954 Harry enrolled in the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada as a lieutenant. He served in Canada and with the U.N. in Pakistan in 1965. He returned to Canada to live in Halifax, where he retired in 1970. From there he moved to B.C. and worked nine years as the administrator for the Canadian Outward Bound Mountain School in Vancouver and Keremeos. He was instrumental and persistent in getting the government interested in acquiring his B.C. Heritage Site residence which is now known as the Keremeos Grist Mill. Harry strongly felt this property belonged to the public rather than private ownership. In 1981, in his 37 ft. sloop he named ALEC PEERE, he sailed from Vancouver to the Caribbean where he spent several years. Later on he enjoyed many years of extensive travelling and chartering his sailboat in the coastal B.C. waters.



He was a true character who marched to his own drum and his own eccentricities; a family man with a tender heart, a keen intellect and a dry sense of humour who was passionate about the outdoors, wilderness and historical conservation, classical and jazz music, reading, sailing, current affairs, history, physical fitness, travel and good conversation. Harry is survived by his wife Valerie of Sidney, B.C., their 3 children Jennifer (Garry), Gordon (Brenda) and Rosemary (Stephen) and seven grandchildren. He is predeceased by their eldest son Alec and Harry's sister Joycelin Dunlop of Okanagan Mission, B.C. A sincere thank you to the dedicated caregivers and health providers over the past many years and to Harry's good friend Sally as well as other friends who have helped make his life better. He will be sadly missed.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Donations in Harry's memory may be made to the Western Canada Wilderness Committee.

### ROBERT ALLEN ASTON



Robert Aston passed away peacefully on October 9th 2012 at The Lady Minto Hospital aged 95 years. He was born to James and Fanny Aston and grew up in Worcester, UK.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife Roma, his four brothers and one sister and his four step-siblings. Robert is survived by his nephew Robert Guy Aston in California, his niece Patricia Douglass in Queensland, Australia, his sister-in-law Barbara Aston in Worcester, UK, other nephews and nieces and his long time friend, Joan Davies in Galliano Island.

Robert excelled at school and soon embarked on an engineering career with the Austin Motor Company. When war came Robert joined the RAF and became a trainer of pilots both in the UK and for a while in the US. He still found time to woo and marry Roma in 1941, his bride for 65 years. He left the RAF at the war's end as a Squadron Leader and returned to work for Austin. Robert and Roma came to Canada in 1951 after he accepted a position with the deHavilland Aircraft Company.

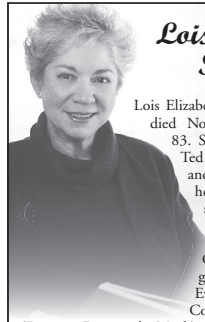
Later they moved to BC and after a number of adventures and enterprises they bought a fledgling golf course on Galliano Island. Over the next decade and with Herculean efforts, Robert and Roma developed this golf course into a first class facility. They retired to a large property on Salt Spring Island in 1975 and subsequently transformed it with extensive landscaping and beautiful gardens.

Robert was active with the Social Credit Party as local Chairman and became Salt Spring's resident weather expert through a regular column in the Driftwood newspaper.

The family extends their thanks and appreciation to the many social and home workers who helped Robert during these last few years and to Dr Robert Crichton and the staff at The Lady Minto Hospital for their sensitive, patient and unconditional care.

There will be no service by request. A private memorial reception will take place shortly. Any memorial donations should be made in memory of Robert and Roma Aston to the Lady Minto Hospital.

### Lois Elizabeth Shipley



Lois Elizabeth Shipley (née Leader) died November 9, 2012, aged 83. She survived her husbands Ted Sisson and Bob Shipley and will be deeply missed by her family including her sons Kirk (Valerie), Rand (Karen), Chris and Ross (Sharon), her daughter Cathy as well as her grandchildren (Karl, Ian, Evan, Ben, Jenn, Randi, Connor, Hailey, Eric, Zeanna, Desmond, Myah) and great-grandchildren (Sean, Rhys, Erik, Kate).

Lois was free and youthful in spirit until the end. She will be remembered for her candour and spontaneity, her quirky wit and quick intelligence, her sympathy for the underdog and the entire animal kingdom. Her laughter could be heard above a crowd and will echo in the memories of all who loved her. Lois was an original; the world is a duller place without her.

Her wishes were embraced by the poem, "To Remember Me" by Robert N. Test which ends: *Burn what is left of me and scatter the ashes to the winds to help the flowers grow. If you must bury something, let it be my faults, my weaknesses and all my prejudice against my fellow man. If, by chance, you wish to remember me, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you. If you do all I have asked, I will live forever.*

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to Dr. David Woodley and the people at Access Care Management who all went out of his way to ensure Lois stayed home for as long as possible.

A celebration of her life will be held near her home in the Spring.

### Salt Spring HOSPICE



"The fragrance always  
remains in the hand  
that gives the rose"  
Mahatma Gandhi

250-537-2770  
[saltspringhospice.org](http://saltspringhospice.org)



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Help tomorrow's families today  
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### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

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All Garden Gates  
35% OFF!



2800 sq.ft. Showroom

- handcarved stone statues
- driveway gates
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- paintings + wood carvings
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SAME BUILDING - NEW ADDRESS

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Chemalun  
250-324-4444

### CHRISTMAS POTTERY

SALE at Pat Webber Studio  
(425 Stewart Rd) Dec. 1 & 2  
10am - 4pm Come see  
what Rabbit and Frog have  
been up to!

### Meet BC NDP Critic For Tourism, Arts and Culture, Spencer Chandra Herbert

He will be  
speaking and  
listening to  
Salt Springers  
Friday Nov. 23  
from 1-3 pm  
GISS  
multi-purpose  
room.  
ALL are welcome!

**FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
DEATHS

**Walter Halan**  
(Waleri Lagun)  
June 8, 1939-October 8, 2012



After a recent move to Salt Spring Island, B.C. from Ottawa, Ontario it is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Walter on October 8th 2012 at 4:50 am after a long battle with CHE.

Walter and his wife Barbara of 53 years moved to Salt Spring Island in August so he could be cared for by family.

Walter spent thanksgiving surrounded by family and enjoying their company. It was his wish to die peacefully at home, to be cared for by loved ones after his passing, and to have a quiet family gathering in-home with the people he requested in attendance rather than a lavish funeral. We were able to give him his last wishes.

Walter also requested he be cremated and his ashes kept with his his life long love, Barbara.

Walter is survived by his wife Barbara (nee Moodie), their children and grandchildren. He will be in our hearts and thoughts always.

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
COMING EVENTS

**CHRISTMAS SHOW & SALE**

Put bright colours & warmth into our winter!

**ULRIEKE'S STUDIO**  
Saturday, Nov 24, 10am - 4pm

Come and admire the waves on Samsun Narrows and my new styles.

Have a hot coffee or a mulled wine and a delightful visit.

193 Monteith Rd. (off Sunset Dr) 250-537-1723

**ULRIEKE BENNER ART YOU WEAR**

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
INFORMATION



THE aims and objectives of the LADY MINTO HOSPITAL FOUNDATION are to raise funds which will be used to expand and enhance the delivery of medical care by the Hospital to Gulf Islands residents. You can help the Foundation attain these goals by a gift of funds, real or personal property, memorial bequests, endowments, life insurance or securities. All donations will be recognized in the Hospital and receipts for Income Tax purposes will be issued.

**Please help YOUR Hospital so it can help YOU**  
135 Crofton Rd. Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1T1 250-538-4845 www.ladymintohospitalfoundation.org

**TRAVEL**  
TRAVEL

**CONDOMINIUM HOTEL** 1-2-3 bdrm condominiums 825-1850sq ft. Convenient Beach Access, Heated Pool/Hot Tub In-room Washer/Dryer, Flat Screen TVs, Free Wi-Fi, Private Balconies, Daily House-keeping, Handicapped Rooms Available. Weekly/Monthly Rates, Free Local Calls, Free Local Beach Transportation. Conveniently Located to Shops and Restaurants. www.crystalpalmsbeachresort.com 1-888-360-0037. 11603 Gulf Blvd. Treasure Island FL 33706.



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**EXPERIENCED PARTS** Person for a progressive auto/industrial supplier. Hired applicant will receive top wages, full benefits and RRSP bonuses plus moving allowances. Our 26,000 sq.ft store is located 2.5 hours N.E. of Edmonton, Alberta. See our community at LactaBicheRegion.com Send resume to: Sapphire Auto, Box 306, Lac La Biche, AB, T0A 2C0. Email: hr@sapphireinc.net

**ELECTRICIAN JOURNEYMAN** position. Port Hardy. Residential, commercial, industrial installations & maintenance. Require valid driver's licence, electrician trade certificate & BCTO. Fax or email resume: 250-949-9290 or: kklelec@cablerocket.com.

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**HELP WANTED**

**AN ALBERTA** Construction Company is hiring Dozer and Excavator Operators. Preference will be given to operators that are experienced in oilfield road and lease construction. Lodging and meals provided. The work is in the vicinity of Edson, Alberta. Alcohol & Drug testing required. Call: Contour Construction at 780-723-5051.

**AUTO SERVICE** Journeyman Technician required immediately at EJ Klassen GM in Port Hardy, Vancouver Island. Above average wages and benefits. Fax resume 250-949-7440 email: ekgm@telus.net

**ELECTRICIAN JOURNEYMAN** position. Port Hardy. Residential, commercial, industrial installations & maintenance. Require valid driver's licence, electrician trade certificate & BCTO. Fax or email resume: 250-949-9290 or: kklelec@cablerocket.com.

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**COMING EVENTS**

**GULF ISLANDERS FOR SAFE TECHNOLOGY PRESENTS:**  
**WORLDWIDE FILM PREMIERE: "SMART METERS UNVEILED"**  
AND  
**PUBLIC "SMART" METER INFO MEETING**  
an empowering, solutions-oriented evening!  
**THE FRITZ THEATRE - CENTRAL HALL THURSDAY, NOV. 22, AT 7 PM**  
BY DONATION  
WITH PRESENTATIONS BY PRODUCER JOSH DEL SOL, AND AN EXPERT IN CONTRACT LAW

**INFORMATION**



Your gift today will help islanders now and in the future. The Foundation gives approximately \$100,000 to our island's charitable organizations every year. Donations may be made through the website, by phoning 250 537 8305, or by mail to SSIF, Box 244, Ganges PO, SSI, BC, V8K 2V2. [www.saltspringislandfoundation.org](http://www.saltspringislandfoundation.org)

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**WEAVING CLASSES**  
Learn To Weave Dec 7, 8, 9. Loom and yarn provided. \$135 Call Victoria Olchow-ewski 250 537-1528

**INFORMATION**

**ADVERTISE IN THE LARGEST OUTDOOR PUBLICATION IN BC**  
The 2013-2015 BC Freshwater Fishing Regulations Synopsis  
The most effective way to reach an incredible number of BC Sportsmen & women. Two year edition- terrific presence for your business.  
Please call Annemarie 1.800.661.6335 email: fish@blackpress.ca

**Alcoholics Anonymous Service Meetings**  
Salt Spring 250-537-7573  
Gallano 250-539-2222  
Pender 250-629-3631

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.ca Toll-Free: 1-888-754-5274  
Mail to: 401-495 Dunsmuir St. Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9



**WANTED: COINS** & coin collection. Buying for cash. Call John 250 537-9197

**LEGALS**

**WITNESS WANTED** - A hit and run occurred on Oct. 30, 2012 at 3:15pm, at Richmond and Forrester St. A 2006 Honda Civic was struck by the unidentified driver of a grey/silver late model sedan with a spoiler. The offending vehicle fled on Forrester Street and remains unidentified. If you have any information about the driver or vehicle that fled the scene, please contact GAVIN in confidence at 250-394-6262

**WITNESS WANTED** - a Hit and Run occurred on Nov. 9, 2012 at 8:30AM, at McKenzie and Shelbourne. A 2004 BMW was rear ended by the unidentified driver of a large silver SUV. If you have any information about the driver or the vehicle that fled the scene, please contact GAVIN @250-394-6262 or gmather@aws-law.ca.

**PERSONALS**

**TREATMENT CENTRE** licensed detox, drug/alcohol rehabilitation, 30 to 90 day residential care in BC coastal community, paid aftercare in your area. www.prrcovery.ca

**LOST AND FOUND**

**LOST SET OF KEYS** at Badgers Beach on Sat., Nov 10. If found call 250 537-1458

**MISSING FROM** Lees Hill for 3 months black & white cat could be heading for North End. Not people friendly. Tel 250 526-2772

**TRAVEL**

**TIMESHARE**  
**CANCEL YOUR** Timeshare. NO Risk Program. STOP Mortgage & Maintenance Payments Today. 100% Money Back Guarantee. FREE Consultation. Call Us NOW. We Can Help! 1-888-356-5248.

**TRAVEL**

**HAWAII ON** the Mainland, healthy low-cost living can be yours. Modern Arenal Maleku Condominiums, 24/7 secured community, Costa Rica, friendliest country on earth! 1-780-952-0709 www.cantico.ca

**COMING EVENTS**

**4th Annual Legion Christmas Craft & Collectibles Fair**

**At Meadon Hall Royal Canadian Legion**  
Sunday, Dec. 9  
10am - 4pm

**FOR DETAILS CONTACT FRAN @ 250-537-0710**

**COMING EVENTS**

**LOWER BACK HEALTH: SITTING AND STANDING**

A one day Feldenkrais Method® Workshop with Alice Friedman

- Learn strategies to help you sit and stand more comfortably
- Sensing how movements of the pelvis, legs, chest and arms help lower back health
- Gently move out of pain

Sunday November 25th 10AM-4:30PM  
Still Point Studio, 121 Upper Ganges Road back of Harbour House Hotel  
\$45 | Suitable for all ages levels of ability  
Registration and Information: Alice 653-4332

**COMING EVENTS**

**TO OUR PATIENTS**  
Please be advised that the office of  
**DR. JAMES F. WHITE**  
**WILL BE CLOSED**  
Thurs. Nov. 29 - Tues. Dec. 11  
The office will reopen  
Wednesday Dec. 12  
We regret the inconvenience  
**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY PLEASE ATTEND LADY MINTO HOSPITAL**

**COMING EVENTS**

**FLU SEASON IS HERE FLU CLINIC INFORMATION**

The best way to protect yourself and your family from the flu this season is to get immunized.  
For more information or to find out if you are eligible for a FREE flu shot:

- Visit [www.viha.ca/flu](http://www.viha.ca/flu)
- call the local 250-538-4880
- call Health Link BC at 8-1-1

If you are eligible for a free flu shot, please bring your Care Card to one of the following local Flu Clinics on Salt Spring Island:

Thursday, November 29, 2012  
10:30 am - 2:00 pm  
Community Gospel Church - 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, SSI

This schedule is subject to change, check [www.viha.ca/flu](http://www.viha.ca/flu) or call Health Link BC at 8-1-1 to confirm & also to find out if you are eligible for a FREE flu shot. If you are not eligible, please contact your physician or local pharmacy about vaccine availability and cost.

**COMING EVENTS**

**salt spring arts council**

Presents  
An evening of jazz with **QuintEssential** and **Sue Newman**  
Doors open at 7:00 pm, November 23, 2012

Jazz-stylings of the 1920s-1950s  
Food by **Auntie Pesto's**

Tickets - 537-0899; ReMax; Acoustic Planet  
A Fundraiser for Mahon Hall

**COMING EVENTS**

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**BCjobnetwork**

**HELP WANTED**

**QUINSM RADIO COMMUNICATIONS LTD.**

Quinsum Communications is looking for a qualified Two-way Radio Technician 2 years experience preferred Wage to be determined by experience. Email: [topper@quinsum.ca](mailto:topper@quinsum.ca) or Fax: 250-287-4511

**TRADES, TECHNICAL**

**FLAGSTAFF COUNTY.** Sedgewick, Alberta requires a full-time Licensed or 2nd to 4th year Apprentice, Heavy Duty Mechanic. Fax or email resume by 12 p.m., December 10, 2012. Attention: Kevin Kinzer, Fax: 780-384-3635; Email: [kkinzer@flagstaff.ab.ca](mailto:kkinzer@flagstaff.ab.ca)

**PERSONAL SERVICES**

**ART/MUSIC/DANCING**

**PIANO CLASSES** with new teacher. Children & adults welcome. Call Leah 250 931-4400

**HEALTH PRODUCTS**

**HERBAL MAGIC.** With Herbal Magic lose up to 20 pounds by New Year's Eve and keep it off. Results guaranteed! Start today, call 1-800-854-5176.

**INCOME OPPORTUNITY**

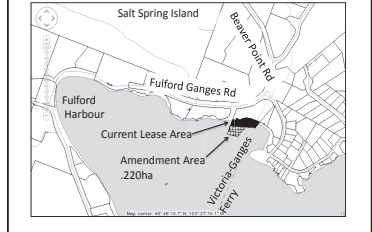
**ATTN: COMPUTER Work.** Work from anywhere 24/7. Up to \$1,500 part time to \$7,500/ mo full time. Training provided. [highincomesfromhome.com](http://highincomesfromhome.com)

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land**

Take notice that Kelly J Keen (Fulford Landing Marina) of Salt Spring Island, BC, intends to make application to Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), West Coast Service Centre for an Interim License to Lease - Commercial Marina situated on Provincial Crown land located at Fulford Harbour, Cowichan District.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is 1414050. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Section Head, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9, or emailed to: [AuthorizingAgency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AuthorizingAgency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca). Comments will be received by MFLNRO until January 4, 2013. MFLNRO may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please visit our website: <http://arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/index.jsp> for more information. Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor.



**MERCHANDISE FOR SALE - New To You**

Deadline 10 am Tuesday

Merchandise ads with items totalling less than \$200 receive a 50% discount with your Residents Card

**FUEL/FIREWOOD**

**HONEST OL'S FIREWOOD**

GUARANTEED CORD Cut, Split & delivered Cedar Fence Rails 250-653-4165

**FUEL/FIREWOOD**

**SEASONED FIREWOOD**

Vancouver Island's largest firewood producer offers firewood legally obtained during forest restoration, large cords. Help restore your forest, Burndrywood.com 1-877-902-WOOD.

**PAUL'S FIREWOOD**

GREAT SERVICE! Serving Salt Spring for 31 years Ph. 250-537-4660 Paul Konig Will BUY firewood logs.

**GARAGE SALES**

Moving Sale - 161 Tripp Rd. Thur, Fri, Sat (Nov 22, 23, 24) Everything must go!

**MOVING SALE!** Everything must go. One day only Sat. 8-12 Bookcases, bikes, books, lighting, compressor, nailguns, misc. furniture, plants, BBQ, general household items. 128 Bullock Creek Rd. NO EARLY BIRDS PLEASE

**YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR CLASSIFIEDS**

[bcclassified.com](http://bcclassified.com) 1-855-310-3535

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**PERSONAL SERVICES**

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**RAPID DEBT RELIEF...** NO Interest - LOW Payments Call KYLE for a FREE CONSULTATION 1-855-812-6767

**ABAKHAN & Associates Inc.** Debt Restructuring Consultant Trained in Bankruptcy [www.BankruptcyBC.com](http://www.BankruptcyBC.com) We'll help you get a fresh start!

**DROWNING IN debt?** Helping Canadians 25 years. Lower payments by 30%, or cut debts 70% thru Settlements. Avoid bankruptcy! Free consultation. Toll-free 1-877-556-3500 [www.mydebtsolutions.com](http://www.mydebtsolutions.com)

**GET BACK ON TRACK!** Bad credit? Bills? Unemployed? Need Money? We Lend! If you own your own home - you qualify. Pioneer Acceptance Corp. Member BBB. 1-877-957-1420 [www.pioneerwest.com](http://www.pioneerwest.com)

**IF YOU** own a home or real estate, Alpine Credits can lend you money. It's that simple. Your credit/age/income is not an issue. 1-800-587-2161.

**LOAN HELP.** Consolidate all your credit cards, bank loans, income tax debt and payday loans into one small interest-free monthly payment. Contact us asap toll-free 1-888-528-4920.

**MONEY PROVIDER.COM** \$500 Loan and +. No Credit Refused. Fast, Easy, 100% Secure. 1-877-776-1660.

**Need CASH Today?**

**Own A Vehicle? Borrow Up To \$25,000** No Credit Checks! Cash same day, local office. [www.PitStopLoans.com](http://www.PitStopLoans.com) 1.800.514.9399

**LEGAL SERVICES**

**CRIMINAL RECORD?** Don't let it block employment, travel, education, professional, certification, adoption, property rental opportunities. For peace of mind & a free consultation call 1-800-347-2540.

**LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE**

Need a lawyer? 30-min consultation initially for \$25+tax. 604.687.3221 1.800.663.1919 funded by the Law Foundation of BC

**HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES**

**CLEANING SERVICES**

**SHERAB'S HOUSECLEANING SERVICES.** Experienced cleaner, non-smoking, home or business. One time, weekly, bi-weekly or monthly. Thorough, detailed cleaning. Call for interview &/or references. 250-537-3077.

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

**CHILLSPOT IS** The Coolest Dog Bed-A new and innovative, thermodynamically cooled dog bed, that enhances the cool tile surfaces our pets rely on during the warm weather months. [www.chillspot.biz](http://www.chillspot.biz)

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

**HOT TUB (SPA) COVERS.** Best price. Best quality. All shapes & sizes available. 1-866-652-6837 [www.thecoverguy.com/news-paper?](http://www.thecoverguy.com/news-paper?)

**Q/IZE LEATHER-LOOK BED** w/800 Coil Euro-Top Mattress \$499.; Recliners, Sw. Rockers, Sofas, Loves LESS than 1/2 PRICE; Bookcases, Dressers, Sofa Tables, Mirrors, Desks, Sideboards, Dinettes, China Cabinets. **STOREWIDE LIQUIDATION PRICES.** While Stock Lasts! Reasonable Offers Will Be Accepted. **BUY & SAVE.** 9819 4th St., Sidney, Mon-Sat 9am-5pm. [buyandsave.ca](http://buyandsave.ca)

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

**YAMAHA** Disklavier DC5M4T 677 grand piano rec/plays, quiet/silent modes, w/remotes, Exc. cond. Asking \$500.00 Please call (250) 537-9659 More info at [www.disklavier.ca](http://www.disklavier.ca)

**HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES**

**COMPUTER SERVICES**

**CALL BOB'S Computer Service** for troubleshooting, software & networking support. We do house calls. 250-537-2827 or cell 250-538-7017. Please go & back-up your important data now!

**CONCRETE & PLACING**

**GULF COAST MATERIALS**

Serving the Gulf Islands

- Concrete
- Concrete Pumps
- Sand/Rebar
- Bagged Cement
- Colour & Sealers

**Small Load Pick Ups Available at Yard**

345 Rainbow Road 250-537-2611

**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

**HAULING AND SALVAGE**

**STRONG WOMAN HAULING & ESTATE SALE BUYER**

A full service, I move it all, junk removal company! Call 250-538-8985

**TREE SERVICES**

**MAN FOR HIRE**

Felling & Bucking Trees Clearing & Thinning Land Brush & Windfall Clean Up

Broom Pulling Demolition & Clean Up Garden Clean Up Hauling Soil Garbage Runs Odd Jobs 250-537-7536 GABRIEL

**WHAT'S ON**

page A16

**HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES**

**RENTALS**

**MOBILE HOMES & PADS**

**ACROSS FROM** high school, recently renovated mobile home. Kitchen/living room comb., 2 rooms-flexible use: Brm, Office, Den, WD, NS, NP, Ref. \$800/month + utilities. 250 537 2239

**YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR CLASSIFIEDS** Call 1-855-310-3535

**ISLAND EXPLORER**

Property Management Ltd. & Real Estate Services

**Large Bright Home in Vesuvius**

3 bedroom plus den, 2 1/2 bathroom, electric and wood heat, W/D, N/S, N/P, large deck and lawn, avail October 1st, long term. \$1495

250-537-4722 1-800-800-9492

Island Explorer is a fully licensed, bonded management company under the laws of the B.C. Govt.

**REAL ESTATE**

**HOUSES FOR SALE**

**FOR SALE**

An ideal family home with an ocean view in Port McNeill on Northern Vancouver Island. Eat-in family kitchen with lots of counter space invites the cook in the family. Three bedrooms on the main level and the master has a four piece ensuite. Laundry on main level for convenience. Basement has great potential for an in-law suite or B&B with two bedrooms, a full bath and family room. Large garage/shop with lots of storage. The sunny backyard with fruit trees and several varieties of berries offers ample opportunity for gardeners. Lots of parking for vehicles, RV and boat. Central to all schools and amenities. Affordable at just \$214,900. FMI Call Karin Moeller at 250-949-7231. Hardy Realty GMAC Real Estate

**MOBILE HOME** on 10 acres. 2 Bedrooms, deck, W/D, fireplace. Includes separate studio suite with bathroom, fireplace + own entrance. Available December 1 \$1000 per month for both units. Call 250-537-6860

**NICE 3+** br/Brm house for rent near Ganges. 1st Dec. N/S and n/d. \$1350 incl. util. 653-9988

**TWO BEDROOM** quiet Vesuvius home. Fenced garden. Long-term. Cat okay. \$1000 + Util. Avail Jan 1 250-537-0718

**VESEVIUS LARGE 2** bed room apt for lease \$1200. incl. util. Sunny natural setting near bus, beach & ferry. ph 250 537-2809

**HOUSES WANTED**

**WE BUY HOUSES**

Damaged House? Pretty House? Moving? Divorcing? Estate Sale? We will Buy your House Quick Cash & Private. Mortgage Too High and House won't sell? Can't make payments? We will Lease Your House, Make your Payments and Buy it Later!

Call: 1-250-616-9053 [www.webuyhomesbc.com](http://www.webuyhomesbc.com)

**RENTALS**

**COTTAGES**

450SQ FT CABIN, good for one. Galley kitchen, propane stove, fridge, big bathroom, separate shower, bedroom adjoining livingroom, with propane & electric heat, located near Blackburn on bus route, long term \$650/mo + hydro Call Craig 250-537-1252 or dawnmasters@gmail.com

**CLEAN, BRIGHT 1BRM** cottage with a view for 1 person, Fernwood Rd. Combined kitchen/living room. WD, NS, sm pet OK. Ref. \$695/mo. + hydro, long term, 250 537 2239

**COTTAGES ON ST. Mary Lake, Nov 1 - Apr 1.** Fully furnished, NP, NS From \$700/mo 250-537-2585

**FURNISHED COTTAGE,** quiet, lakefront setting, immaculately clean, kitchen, all dishes, pots, pans, cutlery, fireplace, TV, wif, liners & towels N/S, NP, sut single-couple, \$875/month (incl. Hydro) Avail. until May 2013. 250-537-5977

**RENTALS**

**SHARED ACCOMMODATION**

**QUJET RESP** mate to share 2 br/mt suite in Vesuvius near bus rte. \$575 incl. W/D, w/ifi, cable phone part furn. Avail immed. call Bob 250 931-1633

**STORAGE**

**STORAGE**

- All units heated
- Humidity control
- 9 foot height
- 24 hours access

**MID ISLAND STORAGE** 250-537-4722

**RENTALS**

**SHIPPING CONTAINERS** 20' or 40' Buy or Rent. Safe and secure. Easymove Container Services. Serving Vancouver Island. 1-(888)331-3279

**SUITES, LOWER**

**JAMES BAY, VIC -** Charming semi-furnished bachelor suite suitable for 1 quiet person, prime location, \$675 incl. util. Avail. Jan. 1 250 383-7131

**RENTALS**

**HOUSES FOR RENT**

**1 BDRM SUITE,** with W/D, w/ifi, satellite tv, view, private entrance, deck, NS, 5 min. drive to Ganges, \$750/mo incl. util. 250-537-2949

**3 BDRM, 2** bath, brand new beautiful in town. 5 appl, lg master, ensuite \$1,400/mo. Avail. Jan. 01st Call 250-931-5483.

**BRIGHT 1 BDRM +** Office Suite. Large windows and private garden. Furnished & equipped, w/d. Walk to Ganges. NS, NP, Refs. Suits 1 quiet person \$800/mo. Avail. long term. 250-537-9197.

**BRIGHT, 1 brdm,** own entrance, large patio & yard, W/D, NS, \$720 + utilities. On school & bus routes. Vesuvius area. 250-537-6601.

**BRIGHT & CHEERY** 2/3 brdm with downtown convenience, 4 appl, fireplace, hardwood floors, \$1100/mos. plus util. Contact [jackness@shaw.ca](mailto:jackness@shaw.ca)

**LOVELY 2** brdm garden suite available Dec. 1, heated tile floors and hardwood in living room and bedrooms. 4 piece bath, 5 appliance, large sunny wrap around deck. \$1200/mo inclusive. 250-538-1617

**MOBILE HOME** 2 brdm, private fenced yard, deck, wd, fully renovated. Avail. Dec 1, \$700/mo. Call 250-537-6860.

**MOBILE HOME** on 10 acres. 2 Bedrooms, deck, W/D, fireplace. Includes separate studio suite with bathroom, fireplace + own entrance. Available December 1 \$1000 per month for both units. Call 250-537-6860

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**VESEVIUS LARGE 2** bed room apt for lease \$1200. incl. util. Sunny natural setting near bus, beach & ferry. ph 250 537-2809

**OFFICE/RETAIL**

**UPSTAIRS DOWNTOWN** Ganges office space available for rent on reasonable terms. Approximately 240 square feet in heritage building across street from harbor with panoramic ocean views. Would suit counselor, bookkeeper, artist, photographer, massage therapist and/or similar business. Contact fisher@fmnlaw.ca if interested.

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- All units heated
- Humidity control
- 9 foot height
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**BRIGHT & CHEERY** 2/3 brdm with downtown convenience, 4 appl, fireplace, hardwood floors, \$1100/mos. plus util. Contact [jackness@shaw.ca](mailto:jackness@shaw.ca)

**LOVELY 2** brdm garden suite available Dec. 1, heated tile floors and hardwood in living room and bedrooms. 4 piece bath, 5 appliance, large sunny wrap around deck. \$1200/mo inclusive. 250-538-1617

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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**PAGE-TURNER:** Meghan MacFarlane peruses a book at Salt Spring Literacy's Giant Book Sale held Nov. 16-18. The event saw thousands of books sold and \$16,750 raised for the non-profit group.

# ZEN Zen zaps at darkness with 1/2-day retreat

At Cedar Lane Studio

**SALT SPRING ZEN CIRCLE**  
CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

How do you cope with days of rain, grey skies and fog?

Do you wish for a sunny beach or are you grateful that the ponds are full, seasonal streams run and arbutus trees are rejuvenated? Where does your mind go when you are hemmed in with the fog? Are you full of peace and tranquility or do you rail against the darkness?

"Within light there is darkness, but do not try to understand that darkness. Within darkness there is light, but do not look for that light. Light and darkness are a pair like the foot before and the foot behind in walking." (The Sandokai)

Peter Levitt, the Zen teacher on Salt Spring, reminds us to go to a place

that is neither hot nor cold, a place that is neither wet nor dry. The idea is not to be caught by delusions, to be fully present to what is happening right now. To desire something else is to deny the present. If it's raining, be fully with the rain. Hear the rain being rain or the wind being wind, not wishing for something else. Change will come. But this very moment cannot be repeated.

One way to practice acceptance of what is happening right now in your life is to try Zen meditation. On the last Sunday of the month, Nov. 25, the Salt Spring Zen Circle hosts a half-day of meditation at the studio, 210 Cedar Lane, from 7:50 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Instruction is offered to newcomers, and chairs are provided for those who are unable to sit cross-legged.

For further information and registration, please contact Simon Rompre at 250-537-1721.

## B.C. Coastal Ferries Consultation and Engagement October 29 to December 21, 2012

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is inviting the public and communities to participate in the B.C. Coastal Ferries Consultation and Engagement.

The province-wide consultation and engagement process will gather input on elements of the government's vision of connecting coastal communities in an affordable, efficient and sustainable manner, as well as considerations to address the immediate challenges facing the coastal ferry system.

### How Input Will Be Used

Input received through the consultation and engagement process will be considered, along with technical, financial and policy considerations, as the Ministry determines how to achieve \$26 million in savings to 2016 and plans for the long-term sustainability of the coastal ferry network.

### Small Group Meeting Schedule

To attend a small group meeting in your community, please e-mail [coastalferriesengagement@gov.bc.ca](mailto:coastalferriesengagement@gov.bc.ca) or call toll-free at 1 855 387-7882 with your name, contact information and which meeting you would like to attend.

Community	Date	Time	Location
Nanaimo	November 15	Completed	Coast Bastion Inn
Salt Spring Island	November 15	Completed	The Harbour House Hotel
Cortes Island	November 28	11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Gorge Hall
Victoria	December 5	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Hotel Grand Pacific

### Public Open House Schedule

The first 90 minutes will be a public open house. The second 90 minutes will be a question and answer session with the project team. No RSVP is required for public open houses.

Community	Date	Time	Location
Gabriola Island	November 13	Completed	The Haven
Penelakut (Kuper Island)	November 14	Completed	Adult Learning Centre
Thetis Island	November 14	Completed	Thetis Island Forbes Community Hall
Pender Island	November 14	Completed	Pender Islands Community Hall
Salt Spring Island	November 15	Completed	The Harbour House Hotel
Nanaimo	November 15	Completed	Coast Bastion Inn
Galiano Island	November 17	Completed	Galiano Community Hall
Quadra Island	November 27	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Quadra Island Community Centre
Mayne Island	December 3	5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Mayne Island Community Centre
Saturna Island	December 4	5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Saturna Island Community Hall
Texada Island	December 5	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Texada Island Community Hall
Victoria	December 5	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Hotel Grand Pacific
Hornby Island	December 8	10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Hornby Island Community Hall
Denman Island	December 8	3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Denman Island Community School

Schedule subject to change. Please check web site for the full schedule.

To provide feedback, please contact us at:  
[www.coastalferriesengagement.ca](http://www.coastalferriesengagement.ca)

Write a submission to: [coastalferriesengagement@gov.bc.ca](mailto:coastalferriesengagement@gov.bc.ca) or  
P.O. Box 2223 Vancouver Main, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3W2  
Call toll-free: 1 855 387-7882



## TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

**BAD THINGS HAPPEN** to Good People! There is a benefit for MaryLynn (The Local Barber). Silent Auction will be held on Saturday, Nov. 24, 4pm, Club House Bar and Grill at the Golf Course

**DEADLINE FOR TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY IS 2:00PM TUESDAY**

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This Week's  
**Noroscope**

by **Michael O'Connor**  
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### Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

The Sun now in Sagittarius is probably like a breath of fresh air for you. Though the deeper Scorpio undercurrents have only just begun, this window should ease the intensity of the Scorpio Sun. And yet, you also feel like you are ready to get down to business again. That this focus is a loop back to contending with deep changes reveals the fractal in the plot.

### Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)

You are on a whole new roll now. The time has come to venture deeper than you have perhaps for a while. What deeper means, depends on your situation. Perhaps you want to focus more intently and/or are ready for the next stage somehow. Either way, you very more determined than ever. Make good of this momentum to get things started at least. Once you do you will launch!

### Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)

The focus has shifted and suddenly some of the more important relationships in your life are taking center stage. The time has come to take greater risks. Moving beyond your previous comfort zone is the call. Deciphering how may be on your mind. The key is to ask and anticipate answers, signs and/or synchronicities. Be open to new tools and strategies.

### Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)

The time has come to make a few adjustments towards improvement. How can you do the things you do better? This is a creative challenge. Be patient with the answers, process and results. Sometimes it takes years to realize the full measure of our goals. Yet, do begin to formulate the questions and set your sights on the target.

### Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)

A period of retreat or escape is giving way to a more playful and adventurous mood. You may direct this energy to ambitious pursuits as well. Yet there remains a deeper process at work. You are on a search for deeper insights and answers. These may be directed at higher truths and/or at practical strategies and measures to tap more of your hidden potential.

### Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

A rather steep learning curve continues. Finding your way through the trees to direct it may be lingering questions. Either way, you are I the game and your energy levels are rising to meet the challenge. Clarifying what constitutes your spectrum of qualities, talents, advantages and opportunities will prove to be time well spent!

### Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)

The past several weeks have likely

been trying. Establishing a new foundation somehow has been a central theme. Dealing with blocks, delays, limitations and other frustrations has and probably continues to be a test of your metal. Relying upon the assistance and resources of others is likely. Trust that the support you have been getting reflects the return of what you have given in the past.

### Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)

You are on a whole new roll now. Your confidences are up and you feel more determined than ever. The danger is that you will express over confidence or replace assertiveness with aggressiveness. Consider the universe does not judge but it does teach by consequences. Knowing the difference between needs, wants and desires and how these fit in your life is the deeper task.

### Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)

You have been and are enduring something of a dark night. Perhaps you have slept peacefully through it, yet more likely you have endured at least a few nightmares. But now you are beginning to see the light of a new dawn, if only a glim. Take stalk of this and accept it as the promise of eternal renewal. Though a new day is rising, it is still only November and it will get darker yet.

### Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)

A busy time making key connections, dreaming new schemes, identifying who are and are not your allies, continues. Yet, it may be time to duck out of sight for a while. The goal is to gain some insight perhaps from your higher self and/or from other sources of information. It is good to trust, yet it is also realistic to check in and verify to be more certain.

### Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)

You may be noticing that the incline has become steeper. The past few years have been symbolic of arriving at base camp. Now you have the task of climbing the real peaks. Knowing this will help you to adjust your attitude so that you don't interpret this ascent to greater heights as merely attendance in the school of hard knocks. Go for glory!

### Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

Finding your way through the trees to gain a vantage to see the forest has been a central theme. There is reason to say you are finally coming into a clearing. Make the most of this window to get a clear and strong sense of your bearings. Be willing to reach out, to ask for earned favors, to be seen and heard. People will count you in when you do.



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**VOLLEYBALL**

## GISS Scorpions pass test for provincials

Senior boys volleyball team off to Kelowna on Monday

The Gulf Islands Scorpions finished the island volleyball championship tournament this past weekend with bronze medals around their necks.

"While it was not the finish we had hoped for, it was a solid effort and we are going to provincials," reported coach Kellie Booth. "We have another week to heal and it will be a whole new tournament when we get to Kelowna."

Ben Richardson returned from injury this weekend and Lukas Wenzel was injured, so team play suffered with neither of the GISS setters at 100 per cent. On Friday the boys defeated Parklands in two straight games, lost to Highland in a two-point third game and

finished the day with a win over Lambrick Park.

Saturday started at 5:20 a.m. with a fire alarm at the hotel. Wellington was the first opponent of the day and was defeated by the GISS squad. Next up was Pacific Christian in what turned out to be the match of the tournament.

The Scorpions won the first set, but dropped the next three in the closely contested best three of five matches. After several power outages in the gym caused by a nasty storm in Courtenay, the Scorpions faced Woodlands in the bronze medal match and marched over the team from Nanaimo for the victory.

"The boys continue to improve every match we play and if we can heal some injuries in time for the provincial tournament next week, we should be a team no one will

want to play," said Booth.

She said the team will rely on solid blocking from Carson McCormick, Ethan Frigon, Eduardo Silveira and Aaryn Funk in Kelowna. Strong serving and timely hitting contributions will come from Kyle Matheson, Chris Perrins and Michael Elsser, and defensive specialists Gaelen White and Gunnar Rasmussen will patrol the back row.

Jackson Sweetnam continues to play a strong all-around game and was named to the tournament all-star team at the island tournament.

The team travels to Kelowna on Monday, Nov. 26. Anyone wishing to make a financial contribution to help with the cost of the trip can make a designated Senior Boys Volleyball Team donation to the Gulf Islands Educational Trust Fund at the school board office.



ONSIGHT PHOTO

Aaryn Funk goes for the ball during Vancouver Island AA senior boys volleyball championship action over the weekend.

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**MEN'S SOCCER**

## Alumni FC seeks fourth straight win

Salt Spring FC faces battle with division's worst

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Alumni won its third match in a row by defeating Bays United 5-0 on home soil Sunday afternoon.

Mark Nordine, Sean Nordgard and Jude Shugar supplied all the offensive power Alumni required for the team to maintain its slim grip on first place in the Vancouver

Island Soccer League's Masters-B division.

The victory boosts Alumni's record to an impressive 8-1-1 on the season. Alumni takes to the field off island against bottom-ranked Lakehill FC (1-9-0) on Saturday evening in search of its fourth consecutive win.

In Division 1 action, Salt Spring FC (1-7-2) is winless in seven games after getting romped by fifth-place Vic West (6-4-0) on Nov. 17.

Salt Spring FC will try to get things back on track when the team travels to Victoria to play

last-place Gorge FC (1-9-1) on Saturday afternoon. Whereas a win would give Salt Spring a four-point lead over the last place team in the division, a loss would dump the squad into the division's cellar.

In South Vancouver Island Classics Soccer Association action, a lack of players forced the cancellation of the Old Boys' weekend match-up against the Centaurs.

Players hope to get back in action against Gordon Head at the Gulf Islands Secondary School field on Sunday at 12:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**COMPOSED:** Salt Spring's Div.1 women's soccer team gets together for a team photo after last weekend's home game in which they tied Bays United 2-2.

**Islands Trust**

**CALL FOR SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO PARTICIPATE IN AN "INDUSTRIAL ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION"**

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) invites persons with an interest in industrial land issues including residents, industrial operators, neighbours to industrial land and other interested persons, to submit an expression of interest to participate in an Industrial Advisory Planning Commission.

The purpose of the Industrial Advisory Planning Commission is to follow up on recommendations from the Industrial Task Force Report (2009) and to review and comment on drafts of an Industrial Lands Needs Assessment when such drafts are available. Terms of reference for the Industrial Advisory Planning Commission are available through the Islands Trust office.

Up to nine members of the community will be appointed by the LTC and meetings of the Industrial Advisory Planning Commission are anticipated to start early in the new year. A meeting schedule will be established with Islands Trust assistance.

For more information, please stop by the Islands Trust office at 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, call 250-537-9144, or email: [ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca).

Interested applicants must notify the Islands Trust no later than **November 28th, 2012**.



# Christmas on Salt Spring

## Photos with Santa!

**SATURDAY, NOV. 24**



### KIDS ACTIVITIES:

- arts and crafts for young and old
- ornament making
- cookie decorating
- hot chocolate
- mandarin oranges and candy canes

*Activities provided by your Salt Spring Arts Council*

**Please bring a non-perishable food item or a donation for the Food Bank**

**1:15-3:00 pm**

### PHOTOS WITH SANTA

Santa will ride to Mahon Hall in a Salt Spring Fire Rescue truck, where he will spend the next two hours posing for photos.

*Hot Chocolate and Goodies for the kids!*

### 1:00 pm SANTA ARRIVES

Welcome Santa as he flies into Ganges Harbour with St. Clair McColl of Salt Spring Air. Children can greet Santa on the Ganges floatplane dock



and



the salt spring arts council

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST**

## LIGHT-UP GANGES

Bring your family and enjoy seeing Ganges Village being turned into Salt Spring's Christmas Village!

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

#### 4:00 to 5:00 pm

**Chili Cook-Off** – Restaurants and Individuals compete to have the Best Chili on Salt Spring. Hot Chocolate and Goodies for the kids! Pick your Favorite Chili – Prizes for the Winners!

#### 4:30 to 5:30 pm

**Live Entertainment** – Special musical and street performances including caroling

#### 5:30 pm

**Light-up in Ganges Village** – Join us to see the town Glow in the warmth of the season!

Events to take place in Centennial Park or Fire Hall #1 – Dress in your warm winter ware! To compete in Chili Cook-off, email [christmasonsaltspring@gmail.com](mailto:christmasonsaltspring@gmail.com) (\$25 entry fee) Learn more at: [www.christmasonsaltspring.com](http://www.christmasonsaltspring.com)



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# WEDDING PLANNER

## VENUES

# Diverse facilities offer unusual wedding experiences

Casual to formal options found off the beaten track

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring is home to a surprising array of semi-private properties that are sometimes open to the public. With the tantalizing tastes of airy homes and picturesque gardens that visitors receive, it's not surprising that many of them think of these treasured spots again when making wedding plans.

Many island business owners are in fact happy to expand their purview by making spaces accommodating and available for special events. Because that isn't their primary function, there may be some extra planning involved for the wedding party. But the rewards include having the special day take place at a truly memorable location.

The hill-top Flying Dreams Studio owned by aerial artist Victoria Mihalyi instantly suggests itself as an ideal wedding location by virtue of its church-inspired design, which includes 40-foot vaulted ceilings, soaring Gothic windows and a spectacular view of Trincomali Channel.

"I liked the idea of a church,



PHOTO BY HELENE CYR

Wedding complete with aerial artist act at Flying Dreams Studio.

because movement to me is something sacred," Mihalyi said, explaining the circus training facilities she'd known in Toronto were ugly concrete and steel boxes.

"I wanted to train here, but it's such a beautiful space, I wanted something pretty."

Nicknamed The Temple by Mihalyi's students, the studio has the advantage of looking like a church but not being one — it can house

any faith or simply provide the feeling of sacred space without being tied to a religious doctrine. The first marriage that took place there was between Kirsty Barclay and Tenzing Tsewang, a Tibetan Buddhist.

With its classic architectural beauty, the studio doesn't require much dressing up, but can be decorated as much or as little as required. A recent wedding incor-



PHOTO COURTESY DUCK CREEK FARM

Duck Creek Farm provides a laid-back and earthy spot for a wedding.

porated an ivory and old lace theme, with white chiffon fabric hung over the mirrors.

"They made something magical even more beautiful," Mihalyi said.

In good weather the party can spill into the garden, which isn't huge but can accommodate a barbecue, snack tables, cosy seating areas or small tents.

As a particularly special addi-

tion, the bride and groom can elect to make an aerial performance part of the package. Again, that can be as simple or as elaborate as the couple desires, from a single performer to a full cast show. The last wedding aerial Mihalyi did was performed, at the clients' request, to a Polish punk rock song.

VENUES continued on B12

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## WEDDING PLANNER

## PHILOSOPHY

# Wedding substance: let the 'place' create the style



VALESKA PHOTOGRAPHY PHOTOS

The wedding of Jessalyn and Tyler, as captured by Valeska Photography, made full use of Salt Spring Island's natural beauty.

So many ways to put island style into your wedding

BY KAREN CURTIN  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

So you've decided that Salt Spring Island is the perfect place for a wedding. Instead of planning your special day with ideas from an urban magazine, why not take your cues from the actual place?

What is it about this island that draws artists, healers and people needing to be healed? It's a crazy quilt of personalities living and working within the parameters of a sea-locked area — a vacation destination and a community woven tight with interesting characters and special relationships.

Creating a wedding that is wholly unique to Salt Spring means that you can avoid conventionality while still using the landscape to inspire the event's decorative and culinary details. Be as quirky as you like, as long as it's not wasteful or pretentious.

From the land, raw materials for decoration can include cedar, arbutus, locally grown flowers or plants, alpaca or lamb's wool, or stone.

Green trends suggest potted plants in lieu of exotic cut flowers. Fast growing plants like willow and ivy can be woven together for lovely outdoor installations. Or you can have your wedding take place where there are breathtaking gardens and fragrant orchards already established.

From the sea, you can create nautical motifs with sand, smooth beach pebbles, driftwood, canvas, seashells and representations of sea creatures. The west coast style is rustically simple and functional.

Colours range from the stunning contrast of white and the warm red-brown of cedar to fresh sea greens and blues harmonized with a white palette. Imagine a scene of cedar tables set with linen or can-

vas in a west-coast-inspired room with large beams and skylights.

Willow or wool woven place settings surround centrepieces, a fusion of land and sea softly lit by local beeswax candles.

The gift shops and galleries on the island can provide inspiration, as they usually reflect the eclectic island style, ranging from fine art to artisan crafts to homemade beauty products.

Rural roots run deep here, and many residents invest a great deal of thought and effort into supporting local farms and businesses. If you are committed to making your wedding a true Salt Spring event, consider choosing a caterer or venue that uses local, seasonal food.

**Salt Spring in summer  
glows with abundance,  
the good healing  
energy of things being  
grown and created.**

Often couples have preconceived notions of the menu, but "eating local" means changing with the seasons. You may need suggestions from a dedicated locavore such as chef Bruce Wood of Bruce's Kitchen — the go-to person on Salt Spring for creating a menu built from local food and sustainable practices.

"The type of people planning a wedding on the island typically want a farm-to-table experience in a rural setting. But at times we run into a snag where someone wants a cheese platter with fresh fruit — in the winter. My business ethos is all about cooking with

local food in season, so I offer alternatives."

Sustainability should be a deciding factor, along with seasonality and proximity. Poultry can be purchased on Salt Spring and in Cowichan Bay. Local farms produce pretty much anything one could need: tofu, cheese, eggs, milk etc. There are three vineyards on the island and many just across the water in the Cowichan Valley, so finding local spirits is easy and rewarding.

Because of the informal nature of the island — we not only have our own money but also "Salt Spring time" — buffet-style service works well. People tend to move around and socialize more, which in turn creates a more intimate and fun event.

For thrifty folks and small weddings, there's the always interesting and friendly potluck. People won't think you're cheap because they'll be occupied with the variety and the recipe swapping that ensues.

If your special day is not within mid June to September, the chances are high that it will be a wet wedding. The dullness and humidity make it all the more important that your venue be warm, dry and filled with light to combat the dampness and grey skies. The island in spring is awash in new blooms and rich, lush foliage as green as it gets; however, the rainy period isn't over — an indoor wedding is still the safest bet.

Salt Spring in summer glows with abundance, the good healing energy of things being grown and created. The island is renowned for its artists and health practitioners. Why not include their talents during the reception to offer things like quick portraits of guests or 15-minute treatments?

Our famous market's mandate is that everything should be made or grown on island — we can apply the same rules to a wedding. Rather than having the place conform to an idea, try allowing the place and the people to inspire the wedding.



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# WEDDING PLANNER

## SALT SPRING STORIES

# Blue moon Salt Spring wedding well worth the wait

Everything needed to complete the vision available locally

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Meeting the man who was to become her husband was the last thing Leanne Brunelle expected when she decided to visit Cortes Island nearly a decade ago.

At 30 years old, she'd recently finished a two-year course in music and multimedia and decided to relish some of the freedom that followed graduation with a trip to see friends and family along the coast.

Marriage may not have been on her mind, but a relationship with a friend of a friend she'd crossed paths with on her trip wasn't entirely out of the question.

By the end of her visit, it was clear that Brunelle and Graham Foulkes shared something special, not the least of which was the instant friendship that developed between Brunelle's seven-year-old son and Foulkes' two young children.

Weeks turned into months, the relationship took shape and, before long, the young family bought a home near Nelson.

Even in the quiet Slocan Valley, life had a way of keeping the family running off their feet. Thoughts of a wedding would arise every now and again but never get far past the dreaming stage.

It wasn't until Brunelle and Foulkes made the big move back to the coast in 2011 that the logistical nightmares involved in getting friends and family to one of the remotest parts of the province suddenly disappeared. Dreaming of that big day soon shifted



PHOTO BY TAI WHELEN

Graham Foulkes and Leanne Brunelle participate in an ancient Hawaiian hand-washing ritual as part of their ceremony officiated by Jackie Truscott.

to planning for the perfect wedding and, by Easter weekend of this year, a decision was made.

"Between 2008 and 2012 is a long time to toss it around, but eventually the timing was right," Brunelle said.

When it comes to wedding planning, there's no such thing as too much time. Details like food, music, theme, setting, weather, parking, transportation, accommodation and so much more have a tendency to creep in and occupy any free time there may be.

Even when things are sorted, another look is always in order if they're still enough time.

Although the wedding couple knew they wanted their wedding to

coincide with the blue moon scheduled to occur at the end of August, how it would look was anyone's guess.

"At first it was like, let's do a Beaver Point Hall thing, but then I thought about it and realized, 'Wait a minute, that's just not really what we want to do,'" Brunelle said. "What we want to do is have a special little tea party with hors d'oeuvres."

"It wasn't about being a big booze fest, it was about the tea party," added Foulkes, who is British and loves tea.

It was also going to feature a special wedding ceremony that incorporated meaningful pagan traditions in a scenic portion of Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park.

Among the many distinctive



PHOTO BY GRAHAM FOULKES - HIGH END DIGITAL

Tabitha Foulkes (the groom's daughter) holds the bowl of coloured sand that symbolizes the creation of a new extended family made of individual members of the bride's and groom's families.

touches were the bridal procession performance of Mahk Jchi (Heart-beat Drum Song) by Sweetwater and the Gaia Soul Sistahs, an ancient Hawaiian hand-washing ceremony, a tribute to the four cardinal points and an emotional conclusion that got all wedding participants to hold hands in a circle.

Among the most significant of all these ceremonies, Brunelle and Foulkes agreed, was the gathering of coloured sands, each representing an individual member of the newly created extended family, into a large bowl.

"The idea is that, once they're combined, the sands become impossible to separate," Brunelle said.

As with so many weddings, however, regardless of how carefully thought out things may be, there never seems to be enough time when the wedding day inevitably rolls near.

Fortunately, Brunelle and her husband had a loyal group of talented friends to help.

"I'm so blessed that one of my best old friends reached out to help," Brunelle said.

Within days, that friend had arranged for Brunelle's circle of friends to pitch in and help complete the dream of a 1920s-themed wedding in the Burgoyne Valley.

BRUNELLE-FOULKES continued on B5

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## WEDDING PLANNER

## EXPERT ADVICE

## Heed wise advice: Be open to ideas and expertise

People who've been there share what they learned

Once you announce your plans to get married, there's a good chance that people close to you will be ready and willing to dispense their share of advice. Some words of wisdom will be priceless, while others you can store away for another day.

When polling married couples, you will likely find they would change "this" or "that" about their weddings if given the chance to do it all over again. Here is some advice that you can choose to follow for your wedding day.

**Tip #1: Trust your vendors**

Couples often have unique ideas for their wedding day. It may seem tempting to spell out what you want in minute detail and insist on wedding vendors carrying out your wishes to a T. But the smarter idea may be to give vendors a little more free reign — after all, they are the professionals.

"I had a vision in

my head of what I wanted my centerpiece to look like," offers Jean M., Connecticut. "I gave the florist my suggestions and the 'feel' of what I was trying to create, but ultimately left the finished product up to her. When I walked into the reception hall and saw my centerpiece baskets overflowing with fall-hued flowers, berries and twinkling candles, I was so excited I had left it up to the expert."

When deciding on particular aspects of the wedding, you can give your general ideas, but leave the finished product to the professionals. Don't list every song you want the deejay to play or micromanage all of the poses the photographer should take. After all, experienced pros have likely done this dozens of times in the past and could produce results you never dreamed possible.

**Tip #2: Scale down**

Unless you are planning on auditioning for the show "Over-the-Top Weddings," it might pay to make your wedding more

about being personal and less about wow-ing the crowd with special effects and expensive treats. It's easy to be lured into extra dinner courses or be persuaded to release doves at the ceremony, but will these extras impact your relationship or the life you will be building together?

"If I had to do it all again, I would skip the dessert bar I had at my wedding," says Alice C., Ohio. "The spread of pies, pastries, cookies, and chocolates certainly looked impressive, but it cost me a small fortune. Also, people filled up on the dessert bar so much, they no longer had room to taste my special-ordered wedding cake."

**Tip #3: Don't overextend**

Your wedding will hopefully be a once-in-a-lifetime event. Therefore, couples often plan to spend a good deal of money to ensure their special day is perfect. Weddings are still viewed as a high-priority expense and most couples save for a long period of time despite sluggish consumer

spending reports. According to the market research and analysis firm IBISWorld, nearly 60 per cent of couples go over their budgets when getting married. Some do so at the risk of being in debt afterward.

"It can be easy to get carried away in wedding spending," shares Deirdre H., Michigan. "I went way over budget when getting my wedding gown and a few other components of my wedding. My husband and I struggled the first year of our marriage trying to fix our finances and battling a bad case of money-related stress."

Try to stick to a budget as much as possible so that you can enjoy yourself not only on the wedding day, but also long after the honeymoon has ended.

**Tip #4: Keep it in the family**

Selecting members of your wedding party can be challenging because there may be so many special people in your lives right now that you want to honour. Choosing a best man and a maid/matron of honour is a large responsibility

because these people stand out in the wedding. Although couples struggle with their choices and want to please everyone, your safest bet is to choose a family member.

"I ended up choosing my best friend over my sister as maid of honour," says Clara T., Arizona. "Although we were very close at the time, we've since

grown apart due to work relocation. My sister and I, however, talk and hang out frequently. I regret not having asked my sister to be my maid of honour, considering hers is a friendship I know will last a long time."

Unless you don't have close family members or your relationship with your siblings or cousins

is strained, choose a family member to serve as best man or maid of honour.

It is easy to be overwhelmed when planning a wedding, and couples can expect to be bombarded with advice.

However, it could pay to heed the advice of couples who have already lived and learned from their wedding choices.

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## 1920s-themed wedding infused with local focus

### BRUNELLE-FOULKES

continued from B4

Sandwiches were made, cookies were baked, a band of musical friends was assembled and the graffiti-strewn shelter at Drummond Park was transformed into something akin to a five-star tea room.

Beautiful bouquets and decorations were created from Salt Spring's Flowers & Festivities by Tali and a gingerbread wedding cake was cooked up by Lou Ellis.

"All of my beautiful friends gave us so much love by pitching in and making the food," she said. "I received so much that weekend from all those friends that, at first, it was uncomfortable, but I learned to receive."

The result is something Brunelle and Foulkes can proudly recall as one of the most locally inspired weddings they'd ever been to.

"We had the most recycled wedding I've ever known, Brunelle said. "It was super local and, that was another thing, my family was really happy to give to Salt Spring economically."

### Learn from the experience

Leanne and Graham met with some important lessons while planning their wedding. Let their experience guide you when planning your big day on Salt Spring.

- Don't lose sight of what's important to you. Outline your vision and don't feel pressured to conform to what a wedding



PHOTO BY TAI WHELAN

Bride and groom in 1920s attire at Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park.

should be like. After all, it's your day.

- Getting friends and family to pitch in with some or all the food is a great way to cut costs without necessarily having to sacrifice quality or quantity.

- Giving off-island guests the information they need to turn the wedding trip into an extended Salt Spring holiday is a great way to help them relax and enjoy their trip.

- Salt Spring is full of talented musicians who can add a splash of local flavour to your wedding festivities. Don't be shy to ask around.

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## ANNIVERSARY

# Herberts look ahead to 25th

Island wedding from 1988 recalled

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring is an idyllic spot for a wedding today and the same was true in 1988.

John and Alicia Herbert had lived on the island for about a year when they were married on July 2, 1988. Beaver Point Hall, Ruckle Park and a slew of local service providers, friends and family members made their wedding typical of the times on the island.

"It was sort of casual country style," recalls Alicia, who is now a business banking advisor for Island Savings in Ganges.

Her mother made the wedding dress, and sister-in-law Trish Faurot baked and decorated the cake.

Julie Sweetnam, now a preschool teacher at Little Red Schoolhouse, was at the time a trained floral arranger, so she took care of the flowers. (Sweetnam was also Alicia's best friend in high school in Campbell River, B.C.)

Juliette Laing did Alicia's hair, and the late Leo Martinez of Salt Spring Photo took their wedding portraits.

The flowers came from two places: the late Winnifred Carter's famous garden on Fulford-Ganges Road, where Alicia did some gardening work, and Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply, where John was employed at the time.

Alicia remembers Foxglove owners Marilyn and Chris Schmah attending the wedding with their "three little girls."

John and Alicia walked into the hall together and addressed their guests from the stage. "John talked



LEO MARTINEZ PHOTO COURTESY ALICIA HERBERT

John and Alicia Herbert on their wedding day on July 2, 1988.

about our love for each other and I told them why they were here."

A version of True Love Ways — recorded on cassette tapes of music made by friends — provided the music for their first dance. (If they had been married in 2012, the music may have been provided by John's current band The Fabulous Flakes.)

The addition had not yet been made to Beaver Point Hall, said Alicia, and there was also only one

outhouse for guests to use.

While Alicia can't remember the name of the person who provided the food, it was a picnic-style buffet that allowed for leftovers to be shared with family members at Ruckle Park the next day.

They also camped at Ruckle Park that night. Alicia recalls trundling down the path to the campground in her wedding dress with a sleeping bag tucked under her arm.

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## ADVICE

# Ways to keep wedding plans on track & time

Calendar, digital photos and other tips

Couples planning a wedding quickly realize just how challenging a task that planning can be. From paring down the guest list to arranging the music to choosing a menu for the reception, couples must make several decisions when planning their big days.

Staying organized when planning a wedding is no small task, as the planning can be spread out over several months or even more than a year, making it difficult to keep track of what has and hasn't been done. The following are a few organizational tips that should help couples keep on track when planning a wedding.

- Write things down. Whether you write things down the old-fashioned way in a notebook or jot down notes in a tablet, write down your plans as you go. Write down important phone numbers, vendor information and all the other details you'll want instant access to. It's important that such notes are taken in something that's portable, allowing you to jot down notes immediately as opposed to forcing you to remember until you arrive home.

- Create a to-do list. A to-do list is another great way to stay organized when planning your wedding. As you make certain decisions, simply strike those tasks from the list. This way you will know which tasks you've polished off and which ones you still need to work on.

- Create a wedding calendar. Keep a calendar devoted specifically to the wedding. Include appointments with vendors and information regarding payment schedules and other deadlines on this calendar. If you set any deadlines for yourself, such as when you prefer to choose a band for the reception, jot these deadlines down on the wedding calendar as well.

- Take a digital camera along when shopping for your wedding. Many couples want to explore their options before making any decisions with regard to attire, floral bouquets and other aspects of the wedding. But it can be difficult to remember all of the things you might have seen throughout the process. Bring a digital camera along when shopping so you won't have to rely strictly on memory when making your final decisions. As you take pictures, upload them to your computer so when the time comes to make a decision, those photos are easily accessible.

- Delegate certain tasks. Even couples that consider themselves taskmasters can benefit from delegating some tasks when planning a wedding. This can save you some time and make it easier to keep track of everything. When delegating, ask friends or family to handle those tasks that don't require a personal touch. For example, ask a best man or maid of honour to arrange for guest transportation to and from the airport. It's not too much responsibility, but it's one less thing for busy couples to worry about.

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# WEDDING PLANNER

PHOTOGRAPHY

*Seen on Salt Spring wedding photos*



Lauren and Jeremy find a unique way to thank their guests.



Wedding photos can take many shapes and themes, and make the most of unique venues and what's important to the couple. All photos taken on Salt Spring Island by Valeska Photography.

Jessalyn and Tyler do a little tandem rock climbing on their north-end property.



Long grass at Ruckle Park makes a beautiful setting for a portrait of Eva and Ness.



Tammy and Troy grab a private moment at a picturesque Hasting House building.

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## DRESS PITFALLS

# It's buyer beware for online wedding apparel purchases

Online dress experiments can be risky

BY MARY HARRISON  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Would you bankroll your wedding by going to a casino and betting that you could double or triple your money to pay for your special day? Of course not, but many women do gamble when it comes to their wedding gown and those of their bridesmaids, and they don't even realize they're doing it.

Often when a bride envisions her wedding day, it includes a gown. One that fits perfectly, looks amazing on her, and gets that gasp of awe when she makes her appearance. In order to find this perfect garment, she will go to one or more bridal boutiques to try on dress after dress, to find the gown of her dreams. And often, this gown will cost a lot more than she had thought.

On average, a well-made and quality gown will cost around \$1,000. Sometimes you can find a great deal on the sale rack, and that might even include the alterations and veil. If the dress you fall in love with is higher than your projected budget, you may be tempted to go online and buy it from any one of the hundreds of sites that offer "quick delivery," "made to your size" and "guaranteed" dresses for a fraction of the cost.

Online dresses are a gamble at best, and a scam at worst. Let's take a real-life scenario that is based on three real-life brides who have been let down: The bride in question has just found a lovely dress at a boutique. It is a little large, but the boutique will order the dress in for her, based on her measurements, directly from the supplier.

It is a lovely cream-coloured taffeta sheath gown with an internal corset to hold the dress to her body, a lace-up back, and delicate beading and embroidery throughout the bust and bodice. It also has a matching taffeta shawl. The gown is ruched, or

pleated, from the deep sweetheart neckline all the way to the thigh and it lays flat and is tacked down discreetly to lie from left to right. The dress is priced at \$1,200.

The bride has three friends who were married last summer, and they each bought their dress from an online site and were very happy with their dresses (or so they told their friends). Our bride decides to do the same thing and purchases her dress from the same site. Her wedding is in three months and the site guarantees delivery within two months. She chooses her ivory-coloured dress and sends in her measurements as asked for. She's alone, so she just measures herself and sends in the order. Her cost with shipping is slightly over \$600.

**The bride tries on her dress, but because she took her own**

**measurements, the**

**bust is too small, the**

**waist and hip are too**

**large, and the dress is**

**much too long.**

Time passes. Our bride is getting a little nervous as the gown hasn't arrived yet and it's been eight weeks since her order. Nine weeks. Ten weeks. The wedding is two weeks away and today there's a bag in the mail! A bag, with a crumpled up bunch of fabric in it.

Once she unravels it, it's her dress! But the fabric doesn't feel the same as the original dress, and on closer inspection, there's even more wrong with it: there's no internal corset, and it's a zipper back. There's beading, but it looks like plastic instead of glass and the embroidery wasn't sewn

on, it looks like something from FabricLand was just ironed on with QwikSew. The neckline isn't a deep sweetheart — it barely dips at all — and the pleating lays from right to left and it sticks up in places. There's no tag in the dress that says who made it, and their idea of ivory looks like a dirty shade of grey.

The bride tries on her dress, but because she took her own measurements, the bust is too small, the waist and hip are too large, and the dress is much too long.

Devastated, our bride goes from bridal boutique to bridal boutique, hoping to find a dress off the rack that will fit her and make her feel as beautiful as her original dress did, but it's no use. No one else has that specific dress except for the first store she went to. Angry, our bride contacts the online site to complain but they say the dress arrived before the wedding date and returns are only if the dress is late (maybe).

They also remind her that the colour online may not match the colour sent, and that was mentioned on their site when she chose her colour. She now has no recourse but to either wear the horrible dress she received or buy the original dress.


She chooses to get her original dress and was lucky enough to only spend \$1,000 on the dress as it was on sale as a sample. She pays another \$200 for alterations, \$50 for a veil, \$90 for a headpiece and \$100 for shoes.

Her gamble cost her \$1,800 on the dress alone.


Buying your gown online endorses piracy (stolen designs) and child labour. The factories these dresses are made in are not authorized by the government and to keep costs down, they use poor quality fabric and extras, and use untrained labour (usually children).

Don't gamble on your dress. It's the one thing you'll be looking at in all your photos for years to come. It should give you happy memories, not angry or sad ones.

*The writer owns Paper Doll Formals in Duncan.*

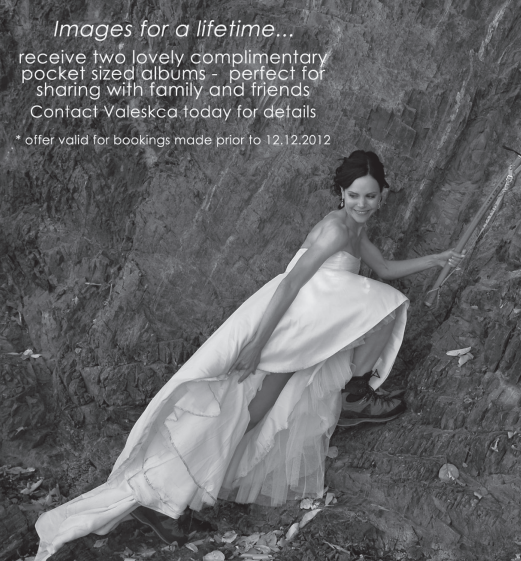



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## WEDDING PLANNER

## DRESS Q&amp;A

## Style issues for wedding and bridal party unveiled

Four cuts of formal dress and other details explained by apparel specialist

BY MARY HARRISON  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Strapless or sleeves? Long or short? Lace up or zipper? Style is individual and there are many choices out there for the bride and her attendants. Here are some common questions and answers regarding bridal apparel:

**Q: I want straps because I don't want to be pulling up my dress all night.**

A: Any dress that doesn't fit you perfectly will feel awkward and look ill-fitting. Ninety-nine per cent of all formal dresses require some type of alterations and taking in around the bust is the most common (after hemming).

Once the gown is altered to fit you, even strapless necklines won't fall. And to make doubly sure, you can always pur-

chase double-sided body tape, the kind the stars wear on the red carpet to avoid any wardrobe malfunctions.

**Q: I want a long wedding gown. Should my bridesmaids wear long too?**

A: Only if you want them to. Try to think about how photos will look with the whole bridal party in their gowns, and find a style of dress that suits the formality of the wedding itself.

**Q: Do my bridesmaids have to match?**

A: Again, only if you want them to. Every woman is built differently, and many bridesmaid dresses reflect those differences but manage to look great on different body styles.

If you want the girls to all wear the same colour but different styles, choose the same fabric for all of them and the same supplier. This way, the dresses will be cut from the same bolt of cloth and their dye lot will match instead of being slightly off.

**Q: What's the best dress for my body type?**

A: There are only four cuts of wedding or formal dress. A-line (or Princess Cut) dresses give an A from the waist to the floor. This is a great look for women with large busts and large hips and thighs.

Sheath (or Fit-and-Flare, including Mermaid and Trumpet) gowns encase you tightly from bust to knee or calf with a flare at the bottom. This silhouette allows your wonderful hourglass figure to shine.

Empire dresses are tight around the bust and then flow gently to the floor. Many women who are expecting or who don't like their stomachs like this type of dress as it hides the front but still gives a nice shape to the waist.

Last, the Ballgown (including Dropped, Basque or Natural waist) is what many women see when they imagine a poofy gown. Great for many body types, it accentuates waistlines and hides large hips and thighs.

Of course, the final decision should be left up to you: What do you feel most beautiful in, most comfortable wearing and what reflects your personality and the formality of the occasion?

**Q: This is not my first wedding and I want a dress I can wear again. What do you suggest?**

A: Depending on the location of the wedding, this is do-able. Often two-piece suit dresses are perfect for this type of wedding and can come in many colours. A lovely lilac could match flowers in your bouquet.

A Vegas-style wedding calls for a sparkly, splashy dress that can be worn again for a cruise's formal night, or for a fancy Christmas or New Year's party.

If you try these types of dresses on and don't feel like a bride, then you may want an informal bridal gown instead; a bridesmaid dress in cream might be the perfect type of dress for you.

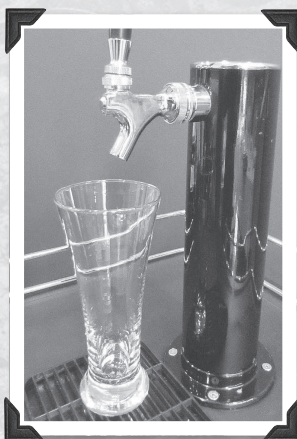
The writer owns Paper Doll Formals in Duncan.



Beautiful wedding dresses don't actually grow on trees. There's lots to consider in making the right choice.

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# WEDDING PLANNER

## PLANNING

# Do-it-yourself wedding not an insurmountable task

To-do list manageable with planning

Those thinking about tying the knot in the months to come may be discouraged by how expensive weddings can be. But with a little ingenuity and a hands-on approach, couples can have a wedding that is inexpensive and memorable at the same time.

According to Costof-Wedding.com, on average, U.S. couples spend \$26,542 for their weddings. Weddingbells magazine states that the average cost for a wedding in Canada is \$23,330, up from \$20,129 in 2010. These amounts do not include the cost for an engagement ring or wedding bands.

With such a high price tag, some couples may wonder if they can afford their dream wedding or if there are ways to cut costs. Having a backyard, DIY wedding can be the answer.

Although some may envision a backyard wedding with picnic benches and Dad at the grill, it can be a much classier affair than that.

Furthermore, for couples who are picky about details, having a DIY event ensures that they can control the details and have them as personal as they would like.

### Getting Started

A DIY wedding is one that will take much more work than simply hiring vendors and leaving the details to them. But the money saved with sweat

equity can be substantial. A well-planned wedding is the best start.

Grab a notebook and start making lists of all the things you will need:

- \* location
- \* tables and chairs
- \* linens
- \* food
- \* silverware and glassware
- \* invitations
- \* photography
- \* music
- \* officiant
- \* music
- \* centerpieces and other decor
- \* cake or dessert
- \* lighting
- \* attire
- \* flowers.

### Work in Advance

Many items necessary for a wedding can be bought in advance. For example, inexpensive

glasses and silverware can be bought at dollar stores or chains like Ikea. Later on these items can be kept, sold or even donated to shelters.

Tablecloths don't have to be the traditional kind. It may be less expensive to purchase pieces of fabric from a fabric store and dress them up oneself. Candles can be stockpiled relatively easy and provide an affordable means of ambient light.

Plan out centerpiece ideas and figure out which components can be bought and stored. Then items can be assembled at leisure.

Wedding stationery is one thing that will have to be bought well in advance so there will be time enough to print out save-the-dates, invitations and response cards, as well as mail them.

An informal wedding may mean couples can get simple attire. Buying off the rack may mean a smaller price tag for gowns. Gentlemen may be able to fare with sport coats and slacks. Purchase wardrobe essentials several months in advance to be sure there will be time for alterations, if necessary.

Enlist the help of family and friends to get many of the tasks completed. Upon ask-



PHOTO BY TALI HAMEL / FLOWERS & ESTIVITES  
Beautiful tea and sandwich spread created for wedding of Graham Foulkes and Leanne Brunelle. (See story on Pages B4-5.)

of the wedding.

One splurge couples may want to make is hiring wait staff to help set up food service areas, serve as bartenders and clear away dishes and other messes. This way the bride and groom can mingle with guests.

### Other Tips and Tricks

Here are some other ways to save money on DIY weddings.

\* Fruit is less expensive than flowers for centerpieces.

\* Include postcard response cards in wedding invites. The postage is less, and you don't have to spend money on an extra envelope.

\* Many different foods can be cooked in advance and frozen instead of hiring a catering service.

\* Consider favours that also double as table centerpieces.

\* Bouquets can easily be made with store-bought flowers, some floral tape and decorative ribbon.

\* Restrict the bar to wine and beer, and you'll save money on expensive liquors.

A DIY wedding can be a fun, memorable event that costs a couple a fraction of what it would be to have it held at an expensive location.

ing, many couples find there are members of the family who have skills in certain areas, which can be tapped into for the wedding. There may be a gourmet chef, a disc jockey, a photographer or even someone who can officiate the vows. Having these people on board means a great reduction in costs.

### Readying the Venue

Because couples will be doing the work themselves, it's best to start several days in advance of the wedding (weather permitting). Be sure the grounds are well groomed and land-

scaped. Ensure there are no tripping hazards and that there is a sturdy surface for placing tables or creating a dance floor.

It may pay to ask an electrician or someone who dabbles in electric work to help string some lights to better illuminate the area, especially for when the sun goes down.

Set up the tables and chairs to finalize placement the day before. Figure out where the ceremony will take place. A small arbour can mark the area and make a nice photo backdrop. Dress the tables with linens and settings the morning

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## APPAREL

# Timelines important for apparel purchases

Don't be caught short through unnecessary delays

BY MARY HARRISON  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Timing is everything and it's very important when planning your wedding!

A wedding gown or bridesmaid dress is not like a regular off-the-rack purchase. The manufacturers create hundreds of gowns each season and they are sized from 0 to 32 (or larger).

Add into the mix that bridesmaid dresses are available in over 60 colours (on average), and that would mean huge warehouses full of dresses.

Instead, most manufacturers make only sample gowns and those that are ordered for specific needs. This lowers their cost and in turn, lowers yours. The only downside is, you need to plan in advance for your needs.

A mother's dress, flower girl dress, or bridesmaid dress often takes between three and four months from order to receipt. Occasionally the gown may be "hanging stock" and in the warehouse, but it's rare because there are colour and size to take into account.

There are some companies that can have delivery within a month, but make sure to ask at your boutique if any of their lines can be shipped quickly.

Shoes, especially those to be dyed, can take up to a month to arrive, depending on the type of delivery and if the company has the colour you require on hand, or if you need to send in a swatch to them.

Wedding gowns can take up to five or six months, depending on the time of year, the manufacturer and the style of dress.

Many authorized factories are in China, and they take three to four weeks off every February to celebrate Chinese New Year. This adds on three weeks to delivery times.

Many manufacturers will offer a rush service throughout the year. This lowers the delivery by two to three weeks but you will pay — often \$75 or more. This cost is added onto the price of your dress immediately if you require it ordered in quickly.

If you feel comfortable in purchasing a sample gown, you may be able to save some money as the dress has been worn by other brides for try-on, however, not every boutique will offer these savings. Also, they may not have a dress you love in a size that can be altered quickly.

If you want to wait for annual sample sales, you're taking a chance that the dress you love is in the store, in a close size, in the colour you want, and suits your vision.

The writer owns Paper Doll Formals in Duncan.

# WEDDING PLANNER

## FLOWERS

# Helpful hints when making floral arrangement choices

Flowers offer chance for self-expression

Couples must make many decisions when planning their wedding, not the least of which is choosing floral arrangements.

Some couples have never had to make choices regarding floral arrangements, so it's understandable if they need some help before making a decision that will likely make a significant impact on the appearance of their weddings.

- Go with your own style. Couples should not feel pressured to go with a more traditional style if that's not something that suits them. Instead, choose a style that most appeals to you, be it neutral or bold colors, formal or more casual arrangements, and so on. Your style might also reveal a preference for something other than roses, which is perfectly alright. It's your wedding.

- Stay in-season



Flower arrangement set against fir tree.

when possible. When choosing a floral arrangement, it's important to consider when you'll be getting married and which flowers will be in-season. It's possible to find most floral varieties all year, but if you choose season-

al flowers, you'll likely pay less and such flowers will be more readily available and durable.

- Don't go it alone. The wedding day is going to be busy enough without brides and grooms having to worry

about arranging the bouquets. A professional florist, ideally one who has come highly recommended, should be able to work within your budget and produce a visually stunning end product.

- Consider candles to save money. Many couples hope for a floral centerpiece at each table, but that can prove costly. If the floral budget is somewhat limited, supplement the centerpieces with candles to save some money. The centerpieces likely won't be as grandiose, but smaller floral arrangements coupled with candles can create a romantic feel.

- Stick to the budget. Couples will find it's very easy to go over budget quickly with regard to floral arrangements. But a good florist should be able to work within your budget and produce an arrangement that's visually impressive without costing a fortune.

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## FASHION

# Colour and style advice for mothers and guests

Several considerations come into play

BY MARY HARRISON  
 SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Many mothers of the bride or groom tend to wait until their daughter or son has their attire taken care of before hunting for their own dress.

Tradition dictates that the mother of the groom wait until the mother of the bride has chosen her dress, in order to wear something different yet complementary. Popular colours are black (usually with a highlight colour), blue or grey. Some guests may decide to buy a new dress to celebrate the occasion. To help determine your dress, think about:

a. Are you going to be in photos with the bridal party? If so, then choose a colour that complements the bridesmaid dresses but doesn't compete with them. Try for the same hue or brightness of the colour, but don't wear the same style or colour as the bridesmaids (unless you are one!).

b. If, as a parent, you're not going to be in photos with the bridesmaids, your options open up, as you would probably only be in photos with the bride, groom and perhaps the other mother. You could wear a colour that is on the other side of the colour wheel from that of the other parent. For example, yellow and blue go well together. You could also try orange if the other parent chooses red or yellow, green or purple if the other parent goes for blue.

As a guest, you know to stay away from white, ivory or the bridesmaid colour, and that's really all the rules you need to follow regarding colour. Pattern



Example of a stylish red dress for mother of bride or groom.

dresses are always a great option too.

Where is the wedding? What is the formality? Is it indoors or outdoors? All these considerations play a part in your choice too. Colours in Hawaii and Mexico (for those lovely destination weddings) can be brighter than what you're used to here.

If the wedding and reception is being held outdoors, a short or tea-length dress may be more comfortable than a full length gown. If it's a formal wedding held in a church and a hall, a tea-length or long gown or a pant-suit will suit the occasion better than a short cocktail-style dress.

The writer owns Paper Doll Formals in Duncan.

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# Edible wedding favours provide one tasty choice

Thoughtful and flavourful mementos

A token of appreciation for guests is requisite at wedding receptions.

Wedding favours enable attendees to walk away from the event with a memento and also a small thank-you for their participa-

tion and celebration of this momentous event.

Brides- and grooms-to-be have different ideas when it comes to wedding favours. Guests have their own opinions, too. As customs and trends change, so do the options in wedding favours.

In the past, wedding favours were not much different from the items offered

today, and not every guest was privy to a take-home trinket. In the 16th century, wedding favours were a sign of extravagance and showed off the family's wealth to the guests. Only rich and prominent people during those times could afford and provide sophisticated gifts to their guests. Some favours symbolized luck, and sharing them

with guests ensured good luck to all as well. Almonds were common favours because they symbolized fertility, health, happiness, wealth and longevity.

Bonbonnières were once a popular wedding favour. A bonbonniere is a small, decorative box made of porcelain, crystal or gold. It is embellished with colourful and precious gems. Inside the box houses a sweet delicacy, often called a bonbon. In modern times, many couples are returning to the tradition of giving bonbonnières or other edible favours as their wedding celebration thank-yous.

Edible gifts are often economical and guests tend to appreciate them. After all, guests have to find a nook in their homes in which to house an engraved ice cream scoop or yet another small statuette.

Edible gifts can be as varied as a person desires. Candy-coated almonds are still popular, but many couples have expanded their choices and have created new trends in favours. For those couples seeking a unique edible favor for the wedding, here are some suggestions.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring Apple Company tarts are an example of treats that could be used as local, edible wedding favours.

• **Cake or brownie pops:** Food on a stick has long been a favourite of many, but the concept has been taken to new heights with the creation of cake pops. These are small balls of cake or brownie that are made from cake crumbs and frosting. The balls are covered in candy melts or chocolate and served on a stick. Chocolate artists can transform ordinary

cake pops into works of art with intricate piping designs on the hard, outer shell. Clear cello bags and decorative ribbon may be all that's necessary for a classic wrapping.

• **Cookies:** Pastry arts continue to be popular favours for any occasion. Many bakeries offer intricately designed and decorated cookies that can pertain to any theme. Think about a wedding

couple or a set of rings as the cookie of choice for a wedding favour. Most cookies last 2 to 3 weeks, so they can be purchased in advance.

• **Petit fours:** These bite-sized pastries lend themselves well to wedding favours. They can easily be paired and put in small boxes as take-home treats. Some bakeries create petit fours on demand. If not, petit fours can be purchased through online vendors.

• **Chocolate:** Gourmet chocolate remains a popular edible favor. Choose among truffles, caramels, chocolate-covered pretzels, or any favorite treat. Depending on the chocolatier, favours may come pre-boxed and wrapped.

• **Seasonal treats:** If a wedding coincides with a particular season or holiday, favours can be coordinated as well. Think caramel-covered apples for fall parties, chocolate bunnies for spring events, spiced cake bars for the winter holidays or lemon tarts for summer weddings.

Wedding favours have been a part of wedding ceremonies for centuries. Edible gifts are thoughtful and flavourful mementos of the wedding day.

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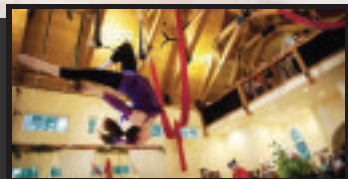
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## Laid-back farm, gallery among site possibilities

### VENUES

continued from B2

"It was really fun," she reports.

In contrast to the sweeping glamour of The Temple, those looking for a laid-back rural experience will enjoy the rustic offerings of Duck Creek Farm. The 13-acre property includes two acres of market garden producing famed garlic and basil, 80 fruit trees, several St. Croix sheep, chickens and five acres of forested land. Farm accommodations include campsites, a furnished 20-foot teepee and a renovated bus. Duck Creek and nine ponds help make the property lush.

Though clients must be prepared to use an outhouse and coexist with farm animals (dogs are not allowed), the environment of the working farm is the perfect spot for an informal event.

"We're looking for casual, relaxed, low-maintenance people to share the magic of Duck Creek Farm," said owner Sue Earle.

"It's a romantic setting. Secretly we call it Dreams Come True Farm."

The venue includes a wisteria-covered arbour and a stone patio for the bar. A grassy hill in front of the main house provides space for two 20- by 20-foot tents, accommodating up to 80 guests. A horse and carriage can do a circuit through the property for the country photo op. Caterers, who have use of the house's kitchen, have noted the site's ease of access.

Rental covers Friday set-up to Sunday tear-down with one night's accommodation included. Earle offers free coffee and muffins to the clean-up crew in her kitchen on Sunday morning. She is also

a seamstress and runs the business Sew Far So Good — providing handy on-site needle skills in a pinch.

Beautiful surroundings also make an impression at Blue Horse Folk Art Gallery and Bloom Organic B&B, which share a space overlooking a large ornamental pond rimmed with majestic arbutus trees on the island's north end.

"It's a combination of being a real garden surrounded by forest, but it's quite open," said Anna Gustafson, who owns the property with her husband Paul Burke.

Both are visual artists (the gallery is their on-site showcase), ensuring an inviting esthetic experience.

A wooden platform located below the pond can accommodate two 20- by 20-foot tents, and another can be set up as a dance floor or with dining tables. The area is located beside an orchard of fig trees and boasts lavender and blueberries hedges and a fence of espaliered apples.

"It doesn't require a lot to put your own stamp on it," Gustafson observed.

"It's not a hall that you have to spend a fortune on to look all right. You actually don't have to do anything."

Amenities include access to the main farmhouse kitchen, which caterers can use for final staging, and opens onto a wrap-around porch, a coffee patio where drinks and hors d'oeuvres can be served between events, and an optional wood-fired pizza oven. The gallery can be visited by guests, or cleared out and used as another space for an extra charge.

"At weddings there is a lot of waiting," said Gustafson, "and there's plenty to entertain the guests so they don't get restless."