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GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, July 10, 2013 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 53RD YEAR — ISSUE 28

FIRE

Blaze destroys Robinson Road home

Forest fire narrowly averted

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring firefighters spent five hours on Sunday afternoon battling a large fire that destroyed a seasonal home near Bullock Lake and threatened to spread to the surrounding forest.

Islanders as far away as Portlock Park witnessed a massive plume of black smoke rising from the 367 Robinson Rd. property soon after 1 p.m.

"We had the fire under control by around three o'clock and then extinguished completely by six," fire chief Tom Bremner reported.

Bremner said the homeowners were at home when the fire started and able to leave without injury. But the situation escalated quickly and firefighters were faced with a fully involved structure fire shortly after the first call-out. Emergency crews, including police, ambulance and BC Hydro personnel, were dispatched to the scene, in addition to the 26 firefighters who attended.

Crews were challenged by the lack of nearby fire hydrants. Sirens could be heard throughout the afternoon as fire trucks raced to Ganges and back to shuttle water to the site, making around a dozen trips.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Salt Spring firefighters battle a fully involved house fire on Robinson Road Sunday. For more photos, see the Driftwood's Facebook page.

FIRE continued on 5

CRIME

Charges laid in stabbing incident

Salt Spring man facing attempted murder, assault charges

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring resident Solomon Sky Ruben was scheduled to appear in Duncan Provincial Court on Tuesday afternoon to face charges of attempt-

ed murder and assault causing bodily harm related to the stabbing of two young women on Saturday evening.

Salt Spring RCMP announced the successful arrest of the 24-year-old suspect at 11 a.m. Sunday morning after alerting the public that he was at large on Saturday night. Two women had been stabbed at a Howell Lane home around 6 p.m. They were taken to hospital for non-life threaten-

ing injuries and later released.

The suspect had run off after the incident, causing the police to issue a public statement Saturday asking for possible sightings that could lead to the man's location. Multiple RCMP resources from Salt Spring Island and the Vancouver Island district were engaged in the search, including a

STABBING continued on 4

MAKE-A-WISH

Island child gets his wish

Volunteers unite for playground gift

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Seven-year-old Angus Newton wasn't interested in a trip to Disneyland, meeting Vancouver Canucks captain Henrik Sedin or chillin' with pop icon Hannah Montana.

All he wanted was a park in his backyard.

The request may have initially caught staff at the Make-A-Wish Foundation's B.C. and Yukon headquarters off guard, but the request finally came true over the weekend as the organization teamed up with a crew of remarkable island volunteers.

"I think there were about 30 people there on Saturday morning," recalled Angus' mother, Megan Newton. "It was an unbelievable weekend and I'm again struck by the community and how people pull together."

Many of those volunteers were Salt Spring Island firefighters who rose to the occasion due in part to Angus' friendship with Travis Guedes, a fire department member who died as a result of a brain tumour earlier this year.

ANGUS continued on 2

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Backyard playtime a new adventure for Angus Newton

ANGUS
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The weekend work crew included many youngsters whose main role was to keep Angus occupied while construction was underway.

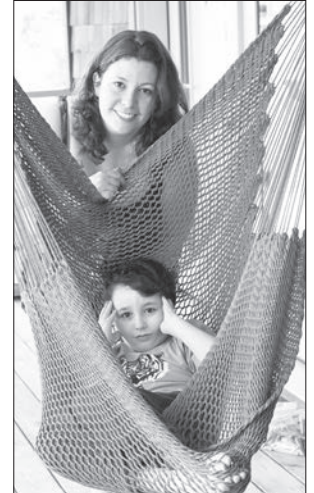
Given the number of people who showed up at his doorstep on Saturday morning, followed by the flurry of construction in the backyard, there's no doubt Angus began to clue in that something out of the ordinary was going on. Regardless, the muted surprise didn't prevent him from pumping a fist in the air when he caught a glimpse of a spiral slide being installed.

The result, which was completed on Sunday afternoon, includes two wooden towers, a climbing wall, clutter bridge and a swing set.

"It's an unbelievable set," Newton said. "I've never seen anything like it."

Newton expressed tremendous gratitude to island resident Dar Kinnear for his perseverance to follow up with the Make-a-Wish Foundation and make the project a reality.

For more than two years, Angus has been undergoing treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia. The process has entailed rigorous chemotherapy sessions and frequent trips to the BC Children's Hospital in



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

From left, a volunteer crew erects a backyard playground for Make-a-Wish Foundation child Angus Newton, seen at right with his mom Megan.

Vancouver.

Though the treatments are scheduled until February of 2014, doctors recommend that Angus have monthly check-ups until he turns 18 to ensure he's in the clear.

Newton said having the playground set in the backyard is a great way to distract her son from the

harsh treatments and assist in his recovery over the long term.

"The treatment affects muscles and coordination, so this will be so therapeutic for him," she said. "Having him outside and physically active is going to be great for him."

In 2012, the B.C. and Yukon chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation

granted over 100 wishes to children facing a terminal illness or recovering from a life-threatening ailment. Seventy-five per cent of those wishes involved travelling and 71 per cent of the wishes granted in B.C. were made by children under 13 years of age.

Wishes have included swimming

with dolphins in the wild, being a paramedic for a day, flying in a fighter jet, attending a Barcelona FC soccer match, petting a wolf and a trip to Legoland.

Now, thanks to Angus' special wish and the efforts of Salt Spring's finest, backyard playground can be added to that diverse list.

HEALTH CARE

BCMA president visits local physicians

Lady Minto ER part of open conversation

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Physicians on Salt Spring and Pender islands had the chance to discuss community issues with a powerful advocate this week when British Columbia Medical Association president Dr. William Cunningham made his first stops on a province-wide tour.

"The purpose of the president's tour is just to get to know the membership and the issues in their local surroundings," Cunningham told the Driftwood on route to Pender.

"Through the one-year term we go to as many communities as we can and meet as many members as we can."

Living in Mill Bay and serving at Cowichan District Hospital in Duncan, Cunningham noted he can see part of Salt Spring from his home, so it was only natural to make the island the first tour stop. Almost all of Salt Spring's physicians turned out for the occasion and

seemed pleased to host the first-ever local BCMA president's appearance.

"We had a long discussion about communicating with the BCMA and how we can better serve them. It was a long, free-ranging discussion on a number of subjects — and that's exactly what we wanted to happen, in a very casual atmosphere," Cunningham said.

Although Cunningham's regular job is in the emergency room at Cowichan District Hospital and renovating the ER at Lady Minto has been identified as a local healthcare priority (both by the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation and through the recent Physician Recruitment Committee survey), he said that issue was only one of several that were touched on. "The concern is mainly about design . . . In many communities the population is growing and aging but the facilities may be somewhat outdated," Cunningham observed.

He said the BCMA can sometimes take on an advocacy role and may be able to help open the line of communication with VIHA to help move that item along their priority list.

Other issues discussed included recruiting and retaining physicians and the challenges of bringing new healthcare innovations to the island in light of administrative red tape. A particular focus was frustration with the province's new colonoscopy screening program, which physicians feel was launched without the accompanying funding, personnel or facilities.

Cunningham said he believes Salt Spring will be served well by its newly formed chapter of the Rural and Remote Division of Family Practice, which includes representatives from the community, the BCMA and the regional health authority.

"I'm very hopeful that the new division will be able to cut through a lot of the administration that seems to be a big frustration, and come up with the solutions Salt Spring needs. And I'm sure Salt Spring will do that, because there are outstanding physicians there."

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FIRST NATIONS

Field school unearths Gulf Islands' cultural heritage

Program sets precedent for broader change

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A joint program between First Nations groups, the University of Victoria and Parks Canada is unearthing a new understanding of the region's past, and the timing couldn't be any better.

"The broad theme of the UVic Archeology Field School is to explore the diversity of the archeological landscape in the southern Gulf Islands," said Eric McLay, one of the project's coordinators.

Over the course of several weeks in May and June, McLay and a group of 12 undergraduate students from across B.C. and Ontario joined representatives of local First Nations groups and Parks Canada on a dig at Russell Island.

The work, conducted near the head of Fulford Harbour, involved getting a closer look at a traditional clam bed that's believed to date back approximately 1,000 years.

According to Nathan Cardinal, a Salt Spring resident who works as Parks Canada's cultural resource management advisor for the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve, such gardens were constructed by positioning rocks along the intertidal zone to foster the growth of shellfish. The results were a dependable food source for much of the year.

For modern-day observers, the discovery offers a window onto how people survived and thrived in pre-colonial times.

The field school also investigated an inland shell midden at Portland Island, only a short distance from Long Harbour. This year's excavations are the latest in a series of projects the groups have coordinated since 2010.

"This collaborative partnership is based on mutual interests between the Department



Students work at dig site on Portland Island.

PHOTO COURTESY PARKS CANADA

of Anthropology and Parks Canada to direct archeological research, educational training, heritage conservation, public education and heritage awareness within the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve," McLay said.

Every year, the students' findings go a little ways towards completing the great puzzle of the region's largely uncharted past.

Success of these programs is key to what Salt Spring historian Christopher Arnett, who's written extensively on the area's pre-colonial era, sees as the cultural disconnect between the area's mainly European settlers and First Nations. That disconnect, he added,

is behind much of the tension that arises when development encroaches on centuries-old heritage.

"The main problem is cultural perception," he said. "Newcomers (non-natives) don't see the islands as cemeteries because 'native cemeteries are not cemeteries.'

"It's a contrary conclusion based on years of misunderstanding of local history based on broader assumptions regarding indigenous people shared throughout Canada."

According to the most current statistics kept by the provincial Archeology Branch, there are approximately 171 designated

archeological sites on Salt Spring Island. Thirty-two of these have human remains that are either buried or on the ground's surface, according to Darcy Mathews, a Ph.D. candidate in archeology at the University of Victoria who specializes in the region's ancient burial sites.

As far as Mathews is concerned, the number of registered sites is only a sample of what's possibly out there given how little effort has been devoted to proper research.

"There has been no large-scale inventory work in the Gulf Islands since the 1970s," he noted.

Mathews said it's entirely reasonable to assume that most shell midden sites have human burials and that all supratidal islets are burial sites.

"Each shell midden and burial cairn site can, and likely does, have many individual burials. We do not know how many individual Coast Salish dead are on Salt Spring," he added.

Programs like the one initiated in the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve need to gain a foothold at the provincial level, where resources for region-wide inventories and implementation of the Heritage Conservation Act ultimately fall.

"Most archaeology work is done by consultants who are hired by private landowners to look at individual properties in a piecemeal fashion, with little time and budget to synthesize their results into a larger context," Mathews added. "So we are largely doing archaeology one housing development at a time. This work is not systematic or consistent enough to get a handle on the full range of the complex burial practices that the Coast Salish people did over many millennia."

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NEWS BRIEFS

Book drop location changed

Residents looking for a new home for their quality books are advised the south-end drop location for Salt Spring Literacy's Giant Book Sale has moved from Salt Spring Mercantile to

the Rock Salt Cafe.

A special one-day book drop will also take place on Tuesday, July 23 at Country Grocer from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Donors are reminded the sale cannot accept magazines, textbooks, computer books, National Geographic publications or any books that truly belong in recycling.

Palu on TV this fall

Palu Rainbow Song, who was filmed for the CBC TV Dragons' Den show in Toronto in April, has a better idea of when his segment will appear.

Palu says people keep asking him when the program that has himself and islander

Tim Harvey pitching Palu's solar meditation bows will appear on TV. Until this week he had no information to share, but he has since learned that the show should appear between the Dragons' Den start date of Oct. 2, 2013 and Christmas.

Producers also promised Palu that he would be given at least one month's notice of the air date.

Puppet troupe visits library

A travelling puppet troupe from the University of Victoria will be visiting the Salt Spring library program room this summer, with a number of free workshops being offered from

July 23 to 27.

Participants will learn about making and performing with puppets in courses that run one and a half to two hours.

Drop by the library to pre-register: only 15 spots are available per class. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, visit the Kids' Page on the library website.

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ISLAND HISTORY

New gravestones commemorate pioneering history

Island's Japanese-Canadian past gets cast in stone

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Eight gravestones hewn from black granite were erected in a section of Salt Spring's Central Cemetery on Sunday afternoon to commemorate the legacy of the island's Japanese-Canadian pioneers.

"I just feel that they have a right to be remembered," said Rose Murakami. "One of the other reasons that Richard and I did this was because we're not going to live forever."

Rose and her brother Richard have been wanting to install the headstones for years to ensure the island's Japanese-Canadian pioneers are not forgotten.

Although descendants of many original Japanese-Canadian settlers returned to place stones for their ancestors, eight graves remained marked by solitary cedar posts inscribed with names of the deceased.

Rose said her family installed the posts in the cemetery more than 50 years ago, soon after they were allowed to return to the island from World War II internment camps.

"When our parents, Katsuyori and Kumiko Murakami, brought the family back to Salt Spring in 1954 after being expelled in 1942, the first place we visited was the cemetery," she said. "In the 12 years in which we had lived in exile, we found that terrible things had been done to the Japanese-Canadian graves. Not only were the markers destroyed, but our cemetery was used as a



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Warren Langley, left, joins Rose and Richard Murakami in providing gravestones for Salt Spring's Japanese pioneers.

garbage dump."

Rose and her family visited the cemetery regularly during her youth to remove garbage and restore the site.

Because the family had very little money upon its

return, Rose said her father installed the understated cedar posts to mark the final resting places of their former Japanese-Canadian neighbours.

"If we didn't come back

to the island, the people may not have been ever acknowledged," Rose said.

Rose and Richard were at the cemetery on Sunday afternoon to witness the final stage of a job that began more than five decades ago as sign maker Warren Langley put the final touches on the stones, which now sit alongside those original cedar posts.

"I've known the Murakamis for years and they found out that I did headstones, which I don't normally advertise," he said.

Although Langley is known across the island for his custom cedar signs, he's worked on tombstones for islanders and their pets for 25 years.

"I'm not really far removed between this and sign making; it's basically a different substrate, instead of cedar I've got granite,"

he said.

Since a sluggish economy has meant fewer orders for cedar signs, Langley said he's been fortunate to diversify.

"You can not want to buy a sign for your store, but everybody needs a headstone," he said.

Names of the deceased along with the dates of birth and death have been inscribed on the tombstones when such information is known. In many cases birth dates and names have been left blank. Stones that mark the graves of unknown pioneers have been marked with a simple inscription that reads: "Japanese-Canadian pioneer."

The Murakamis contributed \$7,500 to complete the project. The National Association of Japanese Canadians contributed an additional \$2,500.

GULF ISLANDS TOURISM

Outer islands trail meetings set to get plans rolling

Public asked to share thoughts

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Proponents of a plan to build new cycling and walking trails throughout the outer Gulf Islands are set to welcome public comments during a series of community meetings later this month.

Representatives from the Capital Regional District and the Southern Gulf Islands Economic Development Commission want to complete the first phase of the multi-year project by the end of 2013.

The initial stage will offer a "high-level conceptual plan"

covering trail linkages for recreation, transportation and tourism opportunities on Galiano, Mayne, North Pender, Saturna and South Pender islands.

"This trail plan will be developed over many years," said Susan Brice, chair of the CRD Regional Parks Committee. "It will ultimately provide communities in Galiano, Mayne, Pender and Saturna islands with new trails that provide health and recreation benefits and increased safety."

Precise routing and feasibility will be addressed in Phase 2, set to begin in 2014.

"We look forward to seeing [members of the public] at the meetings to learn about this exciting initiative and become

part of the process to improve the economy of our island communities," said Dave Howe, director of the CRD's Southern Gulf Islands electoral area.

"Please come out and participate with your ideas about networks of trails, links to amenities and transportation alternatives."

The project is being undertaken as part of the broader Experience the Gulf Islands initiative, which aims to build amenities for island residents and draw specialized tourism visitors to the islands.

Ed Adrusiak, a Galiano Island resident who developed the project, said the long-term goal is to bring the outer Gulf Islands in step with cycling and pedes-

trian work that's already happened on Salt Spring in order to create a larger region-wide package.

Adrusiak plans to meet with Salt Spring's Community Economic Development Commission in the fall.

"There's a lot of good reasons why the initiative should be initiated with Salt Spring," he said. "The doors are opening and this is the time."

Meetings are scheduled for Saturna on July 20; Mayne, July 27; Galiano, July 28; and Pender, Aug. 3. More information, including the location and times of open house events, is available at sustainableislands.ca/initiatives/experience-the-gulf-islands.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Bicycle outside of the Mayne Island library.

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IWAV Island Women Against Violence

Neighbours came to aid of victims

STABBING
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vessel from the RCMP's West Coast Marine Service. It had travelled to Salt Spring from a previous engagement in Sooke and remained to help local police with regular duties while they investigated the stabbing case throughout Sunday.

A tip from a local resident who had sheltered Ruben over Saturday night led to the suspect's arrest with seven local officers in attendance. Sgt. George Jenkins of Salt Spring RCMP said Ruben did not put up a fight.

"The arrest was done very peacefully," Jenkins said. As of Tuesday morning the RCMP charges still needed to be approved by crown counsel.

A neighbour to the crime scene reported in a Facebook post that he was one of the first to know about the grisly incident and had sheltered the two victims immediately after the suspect left the scene.

"The two women were attacked and stabbed in the house just down the lane from ours," Peter Steager reported in a post made on Sunday.

"They fled to our



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

RCMP vessel 'Inkster' in Ganges Harbour.

house, covered in blood and it was my wife, my daughter and myself who called in the police and medics and cared for two young women badly injured and in shock until help arrived. Our front yard was locked down as a crime scene all night long and most of today."

Steager was not available for further comment as of press time.

Fortunate weather helped avert Sunday forest fire

FIRE
continued from 1

The three-story wood- en structure and cedar shake roof were quickly engulfed, and flames soon jumped to towering cedars located near the

house. Bremner said the province's forests ministry was put on alert in the event of a wildfire and the organization planned to fly in a helicopter if needed. Local crews were able to keep the fire from spreading.

"There was some ignition of the trees, but luckily they did not get fully emblazed," said Bremner. The threat of a larger catastrophe seemed probable at one point in the afternoon, when the provincial wildfire man-

agement branch warned island crews that a storm was expected to move in between 4:45 and 5 p.m. "We were potentially facing extremely high winds and lightning, but that never materialized, thank God," said Bremner.

The fire chief re-con- firmed Tuesday the cause of the fire is considered to be accidental. The homeowners are currently staying with friends and an insurance adjuster was on site Monday and Tues-

day. Noting the island's fire risk is currently rated "high," Bremner advised caution related to any activities that could cause a fire. "People should be careful about doing things in this hot weather," he said.

HEALTH CARE

Nurses concerned about VIHA plans

Staffing configuration changes to put care aides at bedside

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

BC nurses are warning a health crisis could take place soon at Vancouver Island's largest hospitals if the region's health authority persists with plans to replace nurses with care aides for bedside duties.

Representatives from the British Columbia Nurses' Union were on Salt Spring on Monday for an outreach barbecue for their membership, served up alongside their giant blue bus. Though job politics wasn't on the official menu, the visitors did have time to talk about their concerns regarding VIHA's Care Delivery Model Redesign between handing out hot dogs and watermelon.

Adriane Gear, who is BCNU's chair for the South Islands region and a member of the union's provincial council, said the VIHA CDMR does have some good things going for it, such as introducing a multidisciplinary team approach. But nurses don't agree with the plan to give care aides, who are unlicensed and unregulated, the responsibilities that nurses usually have for patients who are recovering from illness or surgery in hospital.

"We welcome care aides, but to replace registered nurses and licensed practical nurses at the bedside — we don't support that," Gear said.

VIHA communications manager Sarah Plank said it's not correct to say nurses are being replaced, but rather that they'll be shifted to other areas where their services are needed more.

"We are reconfiguring how we deliver care — with registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, care aides and other health care providers working together as a team so that that the right health care provider is delivering the right type



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

BCNU reps Margo Wilton, left, and Adriane Gear were on Salt Spring Monday afternoon for a membership outreach barbecue.

of care," she wrote in an email to the Driftwood.

"For example, registered nurses will use their high degree of training and skills for more complex activities like developing care plans and doing assessments, while other care staff support patients with tasks such as bathing, getting mobile and other activities of daily living."

Gear and her co-chair Margo Wilton said that the bedside is where many important assessments are done, however, especially in the critical post-operation phase.

Washing a patient or walking her to the bathroom can often be the opportunity to learn about unexpected outcomes and address them in a timely manner.

"It really will hinder our ability to pick up on those early signs," Gear said.

"So they're removing a really important piece of our professional assessment," Wilton added. "Ideally they would leave the present staffing levels where they are and bring in the care aides to assist [the nurses] . . . That would not negatively impact our ability to give adequate care."

Gear maintains it's not just nurses' jobs but patient outcomes that are at stake. Statistics show those outcomes get poorer as the nurse-to-patient ratio gets higher.

"We're not going to take this lying down. We're absolutely not okay with this," she said.

"We believe, ultimately, people are going to die, because the care will not be at the bedside," Wilton said.

Changes are going into effect at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital first, to be followed by Royal Jubilee and Victoria General hospitals. Smaller Vancouver Island hospitals are expected to follow suit.

"We are making these changes in our patient care model to keep pace with changing demographics and the many changes that have occurred in the health care system over the past 30 years since the existing model was introduced. These changes to how care is provided are in line with changes being made by health care jurisdictions across Canada," wrote Plank, noting the aging population means different care delivery needs.

Plank added that Lady Minto Hospital's staffing model is most likely already closer to what the CDMR proposes than what is currently delivered at Vancouver Island's big hospitals. A more detailed review of rural hospital staffing is expected to take place in the next year or two.

The BCNU reps say part of their strategy to resist the upcoming changes will be to educate the public on the importance of knowing who is delivering their care. Making nurses' concerns known and getting public support in order to impact VIHA management decisions will also be important to their cause.

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A BIG THANK YOU TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR HELPING WITH THE FOUNDATION'S PHANTOM MOVIE EVENT

The Lady Minto Hospital Foundation would like to thank the following members of the community for making "The Phantom of the Opera" at the Fritz Theatre such a special event. This was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the Lady Minto Hospital and we are very grateful to all of you for helping to make the evening such a great success.

- JENNIFER WILLIAMS
Phantom Movie Event Coordinator

Peter Grove & Jennifer Williams, LMHF Board Members

Jim Erickson - Set Design and Decoration
Bryn Finer - Set Construction and Assembly
Dave Holt, Valerie Hutton - Central Hall
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Mary Korocil - Chocolate fruit and Profiteroles
Sally Letchford - Seamstress
Michelle Lambert - Set Painting
Lore Schmits - Set Painting
Doug Carnegie - chandelier
Mike Stefanek - Windsor Plywood
Dionne Beml - Country Grocer
Dan Kent, Vince Taylor - The Rental Stop
Salt Spring Chocolate
Laurie Blakeley - Planning

Jean Williams - Candelabras
Auxiliary Thrift shop - props etc.
Rick McConnell - VIHA Maintenance Supervisor
Peter Southam - Transportation
Pat Walker & Nick Ogilvie - Exterior Mask and Poster Design
Ken and Pam Jackson and Ollie our doggie Mascot
Dave Paul - The Fritz
Juli Paul - Photography
Dave Vollrath - Sound System
Gloria Dorworth
John Dolman - Island Star Video
Richard Krieger - studio loan
Sheri Hambrook - GISS
Heather Reynolds, Hannah Martens, Jenna Aston, Margarette Heit - Servers
David Borrowman - Photography
Sylvia Andress & Vanessa Horel, VIHA - carts and storage
Matt Steffich - Phantom
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Driftwood Gulf Islands Media includes Gulf Islands Driftwood, Gulf Islands Real Estate, Gulf Islands Aqua, The Gulf Islander Visitors Guide, and gulfislandsdriftwood.com as well as many other features and specials.

Amber Ogilvie
Driftwood Gulf Islands Media
aogilvie@driftwoodgimedia.com

Driftwood
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Consultant hired for Salt Spring governance study

Urban Systems awarded contract

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The long wait to learn who will undertake a governance study for Salt Spring ended on Sunday afternoon as members of the island's governance committee awarded the nearly \$55,000 contract to Urban Systems.

"The committee is confident that Urban Systems will, through extensive research and public involvement, complete a report addressing the minister's request that island residents and property owners

be engaged 'in discussion of issues and potential change facing the island,'" said committee chair John Macpherson.

"We are eager to hear from homeowners about what matters to them and how they feel about governance in the community," he added. "This process is all about getting the facts out and gathering feedback."

Under the governance committee's direction, Urban Systems will study Salt Spring's socio-economic conditions and governance structures, elicit views from residents and property owners regarding their level of understanding of

and difference between rural, regional and municipal governments.

According to committee spokesperson Pat Preston, Urban Systems will have an interim report prepared by early October. The document will inform a public consultation phase that will precede a final report.

When the final document is presented to the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, governance committee members will recommend whether there is sufficient community support to conduct an incorporation study, Preston added.

Urban Systems is described as a multidisciplinary consulting firm that began operations as an employee-owned company in 1975. It continues as an independently owned firm that has grown from one office in Kamloops to 11 offices across Western Canada.

"Our team is delighted to work with the study committee and the community throughout the summer and fall," said James Klukas, a community planner who works for the company, in a news release that accompanied the July 7 announcement.

"Navigating the complexi-

ties of different governance structures is challenging. With our experience in this type of work, we are confident that we will be able to provide the community with a clear understanding of the differences between rural and municipal governance structures and how they relate on a personal level."

The company was selected from five applicants that responded to a formal request for proposals launched by the governance committee earlier this year.

Bytesized Websites, a local website design firm, will assist with developing a new interactive website for the study.

The committee comprises 11 volunteers appointed by locally elected representatives from the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee and Capital Regional District.

The group's formation followed the provincial government's October 2012 approval of an \$80,000 grant to complete the first phase of a possible two-phase governance study.

The Islands Trust was awarded \$20,000 of the grant to examine potential consequences of municipal incorporation on the Trust, while \$60,000 was directed toward funding the governance study.

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- 6) Doing vigorous rebounds** lifting your body out of the water or "momentum rebounds" which is essentially bouncing. There is a great difference with the amount of energy required between the former and the latter example.
- 7) The factor affecting** just how many calories can be expended by additional muscle mass and exercise is controlled by individuals metabolism, genetic make up and the individuals level of fitness. Each class is approximately 400 kcal of energy expenditure - but a lot depends on the intensity you are working out at and your metabolism level. Instead of stepping on the scale measure yourself if you add muscle you will weigh more but measurements will show you are trimmer.
- 8) Eat right exercise often** and enjoy each day as we do not get a second chance!



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Senior Care

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POLITICS

New MLA Gary Holman gets settled in BC Legislature

Constituents' services pending

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Saanich North and the Islands MLA Gary Holman is already sharpening his political skills after just over a week in the legislature, with budget debates forming the focus of the summer session that opened June 26 and ends July 25.

As members look into all the line items for each ministry, the newly elected NDP member is serving time as deputy opposition critic for BC Ferries and the environment. Though he is still fresh to the job and learning how the structure operates, Holman said the summer session requires representatives to get down to work.

"The devil is in the details. It's less about theatrics [than the regular term] and there

is more substantial give and take."

Coming most recently from Ministry of Health estimate discussions, Holman reports some alarming indications that the new government's financial plans are going to come at a high expense.

"The NDP is very concerned about service levels being cut. We don't believe the budget is truly balanced," Holman said.

"We feel people were misled about the budget being

balanced and the service cuts that will have to happen to make it so."

For example, he explained, the budget calls for health care spending to increase to between two and 2.5 per cent, which is much lower than it historically does on an annual basis. In order to keep the increase low, spending cuts and fee increases are already rolling out, such as a new \$300 per-year rental fee for anyone who uses a wheel-

chair, increases to MSP premiums and a new \$70 fee for each mandatory twice-annual test necessary for patients to receive an Alzheimer's medication.

On a more positive note, Holman said he will soon be able to help address the concerns of people living in his riding with the hiring of two constituency assistants within the week and the opening of his office in Sidney within the month. He is a couple of weeks

behind schedule because of the delay in learning who was actually elected in this riding while absentee votes were tallied. He is currently negotiating a lease for a ground-floor storefront.

"We're hoping to be much more accessible to the public," Holman said, adding the front windows will publicize community events.

Once the lease is settled, the location and an opening date will be made public.

ISLAND LIFE

Futures group aims to strengthen island links

Island visionaries to speak at Galiano beach conference

There's probably no better boardroom for a meeting to discuss the unique lives of Gulf Islands residents than the beach at Galiano Island's Montague Harbour Provincial Park.

That's where residents from across the islands will gather for the second annual Island

Futures conference on Thursday-Friday, Aug. 8 and 9.

Details about this year's lineup are still being confirmed, but organizers hope the Island Futures tribe's 2013 gathering will build on the first event's success.

The inaugural conference featured lectures and workshops by affordable housing advocate Tom Hennessey, derelict vessel opponent Peter Binner of Pender Island and Bob McKechnie of the Sustainable Gabriola

Energy Initiative, among many others.

"I think all of us have some sort of nagging uneasiness about these uncertain times in which we live," said Victor Anthony, a Gabriola Island resident with an interest in transportation and and between the islands.

"A lot of people who live on islands feel like the islands are the canaries.

"When the stuff hits the fan, people who live on the islands are likely to feel it first."

Anthony said the conference was established as a way to strengthen community through cooperation and the sharing of knowledge.

"We'd like to foster or encourage genuine collaborative efforts between the islands to further sustainability endeavours," he said. "Last year the presentations were all over the map."

More information about the event is available at islandfutures.ca or by email at info@islandfutures.ca.

SOCIAL CHANGE

Young women's survey part of leadership project

Opinions of female islanders in 15-24 age group needed

BY CHLOE SJUBERG
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

One of SWOVA's newest initiatives, the Salish Sea Girls Leadership Project (SSGLP), aims to build leadership capacity and opportunities for girls and young women in the Gulf Islands.

SSGLP's first major undertaking has been to conduct a needs assessment survey among young women aged 15 to 24 living in the Gulf Islands.

"We plan to survey 25 per cent of the total eligible population, which will result in a statistically powerful representation of our young female population," said project coordinator Andria Scanlan about the process.

The survey asks about the barriers and opportunities girls experience growing up in our communities. So far, respondents have been enthusiastic about sharing their voices and given thoughtful responses exploring subjects such as body image and bullying.

In June, the 10 Salt



PHOTO COURTESY SALISH SEA GIRLS LEADERSHIP PROJECT

SSGLP members Hannah and Elise Pearson board the water taxi with muffins and surveys in hand to ask young women passengers about their experiences growing up in the Gulf Islands.

Spring girls on the project's Youth Advisory Council rode the early morning water taxis, distributing the survey to students travelling to GISS from Galiano, Mayne, Pender and Saturna. Listening to the voices of girls who live in

the outer islands, not only Salt Spring, is important to the project's success.

Nikky Varlis Love, one of the Youth Advisory Council members, spoke positively about this chance to connect with her peers.

"Physically travelling to

the outer islands is the best way to take change into our own hands," she said.

The team is also working to distribute the survey through many channels on Salt Spring, and it is available online as well. (See link below.)

Some of the survey subjects covered are young women's access to leadership opportunities; sense of connection to others in their community; and making their voices heard. The survey also addresses transportation, safety, physical and emotional health, and the availability of quality places to hang out. Young women are asked to share their experiences in these areas and give input on possible improvements.

Existing national research indicates those are issues commonly faced by girls in rural areas of Canada — moreso than their urban or male peers. A 2012 Girls Action Foundation report finds that "leadership opportunities and supports, along with mentorship and community engagement" are key elements to rural young women's success. The Girls Action Foundation's belief that "every girl is an expert

in her own life" reflects SSGLP's decision to ask young women directly what obstacles they would like to see addressed and how.

All young women aged 15 to 24 who live in the Gulf Islands are encouraged to help out and share their thoughts by completing the survey online at www.esurveycreator.com/s/93d2a72.

Even those who no longer live here can take part, as long as they grew up in the Gulf Islands. Paper copies of the survey can also be picked up at the SWOVA office (344 Lower Ganges Rd).

SSGLP urgently needs about 50 more surveys to be filled out by the end of this week, so they are asking anyone eligible to participate as soon as possible.

Results of the needs assessment survey will be made available in mid-August. By the fall, SSGLP will be taking steps to create change based on issues the islands' young women identify as most important.

As well, anyone can help support SSGLP by donating their grocery receipts to the project's Save-a-Tape box, #137, at Country Grocer.

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OPINION



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 Silver - Editorial Page | Silver - Outstanding Reporter Initiative (Sean McIntyre)
 Silver - Feature Series (Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - Sports Photo (John Cameron)
2013 BCYCN AWARDS
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 Silver - Special Publication (Aqua) | Bronze - General Excellence
 Bronze - Environmental Writing (Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - Ad Campaign, Collaborative (Leanne Brunelle)



EDITORIAL

Hot days ahead

A visitor to the island from Alberta recently expressed surprise at how wonderful the weather had been during her holiday.

She feigned astonishment when told what things are like most of the time. "You mean it isn't always like this?" she responded. It certainly isn't. As many of us know all too well, it seems like only a few weeks ago when many of us were still engaged in that perennial pastime of drying out our socks by the crackling wood stove. The folks back in sunny Edmonton, where the average January low is -11.7 C, even went so far as to target this part of the world with a winter tourism campaign intended to rescue islanders from our sodden plight.

THE ISSUE:

Wildfire risk

WE SAY:

Keep islands safe

A quick look at the weather forecast on Tuesday afternoon, however, indicates those dreary days are nothing more than a memory, with only a single day of rain anticipated during the next two weeks.

While many have gladly adjusted our lifestyles to accommodate the heat and the sun, it's equally important to adjust our mindsets about the danger wildfire poses to the island.

A quick response may not have been enough to save the Robinson Road home that erupted in flames on Sunday afternoon, but firefighters did prevent the fire from spreading into the nearby trees where it could have easily taken off and wreaked untold havoc on the neighbourhood.

Close calls like that offer much relief, yet their true significance lies in alerting us to what must be done to keep our island safe from disaster. A review of the Salt Spring Island Fire/Rescue Department's website offers a variety of tips islanders can implement to make it through the dry season without incident. Spreading the word amongst ourselves and to visitors who often don't know any better are some easy steps we can all take to keep safe.

The past few weeks have seen floods in southern Alberta, threats of tornados across the prairies, violent thunderstorms in southern Ontario and forest fires in northern Quebec. These incidents prove that disasters, be they caused by humans or by nature, have one thing in common: they can strike suddenly and in the most unlikely of places.

There's no good reason to believe Salt Spring and the rest of the Gulf Islands should be any different.



VIEWPOINT

Standing against Northern Gateway

On June 17, BC Nature and Nature Canada made their final oral argument before the Joint Review Panel, which is considering the future of the Enbridge Northern Gateway project.

BC Nature and Nature Canada have been joint interveners in the Northern Gateway review process for two years. During that time, they have led evidence on the project's potential impacts on the species at risk listed woodland caribou and on terrestrial and marine birds, and have cross-examined Northern Gateway experts at four witness panels for a total of 25 hours. These nature conservation groups urged the panel to conclude that the Northern Gateway application is incomplete, and therefore must be rejected. Their arguments included the following points:

Under the National Energy Board Act, the panel can only make a recommendation to the federal cabinet if it concludes that the pipeline application is complete. Even if the panel recommends against the project, cabinet can reject the panel's recommendation. However, if the panel concludes that the application is incomplete, there is no recommendation to cabinet, and cabinet cannot approve the project.

The nature conservation groups contend that Northern Gateway's environmental assessment is deficient and incomplete for a variety of reasons. These include its failure:

- to properly assess impacts on SARA listed woodland caribou,
- to provide a detailed baseline inventory of wildlife species impacted by the project,
- to analyze consequences of oil spills on marine bird populations, and
- to properly estimate the likelihood of an oil spill from tankers along the BC coast.

The Exxon Valdez oil spill has shown the catastrophic impact a spill can have on the marine bird species in the Pacific coast, some of which have yet to show signs of recovery after more than two decades. Northern Gateway's claim that marine ecosystems recover within an average of five years after an oil spill shows that they have not learnt anything from the Exxon Valdez experience.

In its recent written final argument to the panel, the Province of British Columbia recommends against approval of the project. This argument is based mainly on the inadequacy of information Northern Gateway has put forward regarding oil spill response, prevention, recovery, and mitigation. Nature Canada supported the B.C. government's stance against this project and argued that Northern Gateway's spill response plans are woefully inadequate.

In addition, Northern Gateway's application is also deficient in many other areas, such as baseline inventories of globally and continentally significant marine bird populations and Important Bird Areas impacted by this project.

Taking these arguments into consideration, the only reasonable conclusion that the panel could draw is that the application is incomplete, and should therefore be rejected.

Editor's note: Salt Spring resident Nieke Visser, who is on the board of directors of BC Nature, submitted the above as a revised press release from her group, represented by Rosemary Fox, chair of the conservation committee, as well as Nature Canada, represented by its executive director Ian Davidson. Legal assistance was provided by Chris Tollefson, executive director of the Environmental Law Centre (University of Victoria).

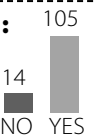
THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:
Do you think recent weather disasters are climate-change caused?

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Tuesday at noon or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Did you pay your property taxes on time?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "When the stuff hits the fan, people who live on the islands are likely to feel it first."

VICTOR ANTHONY, GABRIOLA ISLAND, ON INTER-ISLAND CONNECTIONS

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:

How can islanders reduce the risk of forest fires?



DOMIQUE GAUDET

Have enough water on site when having campfires. Also, make sure the garden hose is long enough.



YVONNE POIRIER

Educating people, especially visitors, to make sure they don't flick cigarette butts everywhere.



GRAEME STEVENS

Pre-emptive controlled burning in forested areas.



SHEILA WALKER

Watch propane appliances carefully.



NOLAN SHEPANSKY

The risk hazard signs are really helpful.

Letters to the editor

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

Ganges wish list

I very much enjoyed John Tylee's Economic Explorations column in the June 26 edition of the Driftwood. A lot of the points he made had occurred to me a long time ago.

I have lived on Salt Spring for 23 years and without question there have been many new additions to the village.

However, I believe that first impressions of anything are the most important and lasting: If I was a first-time visitor to Ganges, my immediate thought would be "shabby."

There is a lot that could be done without spending a pile of money: Curbs, centre lines, crosswalks should be cleaned up and painted. Look at the curbs — weeds and grass growing everywhere. Maintenance contractors or the highways department always say, "It's not on the schedule" or some other excuse — that's not acceptable. Merchants should be encouraged to

sweep (and take care of snow in the winter) in front of their premises.

The advertising plaques in front of the Kingfisher complex, Anglican church and Hereford Road are awful — it looks no better than a strip mall. My husband talked to the police, citing that the Kingfisher location could be a distraction to drivers. So long as the signs are not on the road allowance but on private property, there is nothing they can do — it's a bylaw issue.

We have to jazz up the downtown core!

Much as I would love to see a bypass around Ganges — it's a dream away in the future.

MAUREEN NEFF,
SALT SPRING

Shining example

As one of nearly 650 people who signed the petition, I'd like to publicly thank Brigitte Gonzales for her amazing effort on behalf of all of us who feel that expanding the Sat-

urday market would be a positive step.

Commendable not only for bravely putting forward the notion of change in the face of inevitable opposition, but also because as an established, successful vendor herself, she was motivated by a desire to see the market grow and flourish as a whole rather than being driven by self-interest. With a smile and determination to promote Salt Spring in a positive way, she is a great example of what it means to be truly community-minded. Thanks for all your efforts, Brigitte.

DEBBIE BOWLES,
SALT SPRING

How cheap?

Here's hoping the call for "even cheaper" art works takes the island by storm ("Call goes out for 'even cheaper' Salt Spring show artworks," July 3 Driftwood).

I can see it now. Cheaper plumbing! Cheaper carpentry! Cheaper dentistry! Cheaper real estate! A market flooded with even

cheaper goods and services all those artists selling their work really cheap can then afford.

MURRAY REISS,
FULFORD

Path concerns continue

I notice that I was addressed by name in John Wakefield's July 3 letter ("More path clarification").

Although I did have a very nice conversation with one of the members of the transportation group, the point is not whether or not I can personally find out more about the village plans, the point is that everyone should be able to find out about the village plans.

These groups already have taxation authority and therefore the times and locations of the meetings should be published in the paper.

I visited the Island Pathways website and I tried to find out the time and the location of the next meeting. I could not find that

information. The directives on the website and at the information booths is to pay money to become a member of the group. I guess that after you pay, you get to find out when the meetings are. In order to follow the group on Facebook, you have to like it first. The public deserves information regardless.

I am most concerned with the plans for Rainbow and Atkins roads. Aside from that, and a couple of other points, I would not be writing about this. I learned that the plans go ahead first, and the consultations with the people who are affected come last. When paths affect many people, the first step should be to talk to them.

There is something afoot called the North Ganges Transportation Plan that I believe will make life very difficult for many people. It is also planned to be very expensive. And what is the point of it?

On another subject, I doubt that Rainbow Road will be made safer when cars are parked farther out

on the road. I feel that this path needs to be halted and coordinated with the overall village plan.

The last thing we need is to have less parking around Ganges. And, who is it to serve?

Who will be walking on a path that starts at the corner of Atkins and Rainbow and ends at the pool?

No one from Mead-owbrook will be able to handle the hills on Atkins Road, and the density zoning is planned for growth on Swanson and Park, not Atkins. The pool is more easily accessed via Lake-wood Crescent, not by walking down a big hill and up a big hill that we have on Atkins road. The people in this area are not using the route that the path will cover. Nor will they, as it is twice as long as the other route to the pool from this area.

Is there a feasibility study?

JENNY MCCLEAN,
ATKINS ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on 10

Brace yourself or I'll belt you — DTS syndrome

So Karen at the credit union sees me stroll in, crooks a finger, beckoning me over. (Oh, cripes — did a cheque bounce?)

No. Karen wishes to address my state of dress.

"Suspenders AND a belt, Arthur? That's a sign of a seriously insecure man."

Not guilty, Karen. Wearing suspenders and a belt is a sign of a man whose butt has dropped off.

It happens, you know. Cowboys and long-distance truckers have no butts. They hammer them flat with all the bouncing and jouncing their chosen professions entail.

And old guys? We lose our butts too. Col-lateral damage, along with head hair, high arches and the desire to stay up past 10 p.m.

Calvin Trillin, an old guy who writes for The New Yorker, has given a name to the phenomenon. He calls it DTS — Disappearing Tush Syndrome. The condition, says



Arthur Black

WIT & WHIMSY

Trillin, which "could cause an otherwise respectable senior citizen to walk right out of his pants."

Enter suspenders. An over-the-shoulder weight-bearing device that can hold up a pair of pants regardless of the presence or absence of a fleshy caboose. The principle of suspenders has been around ever since some saggy-bummed Neanderthal discovered that a shoulder strap knotted to the front and back of his sabre-tooth tiger jockey shorts kept his dangly bits warm and cosy. Suspenders proper didn't show up for another few hundred thousand years — in the mid-

nineteenth century, when changes to men's trouser styles made belts impractical.

Since then, suspenders have had an up and down ride. They became less popular after World War I when men got accustomed to uniform belts. Over the years, they swung in and out of fashion; but more out than in. Somewhere along the line they became labelled as underwear, fit only to be seen on lumberjacks, sledgehammering railroad navvies or tycoons caught with their suit jackets off.

But suspenders fill a need. As all old guys learn when gravity beckons and your butt falls off, belts just won't do the job anymore. Indeed, some health advisors consider reliance on belts to be positively unhealthy.

"There are more (bulging) stomachs caused by the wearing of a belt" wrote one

Chicago doctor, "than any other one thing that I know of." His advice for achieving that flat-as-a-table abdominal profile? Posture, exercise "and wearing suspenders."

So who took his advice? Well, Annie Hall, in the movie of the same name; Alex, the head hooligan in A Clockwork Orange; greedhead Gordon Gekko in the movie Wall Street; and Larry King, the owl-like celebrity interviewer on television.

And me. But I am not trying to make a fashion statement, break into the movies or host my own TV show. I wear a belt because it gives me a place to hang the pouch of my Swiss Army knife; I wear suspenders to keep my pants up.

My advice to my fellow buttless colleagues: be not afraid. Hang in there.

And for those who don't like my advice: belt up.

Shop support

This is a note of thanks for all the community support for the shop programs at the high school. Without the ongoing support from the businesses and individuals that have contributed to the shop, it would be a shadow of what it is today.

Thanks to the folks at Slegg Lumber, Windsor Plywood and all the other material suppliers we receive support from and use on the island.

A special thanks to Pearl Payne, in memory of Bill Payne, for donating Bill's entire set of cabinet-making shop tools, which saw us through the spring by the use of many of his tools and the sale of the rest. Her natural charity is something that we are very happy to recognize and teach to the young people.

Thanks to Karen and Paul Crouch for the very significant contribution to the mechanical tool inventory. These contributions enhance the learning opportunities of your

future tradespeople as well as for those young people who just wish to learn how to build worthwhile projects and use tools safely.

What you give, you are getting back down the road.

**JIM WATKINS,
CHIP CHIPMAN,
GISS SHOP**

POD radio drill results

Last Saturday was our first grassroots test to establish a neighbourhood emergency communications network.

Did it go perfectly? Well, not exactly, but that's why it was called a "test," right?

Major thanks are in order for radio expert Jon Healey, who instructed POD members on the use of our new communally bought gear and offered a primer on the proper airwave protocol.

For a rag-tag bunch of walkie-talkers, we followed the rules and had fun in the process.

We awoke to a beautiful sunny day as novices and were soon no longer afraid of pushing the wrong digi-

tal button that might melt the wires or crash the system.

Between the PODs from Long and Welbury harbours as well as the Maracaibo and Scott Point peninsulas, Salt Spring Ham Radio Club volunteers on Mount Belcher, Andrea at the Emergency Operations Centre and helpful voices from the Rod and Gun Club as relayers, there were about 18 participants in Saturday's event.

Since no one registers for a disaster, we thought it best to anticipate chaos by not requiring pre-registration to join. So, that's what we got — an assortment of folks from different directions on different bands and frequencies at different times.

Organizers quickly learned to prioritize and redirect incoming calls so everyone could be heard without clogging up the hailing channels.

From Joe and Pete as the two marines to the intrepid Taylor on Old Scott Road, we discovered that the low-powered "family radio ser-

vice" units had almost no reception among the area's big trees and rolling topography.

Yet we still managed because the island is fortunate to have so many transceivers on the marine bands. But that's where it can also get sticky, as high-powered VHF isn't supposed to be used on land, with the exception of emergencies or tests.

Cool heads kept a spirit of cooperation and helpfulness throughout the exercise. We realized the importance of the mid-power GMRS band. We enjoyed linking with some fine neighbours we never knew we had.

Hopefully we'll never have to use this technology stuff, but if we do, our communities are now a little bit safer and a little better connected in case grid-power is lost for any reason.

Thanks to all participants for the successful time and effort.

**GARY LEE,
NEIGHBOURHOOD POD LEADER,
SCOTT POINT**



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

NO MISTAKING MUSIC: Deborah Inkster-Kneebone entertains the crowd at Mistaken Identity Vineyard's summer celebration on Sunday. Live music continues this Sunday afternoon with Donn Tarris, after a vineyard and winery tour at 1 p.m. Register in advance for the tour through the vineyard.

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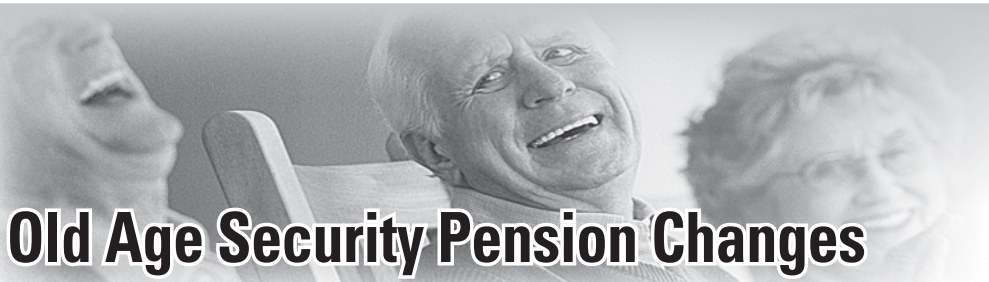
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Old Age Security Pension Changes

Effective this month, Canadian seniors can choose to delay receiving their Old Age Security (OAS) pension for up to five years, allowing them to receive a higher monthly amount in the future.

The July 1 announcement was made by the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development.

"People today are taking many different paths to retirement, and some seniors are choosing to work longer," said Minister Finley. "Canadians now have the option to voluntarily defer their OAS pension for up to five years in exchange for a higher monthly amount."

As part of the recent federal budget, the government

announced the new voluntary deferral option for the OAS, which it says will give more flexibility and choice in retirement planning to Canadians.

The OAS is funded through general tax revenues and is indexed to the Consumer Price Index.

In 2012-2013, it provided 5.2 million seniors with an estimated \$40.4 billion in benefits.

As many factors can influence a person's retirement plans, it is important to consider one's personal situation when deciding whether to delay receiving the OAS pension.

For further information, visit the Service Canada website at www.servicecanada.gc.ca/oaschanges.

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King's last, a broadside blast

Editor's note: The following is the last of what writer Ross King calls The King Cycle: The Last Chapter (with, he presumes, apologies to Wagner, if not JRR Tolkien), in response to Doug Muldoon's "I wish I were Ross King" poem in last week's paper, and everything else. He swears this is it, for now.

A laugh a day is medicine best,
I much enjoyed Muldoon's jest,
Muldoon's finger points at me,
Derisively . . . dismissively,
Pointed-back are HIS fingers three,
(Especially on superficiality)
On witlessness, quacks and relevance,
Where's HIS Reality? Common-Sense?
Muldoon: what have YOU to say?
On matters *relevant* to today.

Of I'm told that I am a pox . . .
They say my thoughts high-stink,
But I'm delighted if they make "men"
think,
Beyond the Isles' conformist box,
Political Correctness?? I disconform!
So yes! Muldoon . . . more "verbal
storm."

Perish thought — our impressionable,
Should grow up with heads a-full,
Of propaganda, artfully spun,
By those who think the World should
run,
On Luddite lines, the caves to crave,
I'd like World Order, as-is, to save.

Pilgrims new, South Georgia bound,
"God-speed, May-Flower," Cape Horn
around,
Skipped by Captain Patrick Brown,
Pilgrims Spendjian, Slakov . . . Muldoon
too,
My! What a Green Jihadist crew!
Go easy, Brown, if your ship gets
wrecked,
Oh irony!! 'Tis YOUR pollution WE must
collect.

Into t' void of South Atlantic.
We back here won't get too frantic —
We all know you'll well survive,
On grass, sage-brush and bugs a-live.

Sooo "Place Before People," Paradise,
Misanthropy Heaven?? Oh! sooo nice,
Vehicles, CO2 belching gone!
(Hold my breath until I'm done???)
Lest I myself produce too much tonne)
Pylons, pipelines, tankers none,
Oh! What Jihadist, Greenist fun!
Please send us a postcard.
Yours truly, until next Environmental-
whacko, Whack-a-Mole Season,
ROSS KING



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

IN THE VINES: Salt Spring artist Gail Sibley creates a pastel image of the scene at Mistaken Identity Vineyards during the winery's summer celebration on Sunday.

RANTS and Roses

Rants

Rants to pedestrians who don't use the infrastructure created to make their on-foot journeys safer — like the new north Ganges area pathways and the crosswalk lights — making life more nerve-wracking for drivers as a result. L. Franklin

Roses

A double bundle of roses to whomever returned my shopping cart (c/w red handbag!) to the customer service desk at Thrifty's. Oblivious to the fact I had picked up your shopping cart, I didn't discover my error until I arrived at the checkout. Then pure PANIC set in. Fortunately, through the kind efforts of a staff member named Bob, my cart was tracked down and all ended well! Hopefully, a lesson learned. e.h.

Many thanks to responsible library patrons with dogs who clean up after their pets; and a special thank you to library volunteer Susan Woods who cleaned up a large mess left by a dog on Wednesday, June 26. Salt Spring Island Public Library

A great big red rose bouquet to all who participated in Saturday's garage sale in support

of Salt Spring Conservancy's purchase of the Blackburn Lake property. Thanks to our generous donors, a great variety of good things was on offer, from his and her ice skates to an amazing collection of pint-sized stuffed toys. To all our buyers, many thanks for coming; to our willing volunteers who helped organize, arrange and sell, you were wonderful; and to the set-up and take-down crews, mere words are not enough. And how you did it we'll never know, but somehow a mystery donation or two found their way into our cashbox and the resulting total was over \$400 for the Conservancy. Thanks also to Driftwood, for posting this non-profit event in What's On. It couldn't have happened without you all.

Sweet-smelling old-fashioned roses to all the wonderful volunteers who make the Thursday lunch program at Seniors possible. You all do a good job and the seniors enjoy a cooked meal with dessert and tea or coffee, while visiting with friends. We start up again on Oct. 3. We are in need of dishwashers and servers, and also a cook and helper for the fifth Thursdays. If you would be able to work once a month for two hours, please phone

Joan Dennis, 250-537-5427. Thank you and enjoy the summer.

A huge round of applause for the young people from the Community Gospel Chapel who came over to Croftonbrook this past week and helped so many tenants by cleaning out overgrowth and various and sundry weeds around their units. Their enthusiasm and commitment to help others every year is incomparable. Thanks again! Residents of Croftonbrook

Huge buckets full of purple roses entwined with ivy to convey our gratitude and appreciation to friends Michael and Helga Bagnell for the love, caring and concern given to the lamb Martha Lamborghini. Martha arrived on their doorstep when she was only hours old. She was quickly taken into their loving arms and into their hearts. She was tragically taken from them last Thursday at two months of age. Such a special lamb was she. She wagged her tail to greet them and would only smile at them. Thanks, Michael and Helga. No other little lamb was ever given such a wonderful home. Our hearts go out to you at this time. Sharon and Oria

FREE Shredding Event

Securely get rid of those paper documents you've been storing for years at a community shredding event hosted by Island Savings, Access Records and Big Brothers Big Sisters. There will be hot dogs and family activities to enjoy.

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Members of the public are welcome — please bring a minimum \$2 donation for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

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arts&entertainment



DANCE REVIEW

Creative journey made manifest in Imaginelle show

Performing artists pull off spectacular event

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring dancers, musicians and performers pulled off a major triumph on July 4 and 5 with the staging of the varied show on mega-vitamins called Imaginelle.

The idea behind the show — bringing together all of Salt Spring's diverse performing artists and giving them free rein to interpret their own piece of a cohesive artistic production — could easily have resulted in a logistical nightmare and an artistic flop on the scale of the

doomed Russian space station Skylab. Instead, it was everything it set out to be: a beautiful, inspiring showcase of island talent that for two hours erased the community's reputation as an argument surrounded by water and inserted a new vision in its place.

Artistic director Naomi Jason and musical director Tara MacLean really cannot be praised enough for their creative input and their ability to bring the elements together. Anchored by their individual talents, and aided by a circle of women co-creators, they clearly developed the strong structure necessary to let all the performers shine. The support of Graffiti



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Crowd of smiling dancers on stage in final piece of Imaginelle at ArtSpring.

Theatre and the Salt Spring Arts Council should also be recognized.

With 71 participants, there are too many to list the accomplishments in what was essentially a variety show linked together by theme. For myself, highlights that stand out include the sweet bluegrass melodies produced by the Blackberry Ramblers (MacLean, James Cowan, Amy Haysom and Daniel Howlett) and the seagull flock dance led by Robbyn Scott. Rudy Hexter's astounding Peaceful Warrior dance, the Earth Prayer

women's African moves and the most beautifully brave celebration of the body by Cream Burlesque will continue to impress for some time to come.

The chance to see Jason perform on stage, both as part of the hip hop Earth Army and in her ecstatic dance of the spirit at the finale, was the icing on an already very delicious cake.

Another impressive component was the inclusion of non-professionals, such as rising star child actors Chloe Haigh and Niko Bauer as the heroes the audience followed throughout the various acts. Student

dancers in earth and fire segments were also incorporated to good effect.

With talk already in the works of making the show an annual event (the structure easily allows inserting new songs and dances within the elements), my only suggestion would be to work on the connecting segments. The audience definitely benefited from some exposition, but in this case I believe less would be more.

Certainly no one present needed to be reminded that they were in a magical place, indeed.

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artcraft



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RECITAL

Prince up next at M&M

West coast troubadour
performs July 17

An afternoon concert of Peter Prince's music will be presented by Music and Munch at All Saints By-the-Sea on July 17.

Prince has taken his musician's soul and filmmaker's eye from the Haida Gwaii to the Himalayas, but his greatest inspiration is rooted close to home. The skilled west-coast troubadour hails from Salt Spring Island where he has hung his heart for more than 25 years.

"With a potent voice and cinematic lyrics he delivers songs that move both body and soul," states a press release. "The personal and planetary musical journeys are drawn from his

life and travels and influenced by folk, jazz and world music."

Prince's six albums of original music echo with the spirit of coastal B.C., including the forthcoming Island Way, due for release in September 2013.

At next Wednesday's recital, which begins at 12:10 p.m., he will be performing a blend of new songs and old favourites on guitar and piano. David Storm will accompany him, tinkling the ivories on tunes they worked out especially for this show.

Prince is also known for the compelling stories behind his songs and passionate performances.

The music is free, followed by a delicious lunch for \$5.50, for which tickets must be purchased before the concert.

CINEMA National Theatre Live on track to thrill Fritz audiences

New series begins July 24

The best of British theatre is coming to The Fritz.

According to Dave Paul of The Fritz movie theatre, National Theatre Live is an exciting initiative to broadcast live and encore performances of

the best of British theatre to cinemas around the world.

Since its first season, which began in June 2009 with the acclaimed production of *Phèdre* starring Helen Mirren, over 750,000 people have now experienced the National's work on movie screens worldwide.

The first show at The Fritz will be an encore

performance of *The Audience*, with Helen Mirren starring as Queen Elizabeth in a series of meetings with British prime ministers at Buckingham Palace, in the highly anticipated West End production.

Live audiences around the globe have been treated to Jonny Lee Miller and Benedict Cumberbatch's Best Actor Olivier

Award-winning performances as *Frankenstein* and *The Creature*, James Corden's Tony-winning performance in *One Man, Two Guvnors*, and many more. Just a few other performances will be *Othello*, with Adrian Lester and Rory Kinnear; the Donmar Warehouse production of *King Lear*; and Manchester International Festival's elec-

trifying production of *Macbeth*, with Kenneth Branagh as the Scottish king and Alex Kingston as Lady Macbeth.

The Audience will be shown on Wednesday, July 24 and Thursday, July 25 at 7 p.m. Advance tickets are \$20 and available at The Fritz between 6 and 7 p.m., seven days a week, and at Salt Spring Books.



Helen Mirren in *The Audience*.

COURTESY THE FRITZ

FESTIVALS

11th annual lavender fest takes purple to new level



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Visitor photographs plants at Sacred Mountain Lavender.

Sacred Mountain Lavender hosts Sunday event

Latin themes will pervade at this year's Salt Spring Lavender Festival, set for Sunday, July 14.

The Latin sounds of Synergy, a well-loved Salt Spring duo, will greet visitors as they arrive. Later on, the Gypsy/Flamenco band Sunyata will entertain with their Latin grooves. Interspersed between sets will be Flamenco dancing by dancers from the Alma de Espana dance group in Victoria. Synergy will complete the musical day with more performances on the lawn in the afternoon.

This year's gardening, seed-saving, vegetable-growing guru is Carolyn Herriot from Victoria, featuring her new

Zero Mile Diet cookbook and ways to grow fresh, flavourful and nourishing food in your own back yard.

Herriot will give two talks and be available to answer gardening questions.

Yummy lavender treats will be available at the Lavender Café, with additional treats of lavender or regular coffee, tea, gelato, sorbetto, lavender lemonade and lavender infused fresh fruit popsicles.

At the bistro, lunches will be created by chef Jonathan Duquette, appearing from his new restaurant in Ganges — The Gathering. Duquette will also give two talks with demonstrations about cooking with lavender and lavender products.

Donna Patricia and her horse Tequila will grace the

fields with surprise visits, and spiritual readings will again be available by Jane Barter and Gretchen Andersen.

Registered massage therapist Jeannie Vasilakos will give massages in the lavender field, and people can also relax through listening to the "symphony of bees."

Vendors from the Salt Spring Saturday Market and other exciting artisans will be present in the orchard, along with the Purple Tickle Trunk, filled with purple clothing and accessories for children to create with.

Propagation of lavender plants and distillation of essential oil of lavender demonstrations with Ben Sutton of Sacred Mountain Lavender will occur throughout the day. Bee experts will be on hand to talk about the role of bees in the cycle of life, and bee tending and care.

Entry is \$5 person with no charge for children 12 and under.

Door prizes will be drawn throughout the day and a grand prize offered through Sacred Mountain Lavender's Facebook page.

A percentage of the day's proceeds will be donated to the Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association.

For more information, see www.sacredmountainlavender.com and click on Lavender Festival or the link to Facebook, or call 250-653-2334.

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11th Annual Salt Spring LAVENDER FESTIVAL
 Sunday, July 14th
 10 am - 5 pm

- * Celebrate Lavender this year with a Latin Groove and see and experience Music by Synergy and Sunyata of SSI fame.
- * Flamenco Dancing from the Alma de Espana school in Victoria.
- * Lunches, talk and cooking demonstrations by Chef Jonathan Duquette of The Gathering.
- * Gardening Guru and Author Carolyn Herriot will give vegetable gardening tips from her "Zero Mile Diet" books.
- * Watch for surprise visits of Donna Patricia on her horse Tequila.
- * Spiritual readings with Jane Barter and Gretchen Andersen.
- * Enjoy a lavender field massage with Jeannie Vasilakos RMT.
- * Propagation with Susan Dann and Distillation demonstrations with Dr. Ben.
- * Craft table and magical purple trunk for Children and Grace Jordan's puppet show on Bees for children.
- * Artisans from the Saturday Market and more in the Orchard.
- * For more, check our website for updates.

Entry fee \$5.00 12yrs and under no charge.
 Door prizes will be drawn throughout the day for those with entry tickets.
 A donation from the proceeds will go to Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association
401 MUSGRAVE ROAD (the paved part)
 www.sacredmountainlavender.com
 Call 250 653-2334

ANIMATION

Haidawood Media Project visits

First Nations culture in focus at library on Friday

The Salt Spring Library will premiere three new Haidawood stop motion animations this Friday at an all-ages free event.

The Haidawood Media Project is directed by Ken Leslie, who has been making stop motion animations with the Haida community of Old Massett since 2007. The

animations have a unique DIY look that features puppets with avocado pit heads carved by Haida carvers, and sets made from cardboard and natural materials.

"In a media landscape dominated by corporate influence, Haidawood stands out as an independent voice encouraging us all to de-colonize our minds while we learn more about First Nations culture," states a press release from the library.

Leslie will be in attendance at the July 12 event, which begins at 5 p.m.

ArtCraft's Showcase Gallery Presents
White-transforming vision
 Anna Gustafson
 Opening reception
 July 12th, 6-8 pm
 Mahon Hall
 114 Rainbow Road
 Salt Spring Island
 July 12th - 31st

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WRITING SKILLS

YA author offers summer writing camps for youth

Space still available
July 15-19

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring kids ages 10 to 14 have the rare opportunity to learn writing skills from an accomplished professional this month with two week-long camps offered by Kim Thompson.

Thompson is a television writer and the author of *Eldritch Manor*, a young adult book published by Dudurn

Press last fall. A relative newcomer to Salt Spring, in 2012 she moved to the island with her daughter from Toronto, where she was a staff writer and story editor for Nelvana, the Canadian giant in children's cartoons programming.

Though Thompson is new to teaching, she thought a workshop for young writers might be well received after she gave a successful talk on *Eldritch Manor* (her book about an old rambling boarding house that's a retirement home for mythological beings)

at Salt Spring elementary.

"I realized there was nothing specifically for kids' writing," Thompson said of the island's summer camps. "I love working with kids so much I thought I'd just give it a try."

Thompson started her university career studying history but said she most likely learned to write because she was a book worm as a kid. After gaining her history degree she went on to film school, and then was hired onto Nelvana's production department. When the company needed

writers she took the jump into the field that had probably always been calling to her.

Thompson's strategy for working with a diverse group of students is to get to know the kids the first day and hear what they want to learn about, whether it's how to develop a good mystery or how to create a believable fantasy world.

"The basics are the basics no matter what your genre," Thompson observed, noting good storytelling has made children's literature appealing to adults from classics like

Alice in Wonderland to the best examples of the modern fantasy craze.

"The interesting thing is the best is written so well, that adults are reading it — and it doesn't suffer."

Space is still available in the second session running July 15 to 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Topics during the week-long camp will include: getting started, plot structure, pacing, character development, location/creating your world, natural dialogue and exposition that's not annoying.

There will be private writing time as well as group exercises, games and discussions. Activities include viewing old movies to see examples of character development; playing vocabulary games; doing exercises in reading aloud to other people and analyzing favourite books to understand what it was about them that appealed to the readers.

More information is at www.kimthompsonauthor.com, or contact Thompson at kim@kimthompsonauthor.com or 250-538-5571.

EXHIBITION

Helen Keller inspires Anna Gustafson to create white store

'White-transforming vision' opens Friday

It is not often that an artist can pinpoint the moment of inspiration, but in this instance Anna Gustafson credits a chance reading of a letter to the editor by Helen Keller. "Since that reading, I feel as though she

is gently directing me through an exploration of our human senses."

Deaf and blind, Keller was an intelligent and ambitious woman who graduated from Radcliffe College. She was a prolific writer, suffragette and social activist, who toured the world speaking on behalf of the blind.

"After watching the film *Miracle*

Worker, I had left Helen, seven years old, at the water pump, frozen in time," Gustafson observed.

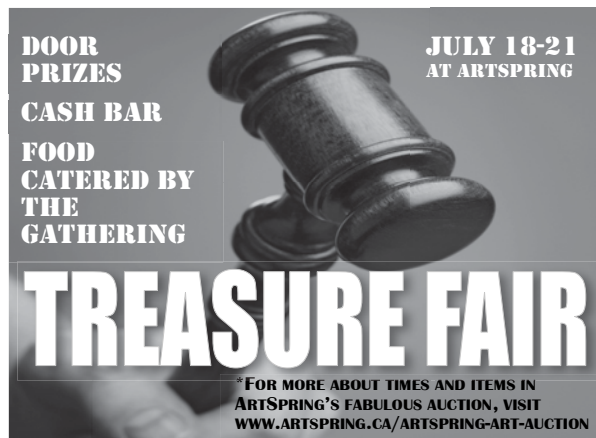
Facing her own preconceptions and the constraints she had put on Keller's potential, Gustafson created 'White-transforming vision,' part of *Exploration of the Senses*, a multi-component, non-representational portrait of Helen Keller.

This is the first conceptual installation to be exhibited at ArtCraft's Showcase Gallery.

'White-transforming vision' offers the viewer the opportunity to experience this "white grocery store." There will also be braille writers, paper and visual charts for the visitor to record their thoughts and reactions using braille.

'White-transforming vision' opening reception is on Friday, July 12, 6 to 8 p.m. at Mahon Hall and runs till July 31. The show and Art-Craft are open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The show is sponsored by Salt Spring Arts Council, Country Grocer and Henri Procter of MacDonald Realty.



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BOOKS/THEATRE

Passions united in Humphreys' work

New book launched at Bard on the Beach

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Book launch events tend to be quiet affairs, but that won't be the case when Salt Spring author C.C. Humphreys launches his latest novel in Vancouver next week.

Medieval sword fighting by students of the art and a lively discussion of Elizabethan court politics and the theatre will all be part of the action at a special event intro-

ducing Shakespeare's *Rebel* at Bard on the Beach.

Humphreys' new book is described as "a rollicking tale of the Globe Theatre's fight choreographer, John Lawley, and his adventures in London 1600 AD." But while the book promises to shed light on one of literature's juiciest historical settings, the subject matter is more familiar than exotic for the longtime actor and writer responsible for bringing it to print.

"It's my 12th novel and I can't think of one that's closer to my heart," Humphreys said during a break in filming from his latest acting project, a period mystery being shot in the Lower Mainland. "I think the key thing about the book is it's born out of my greatest passions, which are Hamlet and the sword."

Humphreys has enjoyed an interesting layering of interests and roles throughout his creative career. Appearing as Jack Absolute in Sheridan's play *The Rivals* inspired him to write the best-selling novel that re-imagined that character and made him a maverick hero for the crown in the colonial wars.

Shakespeare's *Rebel* is even more personal, centering on a stage actor who is called on, because of his great skill at fighting, to act as fight choreographer for the most important play to be staged in English history. The book also contains fun and intriguing elements like Elizabeth-

than court drama, spies and the charismatic but doomed Earl of Essex.

Humphreys himself studied fencing as his main sport in school and has been a fight choreographer for the stage, although he is more used to appearing on the boards.

"I always have loved swords — I essentially became an actor so I could leap around with bladed weaponry," he said. Humphreys is also a Bard on the Beach alumni, so it's fitting that the prominent Vancouver theatre festival will host the launch.

The event takes place on Monday, July 22 at 7 p.m. at Vanier Park. Featuring readings by Humphreys and Bard artistic director Christopher Gaze, the launch will include discussion of the extraordinary times recreated in Shakespeare's *Rebel* and how they are reflected in *Hamlet* and *Elizabeth Rex*, the two plays Bard is presenting this summer.

According to Bard on the Beach press material, some of Canada's finest swordsmen will perform fights from the novel and Shakespeare's plays. Fight choreographers — including Bard's fight choreographer Nicholas Harrison — will display and analyze fights that have thrilled audiences for centuries. Devon Boorman, Maestro of Academie Duello (Canada's premier medieval martial arts school) will conduct a prize fight as the Elizabethan Maisters of Defence would have done.

Shakespeare's *Rebel* is available locally at Salt Spring Books. A Salt Spring launch date may be planned when Humphreys' time permits in the fall.



CHRIS HUMPHREYS

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COMEDY

Best of Yuk Yuk's makes Salt Spring comedy pit stop

Comedy show to benefit Copper Kettle

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Three of the funniest Canadians to brave the comedy club stage will be at ArtSpring this Saturday night when the Best of Yuk Yuk's tour makes a stop on Salt Spring.

The July 13 show features Sam Easton, Toby Hargrave and Damonde Tschritter — three award-winning stand-up comics, who in addition to ruling the club circuit have a long list of festival, TV and film credits behind them.

A brief summary of their achievements includes the Phil Hartman Award and two Canadian Comedy Award nominations for Easton, being crowned "funniest comedian in Vancouver" at the Vancouver Comedy Festival for Hargrave and becoming the only Canadian winner of the prestigious Seattle Comedy Com-

petition for Tschritter. All three have headlined events like Just For Laughs and appeared on shows like The Debaters on CBC. But the current tour is a rare chance to see them all on one bill.

"We've all been friends for 10-plus years. The challenge is we don't get to tour together anymore," said Hargrave. When the famous chain of clubs approached them to be part of the Best of Yuk Yuk's Tour, they jumped at the chance to return to their roots.

"It's an opportunity to work together and have a beer after the show, just like we used to."

Audience members who haven't attended one of the shows before can expect to spend a good couple of hours laughing. Hargrave said the material is "not gratuitous" but is geared toward adults and is suitable "for all ages 18 and older."

Easton's style is affable and endearing, based on creative character-driven humour. Tschritter is known as one of Canada's best comedic sto-



WWW.SEETOBYLIVE.COM

From left, Sam Easton, Toby Hargrave and Damonde Tschritter.

rytellers. And Hargrave's material tends to reflect how his personal life is going, which at the moment means trying to make a baby. As he explains, his method is to tie comedy to the common human experience, which is really what all comedy is about.

"That's where I try to go, and every now and then I even get there," he

said.

Hargrave has brought comedy shows to ArtSpring several times in the past. He calls Salt Spring one of his favourite islands and looks forward to returning to the local arts centre.

"The theatres are like treasures in these smaller towns — but the trick is

getting people out," Hargrave noted.

One strategy is to partner with local community groups and in this case, Hargrave has selected the Copper Kettle Community Partnership after hearing about its work with the island's needy from ArtSpring operations manager Meghan Howcroft.

Fundraising for the Copper Kettle will be done during the show and the organization will be hosting the concession. If enough tickets are sold to cover costs, there will also be some profit-sharing. The tour will also offer a number of free tickets to the people the organization serves.

"The more we can get the community out, the more we can give back," Hargrave said. "We're looking forward to having a really fun night and raising money for the Copper Kettle."

Tickets are available at the ArtSpring ticket centre and at artspring.ca/tickets.

For more information on the comedians, visit the Best of Yuk Yuk's website.

SUMMER CELEBRATION

Island band spurs west coast boogie

Jerome Jarvis returns to Salt Spring with friends

Salt Spring is the lucky spot for the latest reunion of a legendary west coast '70s band, with Island putting on a dance/concert at Meaden Hall next Saturday.

The Island show will feature original members Paul Gellman and Jerome Jarvis, who will be joined by venerable Gabriola musicians Brad Shipley on guitar and mandolin, and Mike Mead on bass.

The group plays mostly original music by Gellman — of Perth County Conspiracy, Medicine Wheel and Wild Blue Yonder fame — with some of Jarvis' songs and a few covers in the mix.

According to press material, the band

is "definitely danceable, in an old-time 'boogie' kinda way. The band brings back music from their days together in the '70s, and updates them with a slew of new songs — the same but different."

People can sing along, dance, listen and generally celebrate the summer with the group.

Island has its roots in Stratford, Ont. in the 1960s, when "a loose association of artists, artisans, anarchists, actors, poets, dancers, gardeners and their friends" formed Perth County Conspiracy.

"Despite its non-existent status, this loose assemblage of performers became an underground musical institution, recording two LPs for Columbia, and later released five albums on their own label called Rumour Records."

After Gellman made his way to Gabriola Island in the 1970s, he invited his co-conspirators Jarvis and David

Woodhead to join him, where the three formed the Island band. They soon became a well-known attraction at fairs and dances throughout the Gulf Islands and the B.C. Interior.

"Playing an eclectic mix of folk/jazz from the Perth County days, original material and music by their favourite bands, they consistently raised spirits, filled the dance floors and left audiences spellbound, demanding encores."

Jarvis has been a Salt Spring resident at various times since 1980, and played gigs with Dave Roland and guests as 3 Chord Sloth. He is returning to the coast after seven years spent studying meditation and philosophy in northern India.

Doors for the July 20 evening open at 8 p.m.

Tickets (\$15) are being sold at the door only.

CONCERT

Fiddleworks fest promises feast

Star-studded July 21 concert

The Salt Spring Folk Club and Fiddleworks will co-present A Mid Summer Night's Music Fest on Sunday, July 21 at Fulford Hall.

Formerly known as the annual Fiddleworks' Instructors Showcase Concert, this is a mini folk festival packed into one night, featuring 12 of the incredibly talented professional musicians on staff this year at Fiddleworks' 14th Annual Salt Spring Fiddle Camp.

This year's feature performer is Ontario fiddle sensation Pierre Schryer, whose numerous awards range from being a Juno and Canadian Folk Music nominee to winning Canadian and North American fiddle championships.

Schryer will perform Quebecois, Irish and Gypsy jazz fiddle styles, together with Juno-winning guitarist and vocalist Andy Hillhouse, along with a guest appearance from his wife, trumpeter Merrie Klazek.

Another unique highlight will be the Scandinavian fiddle music of Elise Boeur and her

musical partner Jenny Ritter.

Woven throughout the evening will be solo performances and collaborations from talented New York-based guitarist and percussionist Clay Ross (Matuto, the April Verch Band), wild cellist Corbin Keep, Metis fiddler Andrea Bettger of the Northwest Territories, world fiddler Serena Eades fresh from Berklee College of Music in Boston, former Salt Springer Zavallennahh (a.k.a. Jaime RT) and fiddlers Olivia Budd and Tamara Maluda.

This promises to be an amazing festival style show, and concert proceeds will help fund bursaries for low-income families to attend fiddle camp.

Fiddlehead Catering will be serving dinner and desserts.

Doors will open for all at 6 p.m., and showtime is 7:30.

Tickets cost \$20 and are available at Salt Spring Books, Acoustic Planet and Stuff 'n' Nonsense, or through the ArtSpring ticket centre, 250-537-2102, or www.artspring.ca.



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| Thur | Laila Garsys |
| Fri | Billie Woods |
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| Sun | Alan Moberg |
| Mon | Duck Creak |
| Tue | Open Stage with David Jacquet |
| Wed | Vaughn Fulford |

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COMEDY TOUR

In support of Copper Kettle Community Partnership
www.bestofyukyus.com
Sam Easton Damonde Tschritter Toby Hargrave

Saturday, July 13th

8 pm

As seen on: 

ARTSPRING
100 Jackson Avenue, Salt Spring Island
Ticket Centre: 537-2102

what's on this week



Wed. July 10 **Thurs. July 11** **Thurs. July 11** **Sat. July 13** **Sun. July 14** **Tue. July 16** **Wed. July 17**

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Silk. Philip and Kim Benson duo perform folk/rock music at Music & Munch recital. All Saints By-the-Sea. 12:10 p.m.
Bobo Czarnowski. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Wednesday Market in the Meadow. Food, farm and craft vendors set up every Wednesday during the summer. United Church Meadow. 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Summer Reading Club Weekly Storytime. Dan Bar-El, critically acclaimed children's author, presents his new book Not Your Typical Dragon. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Virginia Newman Celebration of Life. Bring potluck finger foods and stories to ArtSpring to share. 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Practical Homeopathy at Home. Five-Wednesday course led by Jamie Capranos at The Green Raven Centre begins today. Pre-registration required. The Green Raven Centre. 7 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Open Mic Night. Hosted by Richard Cross every Thursday. The Local. 6 to 10 p.m.
Laila Garsys. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Open Mic at Moby's. Every Thursday with Ross & Dave. Moby's Pub. 8 to 11 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Tech Café: Searching the Internet. Search engines and basic search strategies. Register in person at the info desk, by phone, or by e-mail. Salt Spring Public Library. Noon to 1 p.m.
Green Drinks. Socializing around environmental issues at Moby's Pub. 5 to 7 p.m.
Grow Your Business So It's Right for You. A Women's Enterprise Centre workshop facilitated by Dawn McCooey. Pre-registration required at www.womensenterprise.ca. Fernwood Road Cafe. 6 to 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Crystal Bowl Healing Session. With Adam Huber. 120 Beediss Rd. 7:30 p.m.

Fri. July 12
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Sweet Water Revolver. Live music in the bandshell at Salt Spring Vineyards. 2 to 4 p.m.
Billie Woods. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Shane Philip. World music. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Gillean Proctor Reception. For exhibit of work by photographer Gillean Proctor at MacDonald Realty. 4 to 6 p.m.
Haidwood Media Project. Premier of three new stop-motion animations by Ken Leslie. Salt Spring Public Library. 5 p.m.
White-transforming Vision. Opening reception for Anna Gustafson show at ArtCraft Showcase Gallery. Mahon Hall. 6 to 8 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Aki + Pierre. Harbour House Restaurant. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Sunyata. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
The Never Never Band. Bluegrass music. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Saturday Market in the Park. Salt Spring's famous Saturday market runs in Centennial Park. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
United Church Open House. Self-guided tour of stained glass windows, plus refreshments, music and more. Salt Spring Island United Church. 1 to 3 p.m.
Best of Yuk Yuk's Comedy Show. Award-winning comedians Sam Easton, Toby Hargrave and Damonde Tschritter appear in support of Copper Kettle Community Partnership. ArtSpring. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
11th Annual Salt Spring Lavender Festival. Latin-themed festival for 2013, with live music, treats, demos, craft vendors and more. Sacred Mountain Lavender. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mon. July 15
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Duck Creek. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Frame Drumming Classes. Native drumming classes every Monday through July and August. Marilyn Walker's home. 6:30 p.m.
Two-Day Video Youth Workshop. Free workshop with professional videographer Tristan Bellmane for ages 12 to 18 starts today. Register at the library, call 250-537-4666, or email info@saltspringlibrary.com. Salt Spring Public Library. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Open Stage with David Jaquest. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Tuesday Farmers' Market. Every week in Centennial Park until October. 2 to 6 p.m.

www.driftwoodgulfislandsmedia.com/calendar/events/
view our online comprehensive interactive calendar of events listings
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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Vaughn Fulford. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Peter Prince. West coast troubadour performs at Music & Munch. All Saints. 12:10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Wednesday Market in the Meadow. Food, farm and craft vendors set up every Wednesday during the summer. United Church Meadow. 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Summer Reading Club Weekly Storytime. Prepare for Takeoff! theme. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Dying With Dignity Meeting. Subject will be Aging at Home. Bring pen and paper so you can start writing your Advance Care Plan. Everyone welcome. Portlock Park Portable. 1:30 to 3 p.m.

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National Theatre Live encore presentations of "The Audience" Starring Helen Mirren are showing on Wednesday July 24th and Thursday July 25th at 7:00. Advance Tickets are \$20 and will be available at Salt Spring Books and at The Fritz between 6:00 and 7:00 seven days a week.

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143mins Rating: PG

Wednesday Thursday
 July 10-11 7:00

Sun. July 14
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Donn Tarris. Live music at Mistaken Identity Vineyards. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Jose Sanchez Cuban Party Band. Live music in the bandshell at Salt Spring Vineyards. 2 to 4 p.m.
Piano Bar. With Deborah Inkster-Kneebone. Harbour House Restaurant. 6 to 9 p.m.
Alan Moberg. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

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CINEMA

- **The Great Gatsby** — Last two shows on Wednesday and Thursday. Starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Tobey Maguire. Baz Luhrmann's The Great Gatsby is ambitious — and every bit as visually dazzling as one might expect.
- **Monsters University** — Mike and Sulley are inseparable, but at first they couldn't stand each other. "Monsters U" tells how they overcome their differences and became best friends. Funny and thoughtful family entertainment for viewers of any age.

EXHIBITIONS

- **'White-transforming vision'** is a new show by Anna Gustafson, opening at the ArtCraft Showcase Gallery in Mahon Hall on Friday, July 12 with a reception from 4 to 6 p.m., and running daily until July 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Gillean Proctor** shows new photography at MacDonald Realty, 101-170 Fulford-Ganges Rd., with an opening reception from 4 to 6 p.m. on Friday, July 12.
- Vancouver artist **David Robinson** shows interior and exterior pieces at **Duthie Gallery** through July from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday through Monday, with the summertime **Night Gallery** also open from 9 to 11 p.m. Thursday through Monday.

ACTIVITIES

- **Steffich Fine Art** presents **The Tidal Edge** — new work by Carol Haigh and Ronald T. Crawford — through July 11.
- **The HeatWave** exhibit of work by member artists of the Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art runs through July 22.
- **Stefanie Denz** presents "Marcello's further adventures," paintings on mixed media, at the Harbour House Hotel in July.
- The **Carl Sean McMahon** exhibit called **Fractured Landscapes and Wildlife** features all new work inspired by the four main geographical regions of B.C. Runs daily at ArtCraft at Mahon Hall through July 11.
- **Cole Bazin** exhibits **Dystopia** at The Gathering through July.
- **ArtCraft**, the annual show and sale of 100+ Gulf Islands artisans' work presented by the Salt Spring Arts Council, runs daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Mahon Hall until Sept. 15.
- **Summer Splendor**, an exhibition of fantastic flowers by members of the Salt Spring Photography Club, is featured in the Salt Spring Public Library through July 31. The exhibit is accessible Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Petra Otten** has paintings at Penny's Pantry.

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NATURAL BUILDING

Cob workshop builds farm stand in island's north end

Dry weather ushers in cobbing season

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

There's no surer sign the dry season has begun on Salt Spring than the appearance of cob workshops and building projects.

Though the natural building technique has been around for millennia, interest in cob construction has taken off dramatically in the Gulf Islands during the past decade as more people seek affordable environmentally friendly building methods.

Cob, a mixture of water, clay, sand and straw, has proven especially suited for the construction of walls or benches and has even been used to build backyard sheds and entire homes.

Among the groups at the forefront of the cob revival is the MudGirls Natural Building Collective. The group connects people who seek hands-on cob building experience with homeowners who need help to complete specific cob-inspired projects. As a result, property owners get access to an able and willing supply of labourers, workers gain knowledge for their own projects and the collective fulfills its mission to empower people along the way by sharing skills and knowledge that promote a healthy lifestyle.

Rob West was among the 20 participants involved in the MudGirls' latest workshop, a farm stand and clay oven project going up at the Funky Revolution Farm along North End Road.

West has recently returned to Canada after spending nearly a decade in the United Kingdom. He and his wife want to find a piece of land to build a dream home by using natural materials like cob.

"We're here for a week, or in some cases two weeks, to learn how to build with natural materials, to share skills



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

From left, Rowan Roodenburg, Leona Bergey and Abigail Stammen help build a farmstand and outdoor oven during a cob workshop held along North End Road.

on structures, how to build roofs, how to build walls, and to also learn about each other and just have a good time," he said.

"The part I like most is that everybody is in their bare feet."

LEONA BERGEY
Participant, MudGirls workshop

Leona Bergey made the trip to Salt Spring from her home in B.C.'s East Kootenay region with her nine-year-old daughter and 12-year-old son. She said the ability to exchange her manual labour for the knowledge gained in the workshop provides an ideal opportunity for those who couldn't otherwise afford to attend a costly workshop.

"The part I like most is that every-

body is in their bare feet, there's no tools and a really beautiful atmosphere. It's safe, quiet and peaceful," she said. "We're not screaming 'What?' to each other all day."

While the farm stand at the corner of North End and Suffolk roads offers the owners of Funky Revolution Farm a cool and convenient venue to sell produce grown on their property, the cob oven will churn out fresh-baked pizzas and breads.

"They wanted to create a farm stand where they can sell their food and interact with the community," said Sheera Cipilinski, one of the workshop's coordinators. "They hired the MudGirls to facilitate the workshop and build this community, retail and social space."

The MudGirls host a variety of workshops in the Gulf Islands, Comox Valley and the Lower Mainland throughout the summer. More information about their projects and cob building, for property owners and participants, is available at mudgirls.wordpress.com/about.



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PHOTOGRAPHY

Island reps at Digital Shootout

Underwater photography vets mentor young shooters

Four Salt Spring photographers participated in this year's Digital Shootout in the Caribbean — two veterans of the event and two who attended for the first time.

Ken Sutherland and Ann Donahue have been participating in the Digital Shootout since 2005. This year, Alanda Nay and Seanna Johnston joined them in Bonaire at the end of June.

The Digital Shootout is an annual week-long underwater photography event that attracts amateurs and professionals alike and where photo/video/image-processing seminars are offered by some of the top experts in the field of underwater imaging.

Following the seminars, participants practise their skills while diving in the warm waters of the Caribbean. Evenings are filled with slide shows where the participants' images are cri-

tiqued by experts. The grand finale is a photo/video competition with valuable prizes donated by major manufacturers and tour organizations involved in the underwater photography field.

According to Donahue, both Nay and Johnston enjoyed sampling the demo gear available for participants and learning from the pros, whether in the classroom or on the boat. Nay, who has a keen interest in high-end video techniques, was invited to try out one of the pro's Red Epic video cameras on a shore dive.

"Although the camera and housing weigh 70 pounds, she managed it well underwater and produced a short video clip featuring Seanna diving off the dock," said Donahue.


All returned home inspired and looking forward to their next diving adventures to apply their newly acquired knowledge, she said.

Some work by Donahue and Sutherland will be shown at ArtSpring in the Photosynthesis show in August. They will also hold a slide show presentation for the community this fall.

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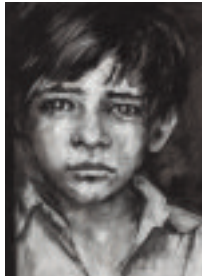


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PICTURE PERFECT HARBOUR HOUSE: Jim Black of Beddis Road brought in the above postcard of the Harbour House to the Driftwood office to share with our readers. His wife Jane's cousin sent it to them after finding it in a junk store in upstate New York. There's no actual date on the card, but it was produced by J.E. Evans, a manufacturer and dealer of pictorial postcards from Port Rowan, Ont. The card, cited as No. 887, was made in Germany. According to www.archivescanada.ca., J.E. Evans was a photographer and postcard manufacturer who was active from the 1920s to the 1950s. Anyone with information about the card or date of the photo should contact the Driftwood at 250-537-9933, news@driftwoodgimedia.com or drop in to the office at 328 Lower Ganges Rd.

FUNDRAISER

Better than ever Treasure Fair returns to ArtSpring next week

Slight changes from recent years

BY THE ARTSPRING TREASURE FAIR COMMITTEE

Where else could you pick up a trip around the island in a helicopter, an evening with an Oscar winner or a year's supply of the best desserts on Salt Spring and have a fun night out in the process?

And if they don't whet your appetite, how about letting your imagination take flight at the helm of an Air Canada flight simulator. Or letting someone else do the flying in a float-plane trip to a secluded beach for lunch?

ArtSpring Treasure Fair is back — and the items going under the hammer this year are better than ever.

This year's catalogue is an eye-watering collection of treasures that offer something for just about everyone over three days of silent auction, culminating in a boisterous open auction on Saturday, July 20. And if you don't believe us, check out the ArtSpring website (www.artspring.ca) which has a link to the entire catalogue. If you're looking for

a work of art, this is the place to go. Some of the island's finest artists and craftspeople have donated exquisite pieces to suit most wallets. Master-craftsman Kurt Frost, for instance, has gifted a sublime turned-maple vase valued at \$800, while a charming giclee print of a Salt Spring house by Jill Louise Campbell could be yours for less than \$95. And if you're pretty handy yourself, you might want to check out the loom, yarn and weaving lessons before someone else snaps them up!

Of course, the Treasure Fair IS an auction, so you could pick up any of the items for less than its listed value. Or pay above the odds because you really, really want it.

But, as ever, the Treasure Fair owes as much to the imagination and ingenuity of its benefactors as it does to their skills with a paint-brush or chisel.

When Salt Spring's Jim Erickson picked up a coveted Oscar for his sets of the movie Lincoln the island was agog. Now 27 lucky ticket winners can spend an evening with Jim, when he will recount his Hollywood experiences over a buffet dinner and answer questions

from movie buffs. Since there is a limit to the number of people who can join Jim, tickets will go on sale before the auction for \$50. In the unlikely event of any going unsold, they will go under the hammer on the last day.

This year the closing of the silent auction and the live auction will run slightly differently. The bidding will close in stages on Saturday evening. Times are listed in the box below. Saturday night will be a fun event, with very reasonably priced wine and fantastic nibbles provided by Salt Spring's exciting new restaurant, The Gathering. There will also be some wicked door prizes, including tickets to a concert at the Southend Grooveyard and a classy picnic on Wallace Island provided by Fernwood Café and Galliano Water Taxi Service.

While you're making up your mind, there are a couple of great events happening as part of ArtSpring's regular summer program. Check out the silent auction items before the shows and during intermissions. On Thursday evening, Juno Award winner singer-songwriter Ruth Moody will be performing on

the green space outside ArtSpring, while on Friday, one of Denmark's leading folk bands — Habadekuk — delivers its vibrant mix of folk and big band jazz in the theatre.

So get along to ArtSpring for the Treasure Fair on July 18, 19 and 20 — and start bidding!

Treasure Fair EVENTS

- SILENT AUCTION**
- Thursday, July 18:**
10 am – 5 pm
 - Friday, July 19:**
10 am – 5 pm
 - Saturday, July 20:**
10 am until first closing at 6:30 pm.
Second closing at 8 pm.

- LIVE AUCTION (Saturday, July 20)**
- First segment:
7 to 7:30 pm
 - Second segment:
8:30 to 9 pm

The wine bar and food service will open at 5:30 pm.

Door prizes when you register for the Live Auction.

MODEL RAILROADING

Queen of the steam age marked

Twinflower property hosts historic re-enactment

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An enthusiastic group of railway lovers from Salt Spring and beyond gathered to mark one of the most celebrated events in the history of steam last week.

Seventy-five years ago, on July 3, 1938, the 4468 Mallard reached 202 km/h (126 mph) near Grantham on England's East Coast Main Line to establish a steam-powered locomotive speed record. Although modern electric trains have been clocked at speeds above 500 km/h (310 m.p.h.), the original mark remains unmatched by any steam-powered locomotive to date.

To fans of railroading history, the bright blue-liveried Mallard represents one of the greatest accomplishments of the steam age. Far more than an impressive engineering coup, establishing the record earned Great Britain serious bragging rights during the tension-filled years that preceded the Second World War.

"On a Sunday, which was a quiet July 3, [the Mallard] officially managed to go faster than [the German record holder]," said railway enthusiast Philip Benson. "It kept it up for about five minutes, then it broke at the bottom of the hill."

Benson said the Mallard represents the best of French design and British engineering come together during an era that saw rivals across Europe locked in the battle for rail supremacy.

"The Germans, with Mr. Hitler in charge, had the fastest train and so the Brits, not to be outdone, worked with the French to establish a new record," he said.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Philip Benson interacts with people at his re-creation of the Mallard train's 1938 steam-locomotive speed record.

Benson, a U.K. expat who has created an impressive HO-scale model railroad in the backyard of his Salt Spring home, had been eagerly awaiting the anniversary for weeks.

"The Germans, with Mr. Hitler in charge, had the fastest train and so the Brits, not to be outdone, worked with the French to establish a new record."

PHILIP BENSON
Model railroader

To mark the Mallard's diamond jubilee, Benson brought out his miniature prototype of the Mallard steam engine for use on his layout. To the delight of a handful of invited guests,

the engine built up steam, released a series of whistle blasts and was off, cruising through model townscapes, across sprawling viaducts and around a large western cedar tree before skipping off the track near the chicken coop.

"It has ended in disaster," Benson proclaimed to the crowd of onlookers.

Undeterred by the mishap, participants concluded the evening's fun with sparkling wine, hors d'oeuvres and the viewing of a short BBC documentary made to commemorate the famous locomotive.

Those who missed the event can visit Benson's layout at 105 Twinflower Way for a quick journey through the golden era of British rail. The site is open throughout the summer, Monday through Saturday between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. or by appointment. For more information, visit www3.telus.net/tranquility/studios.htm or call 250-538-5522.

ISLAND HISTORY

Arbutus Road camp spot recalled

Gil Mouat and Bonnie Bryant share history



D.W. Salty

STREETS OF SALT SPRING

Arbutus Road at Southey Point is connected to another family with far-reaching island history. Registered in 1936, the road led to a property owned by the Mouat family, who used it as a camp and family gathering place from the early 1920s onward.

Gil Mouat, who lives nearby on Dogwood Lane, remembers the entire family would meet there every Wednesday afternoon when he was a boy — at that time all businesses and schools closed for a half-day holiday.

Gil's grandfather Gilbert James Mouat was the family patriarch and property owner, and he

would leave his office at the Mouat store every week to join his relations at the camp. Despite being in a wheelchair due to polio, he was able to access the cabin he built on the property.

Bonnie Bryant, who is now approaching 80 years of age, also remembers using the property as a camping place during the summer. Her father Laurie Mouat was one of Gilbert's sons and also worked in the store — he would commute to work from the north end camp. "It was really interest-

ing. I've been coming up here constantly ever since," Bryant said.

At first the road only went to the Mouat property. The 1936 registration date may have been when it was extended to go all the way north to the bay at the western side of Southey Point.

Bryant said Gilbert Mouat eventually divided his large piece of land and left parcels on either side of his portion to three of his sons; she lives on the piece left to her father. All the properties still remain in family hands.

As to the name Arbutus, the origins are lost in history — but Mouat and Bryant both feel it was most likely due to the presence of those majestic West Coast trees. Newcomers to the area like myself may be interested to learn that Salt Spring

lies in the most northern part of the arbutus range, which travels the coast down to southern California and even to Mexico. The tree is generally found within eight kilometres of the ocean, doesn't like shade and is the only native broadleaf evergreen tree in Canada.

Its beautiful springtime blossoms, bright orange berries and peeling rust bark over pale green skin make it so striking the tree deserves to have several streets names after it. In fact, there is one other Arbutus on Salt Spring: Arbutus Place off Harrison Road was registered in 1964.

Anyone with info about the next streets I'm exploring, Arletta Place and Armand Way, can send me an email at dwsalty@driftwoodgmedia.com. Thanks!

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VOLUNTEERISM

Dr. Ryan prepares for medical mission in Vanuatu

ViVa organization sponsors healthcare on Tanna

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When Dr. Paula Ryan, her husband and two kids arrive on the South Pacific island of Tanna later this month, they won't be the first medical family to accept the mission to serve the community of 35,000's healthcare needs.

In fact, Ryan won't even be the first doctor from Salt Spring to take the distant post: she follows in the footsteps of Dr. Dan Leavitt, who travelled there with his family (including seven kids) in 2008. Both doctors volunteered through the Victoria-Vanuatu Physician Project (ViVa), an organization that has supplied the only doctors to Tanna for over 20 years.

Despite the history, however, Ryan is sure to find unique challenges and learning opportunities during her time at the helm of the Tanna hospital.

"It's very hit and miss as to what support and supplies you'll have when you're there," said Ryan, who believes learning to deal with medical emergencies without consistent resources will likely pose her greatest challenge.

Understanding the medical needs of the Vanuatu culture will also be important, as Tanna residents follow a largely traditional lifestyle. Other challenges she doesn't face on Salt Spring will include obstetrics and treatment of tropical diseases.

Ryan has always had an interest in working in other countries and has previously provided medical care in South Africa, Malaysia and Guatemala.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Dr. Paula Ryan and family will be on the island of Tanna for a six-month medical mission starting later this month.

She became interested in Vanuatu after hearing about Leavitt's experience, and decided to commit

to the six-month mission after attending ViVa meetings for the past several years.

During their stay, her husband and children (ages 11 and 14) will have their own opportunities for volunteering and her kids will be able to attend the local public school if they wish. They will also have a homeschooling component so they can re-enter their schooling in Canada when they return.

A new component of the experience for ViVa is that for the first time, Ryan may not be the sole physician on Tanna. A training program that has sent medical students from Vanuatu to Cuba has resulted in its first crop of graduates, and a young woman is scheduled to arrive on the island, although when she will be there is not certain. If their times do overlap, Ryan is looking forward to working with the new doctor.

"My role would change to supporting the new

graduate doctor in her position, which would be very fascinating," Ryan said. "It could add a new dimension to the work there."

Ryan will keep the community updated on her activities when she can through a blog on the Kings Lane Medical Clinic website, although she warns the communication could be spotty.

"Everything's a bit hit and miss in Vanuatu," she explained.

"There will be days when there's no electricity, days when there's no WiFi access. And right now there's no phone lines."

Donations to support physician care in Vanuatu can be made through www.vivaproject.ca/tanna or dropped off at the Kings Lane clinic. Ryan's patients will be looked after by a locum until she returns.

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CONSERVATION

Animal compasses use all the angles

Following the trail of the amazing ant

BY BOB WEEDEN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

You're sitting in the sun with a cool fizzy in hand. Your lazy glance falls on an ant, estimating whether it will crawl up your bare feet. You wonder: "Does it know where it is going? Does it know how to get there?"

It probably does. Most likely it is following a trail of chemicals left by the last ant to pass there. Pete came home with food, so Repete plays the odds. If the trail ends in a blank ant, Pete met a flicker) Repete starts random wandering. Eventually it finds some incredible edible, hoists it high and starts home.

But where is it? Repete mutters, "Luckily I don't have to do a rednaw modnar esrever (reverse random wander)! I noted my angle to the sun on the way here. Now I turn 180 degrees, correct for the sun's slow drop toward sunset, and put one foot ahead of the other five."

But how far is it? In case the angle is wrong, what keeps the burdened ant from blindly going on forever? Almost surely Repete will meet a buddy, exchange antenna twiddles, and get directions. Maybe even get help with the load.

(Curiously, desert ants can't use chemical trails because the heat evaporates them. Instead, they orient roughly to the incoming traffic and count steps to gauge distances. Scientists discovered this by using hand lenses and steady fingers to attach short bristles to each leg of a lot of



ants. The stilt walkers didn't know their strides were longer, and overshot the mark. We don't know whether ants count only every sixth leg lift, or count them all and divide by six later.)

Sun and cool drinks make me think of ocean beaches, maybe in Florida when loggerhead turtles are hatching. The hatchlings, frantic after 80 days in prison, break out and "swim" to the sand's surface. Hardly taking the time to blink, they set out on what could be a 60-year trip.

First, though — we don't know how they do it — they take a GPS reading with the magnetite granules in their heads, memorizing their position in the earth's magnetic field. Meanwhile they are in full wriggle down the beach toward the brightest part of the night sky, the penalty for lag-gards being a short swim in a gull's gullet.

An equally frantic dash to deep water is followed by a month or more of swimming toward the ocean gyre we call the Sargasso Sea, a rich haven for young turtles. Turtles must have a note in their genes pocket because they know what direction to swim in whether they hatch in the Cape Verde Islands and head SW or in Puerto Rico and go NW. Turtles from a Florida beach, put in labs

nearby where magnetic coils gave false Puerto Rico and African readings, began orienting to the direction indicated by the virtual field.

Young turtles eventually head for the shallows of the continental shelf where they wander widely until sex hormones kick in at age 20 or 25. No matter where they are, they head straight back to the natal beach etched in hatchling memory.

Lots of animals, from newts to lobsters to pigeons, can use magnetic clues. However, animals use many other senses and clues as primary or backup aids to navigation. Night migrating birds navigate by the changing positions of moon and stars, the force and direction of strong winds, terrain clues (including, it now seems possible, low frequency rumblings of wind through distant mountain passes), and follow-the-experienced-leader instincts.

People are incredibly good navigators — the best — but not with genetic equipment alone. We have poor hearing, poor chemical detection, no innate map sense, and no magnetic field detection capacity. What we have is language, each other as teachers between persons and generations, and utterly amazing technologies. With them we can do anything an animal can do, but better.

The bad news? Hi-tech costs a lot, isn't available to everyone, and makes us dependent on a few technical whiz kids and "providers" as well as a cooperative society. If the power goes out for a while we are in deep trouble.

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DEATHS

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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DEATHS

COMING EVENTS

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William W. Best
SEPTEMBER 9, 1929 - JUNE 27, 2013

William (Bill) Best was born in Calgary and passed away at Greenwoods Eldercare, Salt Spring Island. He was predeceased by his wife Roberta (Bobbie) Best in 1992 and is survived by four children, Bryan Best (Irish), Beverly Best, Barbara Nielson, Kathy Hetter, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Bill was founder of The Gulf Islands Association for People with Disabilities and is well known on the Gulf Islands for his tireless advocacy on behalf of the disabled. In 1994 he travelled to Ottawa to receive a Canada Volunteer Award and Certificate of Honour for his work. In addition to his passion for human rights, Bill loved boating and freelance photography.

His family extends thanks to Bill's special friend, Pat Hafting of SSL, and the incredible staff at Greenwoods. No funeral service by request.

DEATHS

Salt Spring HOSPICE

For some moments there are simply no words.

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DEATHS

COMING EVENTS

BEDDIS and Cusheon Lake Residents' Association (BACARA) Annual General Meeting 4:30 p.m. July 25, 2013 - 269 Blackburn Rd. Everyone is welcome to attend, in support of your local community association. Memberships are available for those living around Cusheon Lake or served by the Beddis Water System. Followed by the Salt Spring Island Conservancy picnic, in support of the Blackburn Lake property acquisition.

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SANDRA MAY SNETSINGER (née SANDERS)
April 19, 1935 - June 25, 2013

On June 25th, Sandra passed away peacefully at her home on Salt Spring Island with her devoted partner Roland Arnet and family by her side. Sandra's love of family and food were a basis of many family gatherings. She lived life well! Sandra had homes in Ontario, where she raised four children with her late husband Hugh (Nov. 12 / 1980). She then moved on to Cape Breton, where she made many new friends and acquaintances. Finally she settled in B.C., where she maintained a home and fiber arts studio on Salt Spring Island, while living with Roly in Tofino. She always said "I need to see the ocean and have beaches to walk on!" Sandra was an ardent supporter of the CBC, the environment, Canadian literature and music. Bubbi as her grandchildren knew her "had a sensitive understanding of people. She loved deeply with a certain affection for the underdog. Her non-judgmental character grew from a long life in witness of the trials and troubles we endure, and thus maintained a greater inclination to accept us all. A great reader of books, a keen learner and lover of all things art, she looked for beauty in everything, exuding glamour and grace herself, yet always unassuming. She was a woman proud of her family and so content with her life, she kept the most important things close."

Sandra will be missed deeply by Roly, her dog Fika, her children Dewey (Margaret), Laura (Graeme), Paula, Michael (Allison), her four grandchildren Nicholas, Hannah, Madeline and Jackson, and all those she touched and treated as family. There will be a celebration of Sandra's life between 2 and 5 Sunday Sept. the 8th at the Legion Hall in Tofino. In lieu of flowers a donation to cancer research or a charity of your choice would be appreciated.

DEATHS

DEATHS

Bonnie McComb Kreye passed away peacefully on Monday, July 1, 2013. She is lovingly remembered and will be missed by many dear friends and by Don, her husband of 38 years, daughters Sarah (Ian Marcotte) and Zoe, grandchildren Isaac and Ella, brother Robert McComb, and sister Brenda McComb.

A memorial service will be held at 3pm, July 13, 2013 at UVic Multifaith Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, please support Victoria Hospice.

COMING EVENTS

FLEAMARKET IN THE MEADOW
Beside the United Church, Hereford Ave.
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INFORMATION

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1700 NORTH END RD. Sat. July 13, 9:30am - 3pm, all proceeds go to Charity. Coffee & goodies for sale by donation. 3

204 QUEBEC DR., Sat, July 13, 10am - 2pm, tools, household items & more. 4

231 BAYVIEW Moving sale. Everything must go! Lots of stuff. Sat. July 13 9am-12pm. 5

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This Week's Horoscope

by **Michael O'Connor**
www.sunstarastrlogy.com
sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com
1.888.352.2936

Tip of the Week:

There is something very exciting and rare in the planetary alignments now. I am referring to a Grand Trine: 3 planets each exactly 120 degrees apart creating a great triangle in the sky. Jupiter, Saturn and Neptune are the planets involved. Because these are 3 of the 5 far planets, this configuration is rare and powerful. A 'Trine' aspect in Astrology is linked to the element of fire and is generally considered the most creative and fortunate aspect of all. At worst, when too many Trines are present in one's natal chart, it can produce laziness and excessive self-indulgence. In this case, each planet is pivotal. Neptune in Pisces (2011 - 2026) is in honour in its own sign and represents a process of mass spiritual awakening for all of humanity. Saturn in Scorpio (2012 - 2015) indicates where the cut is the deepest in terms of powerful change and transformation. Jupiter in Cancer as of June 25 is in one of its most auspicious sign placements. This cycle lasts for 1 year. For this reason, its influence is extra important right now. It will synchronize with mass emotional expression and sentiment. The recent uprising with mass emotional expression and appeal for democracy in Egypt is a good example. Jupiter will also play another key role by virtue of the fact that it will activate the ongoing Square aspect (90 degrees) between Uranus and Pluto (2011 - 2016). In that configuration, it will contribute to a T-square, which is a very powerful and charged energy pattern that produces change. The apex planet is where the energy is released and in this case it is Uranus in Aries. The impact of that aspect will become evident starting this month and especially in August and remain potent until April 2014. More on that next week, stay tuned!

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Some big activations close to home will be evident now. It is yet another chapter in a series which will continue for many months and altogether indicative of a veritable metamorphosis. This change will likely impact the way you look as well as your overall outlook. Focusing to participate to direct this flow positively is ideal and important.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)

The time has come to lay a firmer foundation for the future. You want to extend your scope to encompass a larger vision and span of time. A consequent shift in your overall mode of perception is underway. It is influencing your thoughts and feelings regarding relationships. To succeed, certain modes of thought and behaviour must change.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)

A Desire to create a deeper and more reliable sense of security is on your mind. There are several areas of consideration gaining your attention. A change in your overall lifestyle is implied. Since good health is a cornerstone of security, it is a top priority. It may also be time to learn new skills for future income. Stretch your mind and your comfort zone.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)

Your confidence levels are rising and your focus is getting sharper. You have entered a time period when you will feel inspired to advance to the next level. Doing so will require extra effort. Fortunately, the impulse and energy to do so will be available to you. Still, you must cooperate consciously. The sooner you can get started the better.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)

Change is the law and sometimes it moves at an accelerated pace, like now. It is likely that many fears are stirring within. The key to overcome them is to not only acknowledge and accept the current flow of change, but to embrace it with faith and determination. It is as though you are in a grand process of graduation. Prepare, move and act to qualify for the next stage.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

An expansion of your overall outreach, network and/or circle of associations is underway. The biggest issue to overcome now is a tendency to dream but not act and follow through. You are meant to be in an important learning cycle, yet unless you are proactively engaged you could suffer from lack of direction. Work the angles to blaze a trail.

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)

Some fresh and fertile seeds have been planted in the garden of your public and professional life. While making good of past achievements will help, be careful not to lean on them too much. Acknowledge your will and determination to go forward with confidence that you have a lot to offer. As well, weave in a willingness to invest as necessary for future opportunities.

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)

A potent creative cycle has begun for you. It requires that you look to the future and be willing to take new leads. Training of some kind is implied. Spiritually, your main challenge now is to be true to your core sense of individuality. A clear reflection of doing so will manifest as fresh starts in your attitude, philosophy habitual rhythms.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)

You have entered a deep cycle. It already began almost a year ago and will continue for a couple more yet. It implies a deep purge and purification process. What used to be important and of value to you is steadily melting away. At best, all things spent, used and false will fall away and be replaced with new perspectives and orientations. These have likely already begun.

Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)

The returns of past efforts and investments continue to roll in. These will reflect back to you the quality of your choices. Due to current influences, increased stimulation of your most important relationships is underway. The overall tone is likely to be charged, dynamic and dramatic, perhaps even aggressive. Work within to produce outer harmony.

Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)

A big activation of change in your daily rhythm, routine and overall lifestyle continues. You feel confident that there is more that you can have and achieve. Taking key calculated risks to prove your theory is on your mind. To succeed, you may have to let go of certain things, positions, situations and perhaps people. The time has come to make your move.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

The time has come to expand your scope and vision to see a bigger picture. Yet, in order not to get overwhelmed by it, acknowledge yourself, your determination and resourcefulness. While you should be experiencing a steady rise in confidence, the danger is that you will scatter your focus. Aim to express yourself on a variety of fronts, yet not too many.

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SSI Agricultural Alliance chair Anne Macey and Jean Brouard (right), chair of the Salt Spring Abattoir Society, accept a cheque for \$800 towards the abattoir project from Kelly McAree, general manager of Hastings House Country House Hotel. Proceeds came from the 2012 Chefs Across the Water dinner series held at Hastings House.

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PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

SWIMMERS ON THE LAND: Salt Spring Stingrays swim team members gather for a group shot on their triathlon day at Mansell Farm, where they combined swimming, biking and running for a fun training event. At right, Kaelin Ertel, Jaidalyn Pinney, Nora Lesosky and Zama Rose Szakacs hold a SLOW sign, while Sam Aiudi-Murphy and Griffon Bohnet-Maul come down the road on their bikes. The competitive swim season is in full swing, with the team at a swim meet in Campbell River this past weekend. The Stingrays will host their popular invitational open water and swim meet on the July 19-21 weekend, with swimming at Rainbow Road Pool and in Cusheon and St. Mary lakes.



GOLF FUNDRAISER

Pink ready to roll at Golf For the Cure

Register now for popular July 30 tourney

The island's most pink annual fundraiser is just around the corner with the Golf For the Cure event set for Tuesday, July 30 at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club.

The golfing part is strictly a fun tournament, says organizer Elaine Shaw, so even non-golfers will enjoy the outing as they can buy footwedges, mulligans and "pull for gimmies" to improve their scores.

A number of won-

derful prizes are available to participants, including "the pinkiest outfit."

Non-golf participants will also be allowed to join the fun lunch that takes place after the tournament.

The cost for golfing and lunch is \$65, with \$35 going towards breast cancer research, and the lunch only is \$35 with \$10 going towards the same research.

Any women wishing to participate can buy tickets at the golf club pro shop.

For more information about the event, call Shaw at 250-537-5466.

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MOUNTAIN BIKING

Cyclist completes seven-day race

Salt Spring's Huib de Roo finishes in top 10

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring Island man capped his return to the world of competitive mountain bike racing on Saturday by completing a challenging week-long event between the Comox Valley and Whistler.

The seven-stage BC Bike Race sees participants ride from the Vancouver Island community of Cumberland to Comox, by ferry to Powell River and along the Sunshine Coast to Langdale. Cyclists then take another ferry to Horseshoe Bay, where they set off on the race's final leg to Whistler.

"I read about the BC Bike Race in September and was so excited about it that I decided to sign up," said Huib de Roo, who moved to Salt Spring last year from Holland. "British Columbia is probably one of the best places for mountain biking. There are lots of single tracks and you can practise your technical skills everywhere. It is totally different from the Netherlands, which is fairly flat."

The 40-year-old finished the event in eighth place in the race's Masters category.

De Roo was a semi-professional mountain bike racer until 2002. He



PHOTO COURTESY THE DE ROO FAMILY

Huib de Roo with the pack at the BC Bike Race event.

was a member of the Dutch national team in the Tour VTT in 1995, a race considered to be the Tour de France for mountain bikers. He also won Italy's Iron Bike stage race in 2001.

More recently, de Roo made headlines by finishing first in Salt Spring's annual Father's Day triathlon. De Roo's spouse, Marcia Jansen, and daughter Nina also placed first in their respective race categories at the June event.

De Roo said he wasn't quite sure what to expect in the seven-day race, which included 550 competitors from 26 countries.

"My last serious race was more than 10 years ago and I never did a stage race in Canada before," he said. "Now I can say that it's like nothing I have ever done before. It was such a great experience."

"Every stage was an adventure. Not only because of the technical sections, steep down hills and endless single tracks, but also because of the entourage. There was a guy playing his electrical guitar in the middle of the woods, rock and roll music in the cheer zones and people with cow bells to cheer us on. It gave me goose bumps."

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