



Jonathan Yardley
Architect honoured. **PAGE B15**

Light-up Winners
Take the tour. **PAGE B1**

Aqua
Our beautiful winter issue **INSIDE**



Driftwood

Wednesday, December 2, 2009 — **YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960** 49TH YEAR — ISSUE 48 **\$1.25** (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

WAITING FOR SANTA: Celeste Clan and Max don their Christmas hats to wait for Santa, who arrived Sunday via floatplane as part of annual Driftwood Light-Up events co-sponsored by the Salt Spring Arts Council.

SATURNA CRASH

RCMP identifies plane crash victims

Investigators piece together cause of tragedy

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Transportation Safety Board continues its search for clues to determine the reason behind the floatplane crash that killed six passengers shortly after takeoff from Lyall Harbour on Saturna Island on Sunday afternoon.

A spokesperson said the de Havilland Beaver aircraft would be out of the water and transported by barge to a Transportation Safety Board facility in Richmond by Tuesday night. The damaged plane was loaded onto a Salt Spring-based Moving Experience barge in Lyall Harbour.

The investigation into what caused Sunday afternoon's float plane crash remains the sub-

ject of an intense investigation.

"The investigation goes beyond the aircraft," said John Cotreau of the TSB. "We're not ruling anything out until we've got all the facts."

Corp. Darren Lagan of the Island District RCMP said the aircraft crashed at approximately 4:12 p.m. while en route to the Lower Mainland from Saturna Island. The Seair flight originated on Mayne Island and had made a stop on North Pender Island.

Police confirmed the names of the deceased on Monday afternoon. They are part-time Saturna residents Richard Haskett, 49, and Cindy Shafer, 44, Vancouver residents Kerry (Telford) Morrissey, 41, Sarah Morrissey, six months,

Catherine White-Holman, 55, of Vancouver, and White Rock's Thomas Glenn, 60.

The pilot and a female passenger were rescued from the scene after onlookers took to the water immediately after the crash. They were transported to Victoria General Hospital and are recovering from their injuries. The survivors' identities had not been confirmed by police as of Tuesday afternoon.

Sgt. Conrad Cowan of the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre in Victoria said rescue teams were deployed immediately and began to arrive on the scene in force within 15 minutes of the crash.

Staff and volunteers with the RCMP, Coast Guard, Canadian Armed Forces, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Emergency Health Services and a large

PLANE CRASH continued on A4

WATER COUNCIL

St. Mary weir debate surges

Trustees add voices to cry for public input

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Water Council members and local trustees Christine Torgrimson and George Ehring want the North Salt Spring Waterworks District to seek broader public input about its plans to raise the level of the weir at the outlet of St. Mary Lake.

"There is a lot of use of the lake by people other than those who draw water from the lake," Torgrimson said at a Water Council meeting at Lions Hall on Friday.

The comments followed a 90-minute discussion about the water district's effort to get a licence that will permit a 30-centimetre increase to the height of the St. Mary Lake weir. The result would raise the weir's spillway crest to a maximum elevation of 41 metres.

In a presentation to Water Council members, former NSSWD manager Mike Larmour said a legal opinion received in the run-up to the construction of the original weir three years ago suggests raising levels by 30 centimetres could expose the water district to lawsuits from lake-side property owners in the event of a flood.

Larmour said the legal advice convinced the district to build the weir to a height of 40.7 metres.

"The legal opinion deter-

WATER continued on A2

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	TIME	HEIGHT m	HEIGHT ft		TIME	HEIGHT m	HEIGHT ft	
DEC 02 WE	06:32	3.5	11.5	DEC 06 SU	00:56	0.3	1.0	
	10:39	3.1	10.2		09:15	3.7	12.1	
	14:36	3.4	11.2		15:17	2.7	8.9	
	22:40	-0.0	0.0		18:08	2.8	9.2	
DEC 03 TH	07:15	3.6	11.8	DEC 07 MO	01:44	0.6	2.0	
	11:37	3.1	10.2		09:52	3.7	12.1	
	15:20	3.4	11.2		16:29	2.3	7.5	
	23:23	-0.0	0.0		19:35	2.5	8.2	
DEC 04 FR	07:56	3.6	11.8	DEC 08 TU	02:31	1.0	3.3	
	12:42	3.1	10.2		10:26	3.6	11.8	
	16:09	3.3	10.8		17:30	1.9	6.2	
DEC 05 SA	00:10	0.0	0.0		21:43	2.3	7.5	
	08:37	3.7	12.1					
	13:57	2.9	9.5					
	17:04	3.1	10.2					

☼☼☼☼☼

NEWSBEAT

CALL GAIL, SEAN OR AMY IF YOU SEE NEWS HAPPENING - 250-537-9933

PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

CHRISTMAS MATERIAL: From left, Odette Graham, Lisa Cherneff and Beth Cherneff welcome visitors to Stoneridge Pottery on the 4th annual Christmas Tour that also included Martinus Jewellery.



NSSWD promises chance for weir input

WATER
continued from A1

mined that 40.7 would cause the least liability,” he said.

Lawsuits filed by the owners of flooded properties, he added, could eventually result in higher rates for water district customers.

Discussions between the district and the Capital Regional District to determine if septic fields near the lake would be impacted by higher water levels are ongoing.

Denis Russell, chair of the NSSWD board, said the weir’s height must be raised in order to increase the lake’s “live storage” capacity.

Live storage refers to the quantity of water above the 40-metre mark. Conditions of the district’s water licence forbid it from drawing water levels down to below the 40-metre mark.

At the beginning of October, the level of St. Mary Lake dropped to a low of roughly 40.1 metres. That’s among the lowest levels in the 28 years since the district began keeping detailed records.

Larmour suggests the district make more of an effort to promote water con-

servation to stabilize customers’ rising demand for water.

“If we keep going, we are just going to use additional water and be back where we are now in a few years,” he said.

In September, the NSSWD circulated a letter to 77 lakeside property owners informing them of the proposed height increase. The district has since received three letters opposing the project and two letters in support.

NSSWD manager Trevor Hutton said people will have a chance to voice their opinions as the provincial government proceeds with the application process.

“I’m not too sure who it would include,” he said following Friday’s meeting. “It may include [lakeside] property owners because they would have the immediate impact.”

Just how many people will be invited to provide input, he added, is still under discussion.

“Whatever comments we get from people we will include [in the application],” he added.

In other Water Council news:

- Only 41 low-flush toilet rebates remain available to island residents.

The Water Council, in a partnership

with City Green Solutions Solutions, began offering rebates to Salt Springers in late September. As of last week, 59 people qualified for the \$100 rebate.

Applicants can apply for their refund after purchasing an eligible low-flush toilet. A list of qualifying models and application forms are available from local retailers, the Capital Regional District Building Inspection office in Ganges, and the City Green Solutions website.

Only toilets purchased and installed after the start of the program are eligible for the rebate.

- Water Council participants unanimously agreed to name Peter Lamb as the group’s new coordinator.

Lamb served as a Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee member from 2005 to 2008 and is a former president of the Salt Spring Island Conservancy.

He takes over the job from former coordinator Murray Reiss, who stepped down in October.

Post your comment to this story online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com



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The management and employees of Seair Seaplanes would like to extend our hopes to the survivors for a speedy recovery and express our most sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to the families and friends who lost their loved ones during this recent tragedy.

We share in the grief of our Gulf Island friends and are deeply saddened by this loss.

We would also like to express our deepest gratitude to the residents of Saturna Island and the neighbouring Gulf Island communities.

We cannot express in words our appreciation to those who immediately responded to the accident and assisted in the rescue efforts. We are also very grateful to all of the residents of Saturna Island for their graciousness in providing accommodation and assistance to the search and rescue teams, the investigators, the media and all others involved.

Our sincere and deepest appreciation to everyone for all you have done during this trying time.

*With our deepest sympathy and thanks,
the entire staff at Seair Seaplanes*

Newsbeat

Heads up!

SS Local Trust Committee:

Thursday, DECEMBER 3
ArtSpring, noon.

TOURISM

Work needed to bolster island's tourism industry

New tourism committee seeks funding and encourages collaboration

BY SEAN MCINTYRE

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Representatives from the island's tourism-dependent businesses filled Lions Hall last Thursday morning to get an inside look at the island's new Tourism Development Plan.

According to the findings of a newly launched tourism management plan, Salt Spring is a destination with strength and "a strong personality."

"We've got a lot here, so we need to look at how we can move forward with that," said Jennifer Houiellebecq, a Tourism Planning Group representative who helped develop the plan alongside local residents and multiple levels of government.

Based on the report, what we've got here is a vibrant, sustainably minded destination that promotes arts and culture.

That's as good as gold in the tourism world, but people in other parts of the province, the country, the continent and the world have to hear about it if the island's tourism sector stands any chance of competing with other destinations, Houiellebecq said.

"There's a lot happening, but right now most of the marketing is done by [individual business owners]," she said.

Islanders who rely on the tourism sector, she added, must work together if they are to reap tourism's benefits.

This more "holistic" approach is needed to control tourism's potential negative impact on the island.

"There has been no sense of coming together as an industry," she said. "Now we're saying we all have to get together and talk."

The plan indicates that the island's tourism sector generates a before-tax revenue of approximately \$18 million and employs roughly 22 per cent of the island's working adults.

Approximately 76 per cent of visitors arrive between May and September, according to Visitor Centre statistics collected for the report. Half of those visitors come to the island in July or August.

"Your life here is highly dependent on tourism," Houiellebecq said. "Tourism is an essential component of the economic lifeblood of this island and we have to nurture it. We can't just let life carry on."

The 58-page Salt Spring Island Tourism Development Plan brought together representatives from a variety of island government and non-government organizations,



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

A busy Saturday market scene in Ganges. An estimated 76 per cent of annual visitors arrive from May through September.

businesses and community groups.

In the past 12 months, participants have set the stage to develop a plan to improve the island's tourism sector over the next three years.

"A lot of communities think about it and talk about it, but it's actually something you have to apply for and do the work so I'd like to congratulate your community on this achievement," said Tourism British Columbia's Laura Plant. "It's the end, but it's also the beginning of the process. It is now up to you to take over."

Spearheading that process is the island's new tourism committee.

The group is a broad-based association representing the arts, agritourism, recreation, accommodation, the Capital Regional District, the Islands Trust, the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission, the Chamber of Commerce, transportation, marinas and sustainability interest groups.

The operators of tourism-related initiatives and businesses are asked to contact the representative of their

sector to assist the commission and give input to the process.

According to the Tourism Management Plan, one of the commission's first goals is to find ways to raise core funding for marketing initiatives and the hiring of a dedicated tourism manager.

Funding could come from government programs or voluntary tourism-related taxes and levies, Houiellebecq said.

"The money is not going to land on the table overnight so, in the meantime, we need to have some sort of plan," she said. "If we recognize that the time has come to draw a line in the sand, we have to say it will cost us. There will be issues, but we are investing in our future."

More information about the Tourism Management Plan is available through the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce.

To share your thoughts about tourism on the island, comment online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

News briefs

LTC to receive tourism plan

The Chamber of Commerce's Mafalda Hoogerdyk will officially present local trustees with the draft tourism management plan at the next Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee at 12 p.m. on Thursday, Dec 3 at ArtSpring.

Meeting highlights will include staff reports on covenant monitoring, greenhouse gas emissions targets and a rezoning application for land intended for the south end's Abbeyfield Society affordable housing project for seniors.

Trustees are expected to

provide information about the Islands Trust's upcoming quarterly Trust Council session, slated to take place on Salt Spring between Dec. 8 and 10.

GISS hosts H1N1 clinic

The island's final H1N1 vaccination clinic is set for Gulf Islands Secondary School on Thursday, Dec. 10 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The Vancouver Island Health Authority expanded eligibility requirements on Nov. 19 and nearly all residents are now able to receive a shot.

"Our clinics are still busy," said VIHA spokes-

person Shannon Marshall. "We completely anticipate that we can keep up with the demand."

The seasonal influenza shot will only be available in conjunction with the H1N1 vaccine to people over 65 years of age and older, people who live in residential care facilities, children between six month and 23 months of age and pregnant women in their third trimester, among others.

VIHA requests that people with questions about the vaccination process not contact the school directly.

Information about the clinic and eligibility is available online at www.viha.ca.

Marshall said more clin-

ics may be scheduled in the new year if the need exists.

Crash ties up road

Salt Spring Island RCMP say "driving too fast for road conditions" caused a two-vehicle collision at the corner of Fulford-Ganges Road and Arnell Way.

The smash-up occurred just before 9:30 on Thursday morning.

The driver of a south-bound pickup truck is reported to have rear-ended a vehicle waiting to make a left turn onto Arnell Way.

There was extensive damage to the front end of the pickup truck and to the car's

rear end, but neither driver suffered serious injury.

Police issued a violation ticket to the driver of the pickup.

Referendum

Salt Springers head to the polls on Saturday, Dec. 5 to determine whether or not to approve the borrowing of \$2.75 million for construction of a new downtown library.

Voters can drop by polling stations anytime between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. at the Salt Spring Elementary School, Fulford Elementary and the Community Gospel Chapel.

The second of two advance polls takes place today (Wednesday, Dec. 2)

at the Ganges fire hall until 8 p.m.

Voters must be Canadian citizens, at least 18 years of age and have resided in B.C. for the past six months.

Eligible voters must have either lived in the Salt Spring Electoral Area for 30 days or have owned or held registered title to property within the electoral area for 30 days.

The federal and provincial governments have provided a grant of \$4.55 million dollars to the community to fund two-thirds of the building cost.

Referendum results will be available as soon as possible on Saturday night online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.



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Riders Guide

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2 Fulford Harbour

Monday – Saturday

	A	I	J	K	E	E	K	J	I	A	
Lv. Visitor Info Centre	Lv. Cusheon Lake Rd.	Lv. Burgoyne Bay Rd.	Lv. Park 'N' Ride, Fulford Inn	Ar. Fulford Harbour	Lv. Fulford Harbour	Lv. Park 'N' Ride, Fulford Inn	Lv. Burgoyne Bay Rd.	Lv. Cusheon Lake Rd.	Ar. Visitor Info Centre		
M-F 7:10	7:16	7:23	7:27	7:30	7:40	7:43	7:47	7:54	8:00		
9:10	9:16	9:23	9:27	9:30	9:40	9:43	9:47	9:54	10:00		
11:10	11:16	11:23	11:27	11:30	11:40	11:43	11:47	11:54	12:00		
3:10	3:16	3:23	3:27	3:30	3:40	3:43	3:47	3:54	4:00		
5:10	5:16	5:23	5:27	5:30	5:40	5:43	5:47	5:54	6:00		

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.

3 Vesuvius

Monday – Saturday

	A	F	G	G	F	A	
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Lv. Portlock Park	Ar. Vesuvius	Lv. Vesuvius	Lv. Portlock Park	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges		
M-F 6:30	6:37	6:45	6:57	7:03	7:10		
8:30	8:37	8:45	8:57	9:03	9:10		
12:10	12:17	12:25	12:40	12:46	12:53		
3:30	3:37	3:45	3:57	4:03	4:10		
4:30	4:37	4:45	4:57	5:03	5:10		
6:05C	6:19	6:25c	—	—	—		

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.
c - Combined route: Trip routes from Ganges via 1 Ganges Local & continues as 3 Vesuvius.

5 Fernwood

Monday – Saturday

	A	M	A	
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Ar./Lv. Fernwood Dock	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges		
10:30	10:43	11:00		
2:30	2:43	3:00		
6:05c	6:38	6:53		

c - Combined route: Trip routes from Ganges via 1 Ganges Local & 3 Vesuvius.

4 Long Harbour

Monday – Saturday

	A	L	A	
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Ar./Lv. Long Harbour	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges		
M-F 1:15	1:25	1:35		
SAT 1:50	2:00	2:10		
M-S 3:00	3:10	3:20		

M-F Trip operates Monday to Friday only.
SAT Trip operates Saturday only.
M-S Trip operates Monday to Saturday.

1 Ganges Local

Monday – Saturday

	A	D	H	C	A	
Lv. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges	Lv. Meadowbrook	Lv. Hospital	Lv. Brinkworthy Place	Ar. Visitor Info Centre: Ganges		
8:05	8:08	8:11	8:15	8:22		
10:05	10:08	10:11	10:15	10:22		
12:55	12:58	1:01	1:05	1:12		
2:10	2:13	2:16	2:20	2:27		
4:05	4:08	4:11	4:15	4:22		
6:05	6:08	6:11	6:15c	—		

c - Combined route: Continues as 3 Vesuvius & 5 Fernwood. Drop off only at Brinkworthy Place.

NEWSBEAT

SATURNA CRASH

Saturna grieves for crash victims

Close-knit community embarks on path to recovery

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Store manager Chris Danyliw was back at the Saturna General Store on Tuesday afternoon, not far from where recovery crews worked to raise the wreckage of a de Havilland Beaver float plane from the bottom of Lyall Harbour.

In the 18 years she's lived on Saturna Island, Danyliw said, she can't remember anything even close to a disaster as shocking or as heartbreaking as what took place Sunday.

"I don't think there's even been a car accident fatality and then suddenly it's six people like this," she said.

The surge of reporters who have rushed to the island in the wake of the weekend crash is another thing the island's estimated 350 residents are having to get used to.

"We've been literally bombarded," she said. "It's rather overwhelming with all the outsiders."

Two of the plane crash's victims, Richard Haskett and Cindy Shafer, were co-owners of the Lighthouse Pub and Restaurant by the island's ferry dock.

The East Point Road landmark was the very place where many patrons, who had gathered to watch Sunday afternoon's

Grey Cup match, witnessed the crash firsthand.

Danyliw, who lives up the road from the crash site, said she became aware something was up when helicopters began circling overhead as darkness fell on Sunday evening.

The well-known and well-liked couple divided their time between residences on Saturna Island and Huntington Beach, California.

"They were dear members of our community," Danyliw said.

"They were a bright, really happy couple who worked hard when they were here."

The four other people who died in the crash boarded the Seair flight during stops at Mayne and North Pender islands.

They included Vancouver doctor Kerry (Telford) Morrissey, her six-month-old daughter Sarah, Vancouver's Catherine White-Holman and White Rock's Thomas Glenn.

The pilot and a female passenger, whose names have yet to be released by police, were the lone survivors of the crash.

Jacques Campbell, president of the Saturna Island Community Club, said most islanders have turned inward to make it through this ordeal.

"There are a lot of people who are pretty choked," she said. "A lot of people are

"I don't think there's even been a car accident fatality and then suddenly it's six people like this."

CHRIS DANYLIW
Saturna resident

distressed and people want to be quiet about it."

Community health professionals began offering counseling services to the island's residents and rescue workers on Monday.

With the post-crash pandemonium subsiding, it's only now that many islanders are coming to terms with the crash.

Danyliw said she is unsure the island and its residents will ever fully recover from the incident.

If there's to be any hope of getting through this, she said, it's by talking things through and relying on the tried-and-true island network of community support that makes Saturna Island what it is.

"The community is really tight and we are coming together to support each other," she said. "That's basically what we do."

'Devastated' Seair staff suspend flights

PLANE CRASH

continued from A1

group of Saturna Island residents were among those who responded to the call, Cowan said.

"Some concerned island residents raced out and luckily pulled the two lone survivors from the water," he said.

Among the searchers were 14 Salt Spring Search and Rescue volunteers.

Team manager Chuck Hamilton said his group received a request for assistance at approximately 6:15 p.m. and arrived on Saturna Island at approximately 7:30.

Salt Spring Search

and Rescue teams joined the operation as other emergency response personnel patrolled the waters and combed the surrounding shoreline until Coast Guard divers found the bodies of the six other passengers in the plane's wreckage at approximately 1 a.m.

A Buffalo aircraft dispatched from CFB Comox lit up the sky with flares throughout the night to assist searchers in the region. "The area was saturated with resources," Cowan said.

Cowan said divers had trouble locating the plane given poor underwater visibility,

conflicting eye-witness reports and strong currents. Underwater visibility was less than one metre, he said.

The plane was eventually located at a depth of roughly 14 metres (46 feet), he said.

Weather at the time of the crash was seasonal with 15 knot winds and is not believed to have been a factor, Cowan said. Seair suspended all of its scheduled flights between the Gulf Islands and the Lower Mainland until Wednesday, Dec. 2.

The company operates three flights a day between Salt Spring Island and the seaplane dock near the Vancouver International Airport in Richmond.

"The team at Seair is absolutely devastated by the tragedy which took place," said Peter Clarke, the company's president, in a written statement on Monday. "Our primary concern right now is to assist and provide support to the surviving pilot and passenger and to families of the loved ones who were lost."

He said the company is doing everything it can to assist with the Transportation Safety Board's investigation.

The company has been in operation for 28 years.

Earlier versions of this story were posted to our website on Monday. Visit www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com for updates on the story in the next week.

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Benjamin Moore
benjaminmoore.ca

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NEWSBEAT

PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

TAKING OUT THE TRASH: Gulf Islands Secondary School students Ben DesRosier, Meghan Burgess and Adriane Harkema were among a contingent of students who were out cleaning up the island's skatepark on Thursday afternoon.



TRANSPORTATION

Saltspring Air lands security long shot

Ganges granted temporary security facility for Olympics

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The federal government announced last Wednesday that it will provide Salt Spring Island with a security screening station in time for the 2010 Olympics.

Having a temporary security station installed on the island means passengers aboard float planes travelling from Salt Spring to Vancouver will not have to be rerouted through Nanaimo or Sidney during the 2010 Olympic Games period.

Security requirements surrounding the event require that all aircraft entering the air-space in and around Vancouver between Jan. 29 and March 3 obtain prior security clearance.

"It'll be here and it means we can fly direct," said Philip Reece, co-owner of Saltspring Air. "It's great news."

The decision comes after a months-long campaign conducted by Saltspring Air's owners and employees.

Reece said the federal government's announcement means Salt Springers and off-island visitors alike will not have to endure the extra hour of travel time detours would have caused.

Having quick and convenient access to downtown Vancouver,

Reece added, means island businesses stand a better chance of attracting some of the tourists anticipated to visit the province during the Olympics.

"Hopefully we'll be even busier than usual," he said.

Reece anticipates that Ganges Harbour could be used as a central hub used by flights travelling to Vancouver from points throughout the southern Gulf Islands.

He thanked the more than 2,000 people who took the time to sign the airline's online petition.

Randy Wright, the senior vice president of Richmond-based Harbour Air, said the decision has led his company to reinstate scheduled service between

the Gulf Islands and the Lower Mainland during the Olympic security period.

Earlier in the fall, the company announced that anticipated delays and detours made it uneconomical for it to continue operations in the Gulf Islands during the Olympics.

Wright said getting the security terminal is good news, but that travellers should still prepare for some delays when travelling to the Vancouver area during the Olympic period.

An earlier version of this story was first posted to our website — www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com — at 1 p.m. on Nov. 25. Follow us on Twitter to get alerts on breaking news.

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ON SATURDAY, DEC. 5,

THE LIBRARY REFERENDUM ISSUE IS:

WILL WE HAVE A NEW BUILDING TO REPLACE OUR CURRENT AGEING LIBRARY?

<p>A YES vote means yes we can have a new library building within a few years</p> <p>If you want Salt Spring to continue to have a functioning library, vote YES</p>	<p>A NO vote means that a new building is put on hold indefinitely</p>
<p>A YES vote means Salt Spring secures a grant of \$4.55 million towards the construction of our new library building</p> <p>If you want to secure the grant, vote YES</p>	<p>A NO vote means that we lose this one-time opportunity to get an infrastructure grant</p>
<p>A YES vote means we can build a new library costing the community \$2.75 million – just over one-third of the actual construction cost</p> <p>If you want a new building at a bargain price, vote YES</p>	<p>A NO vote does not mean we could wait, and build on Rainbow Rd. at a similar or lesser cost</p>
<p>Because of the grant, a YES vote means keeping the cost to taxpayers as low as possible</p> <p>If you want to keep your taxes down, vote YES</p>	<p>A NO vote will greatly increase the cost to taxpayers</p>

IT IS COMMON SENSE

to vote YES to accept a \$4.55 million grant

IT MAKES NO SENSE

to reject the grant and increase the burden on taxpayers

So please be sure to get out on Saturday Dec. 5 and

VOTE YES

Vote today at the Ganges Fire Hall or Vote Saturday at the Community Gospel Chapel, Salt Spring Elementary, or Fulford Elementary
Polls are open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Salt Spring Island Public Library Association

For further details, check the library's website at: saltspring.bclibrary.ca



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Direct Van airport to Ganges: 8:45 am Mon-Sat, 11:35 am & 3:35 pm Daily
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SALADS

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two soft shell beef or chicken taco's
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make it a chilli burger add \$2.99

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with tomatoes, lettuce, fresh chicken and caesar dressing
Club Wrap
turkey, bacon, lettuce, tomato

SANDWICHES

Chicken Salad
with lettuce and tomato
Turkey
cranberry, mozzarella, mustard, mayo
Vegetarian
with avocado, goat cheese, lettuce and tomato
Club House
turkey, bacon, lettuce, tomato
Roast Beef
onion, lettuce and tomato on sourdough

**Add a small salad, cup of soup or
fresh cut fries for \$2.29**

*If life serves you limes,
make margaritas*



NEWSBEAT

COURTS

Man sentenced for crash death

Salt Spring family praises Crown work in Alberta criminal case

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

An Alberta man convicted of dangerous driving causing death in a crash involving former Salt Spring resident Lorraine Moth in Athabasca, Alberta has been sentenced to 42 months in jail.

Leslie Moxam will also face a five-year, Canada-wide driving prohibition once he is released from jail in Alberta.

The sentence was announced Friday in Athabasca Provincial Court by Judge Bruce Garriock, who found Moxam guilty of the charge last month. According to Moth's sister Loretta Rithaler, who lives on Salt Spring Island, Garriock took the time needed to review written submissions and relevant case law before issuing the sentence.

Moth was also the daughter of well-known islander Rita Dods. Moth was killed on Oct. 18, 2007 when Moxam's pick-up truck

went through a stop sign at 31 km/hr above the speed limit and struck her vehicle. While Moxam admitted to drinking alcohol and had both alcohol and Valium in his system at the time of the crash, he was acquitted of an impaired driving causing death charge.

His driving record included three prior impaired driving convictions and one for dangerous driving.

Rithaler told the Driftwood that while the sentence cannot return Lorraine to her family or repair the hole left in their hearts, she felt that Crown counsel "were successful and did a very good job in seeking and obtaining a strong, irrefutable sentence, which had no likelihood for appeal. For that, we are truly thankful."

She added, "We are disappointed, of course, that anybody who kills someone as the result of their incredibly poor choices would ever be permitted to drive again."

"On Lorraine's behalf, I believe the Crown did their best, and received a decision that is far greater than the norm has

been in the recent past for such offences."

Rithaler also said she hopes the courts will see the case "as setting a new, higher standard in support of stronger sentences for criminal offences of this nature."

Rithaler said she and her family were "very grateful to all the emergency workers, doctors, Athabasca and Boyle RCMP, and Fort Saskatchewan/Athabasca Crown counsel for all they did for Lorraine at her time of need and have done to support our family through the legal process."

She also gave special thanks "to all our friends who have been such tremendous support throughout this tragic event."

A similar case on Salt Spring is awaiting judgement of an appeal heard on Nov. 4. Campbell River resident Brian McIvor was convicted of the same charge — dangerous driving causing death — stemming from a North End Road collision that killed Salt Spring resident Katherine Chorney on Oct. 24, 2007.

McIvor appealed a one-year jail sentence issued in January of 2009.

FUNDRAISER

Copper Kettle asks community to support neighbours in need

Non-profit aid group still recovering from snowed-out fundraiser

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Copper Kettle's annual fundraising drive outside Country Grocer is scheduled to begin next week, and director Cherie Geauvreau is asking the community to be generous.

The non-profit group's Christmas fundraiser for 2008 was snowed out, and Geauvreau said it has never really recovered from the lost revenue. At the same time, more need in the community has surfaced in the past year than in the previous seven combined.

"Our food programs have seen need increase by four times and donations have decreased by the same amount," Geauvreau said. "We have the second highest per capita homeless rate in B.C. Over 3,000 people on Salt Spring earn

less than \$10,000 a year, according to Stats Canada."

The Cooper Kettle Community Partnership offers a range of networking programs that provide food, clothing, shelter and transportation to people in need, with service to everyone from seniors and shut-ins to people with disabilities. At least 20 families with 30 children access the food program each week.

"What I care about are positive solutions for people and that's what we offer," Geauvreau said. "We've had many successes over the years. People who have gotten a hand up have progressed and are now making money and supporting their families."

Three key initiatives are a food program, community garden, and boot and shoe program in partnership with Mark's Work Wearhouse. By working with community businesses like Mark's, Geauvreau said, "a loonie goes a long way with Copper Kettle." Special discounts mean that a dollar donated to

the group can provide \$1.50 worth of food for someone who needs it.

Geauvreau said the economic downturn has caused many people to tighten up on charitable donations, but cuts in all areas have increased need.

"It's the time of year to give. People have taken their money and put it into their pockets ever since the big scare, but this is the time to open them up because things are getting harder and harder.

"It's time for people to really link their arms together and help each other out, from the heart."

Copper Kettle volunteers will be outside Country Grocer to collect donations next Tuesday, Dec. 8 and again on Tuesday, Dec. 15. Donations can also be made through leaving grocery receipt tapes in Box #47 at the store.

Geauvreau thanks the community for all the support Copper Kettle has already received over the years.

ISLANDS TRUST

Trust Council ready to do business, celebrate on Salt Spring next week

Quarterly meeting comes to the island for 35th anniversary

Islands Trust Council meets on Salt Spring from Dec. 8 to 10, with a special 35th anniversary celebration planned among the standard business items.

While tickets for a Dec. 9 dinner at GISS have sold out, people can still buy a \$12 ticket for the dessert bar and live auction (available through the ArtSpring ticket centre).

All proceeds from the auction will benefit ecosystems protection in the Islands Trust area.

On Tuesday, Dec. 8 at ArtSpring, council will have a

2010-2011 budget session, looking at the process for passing the next budget in March 2010.

Trustees will view a series of visitor education videos and hold a trustee forum/roundtable to discuss common issues.

Members of the public are welcome to watch proceedings at ArtSpring from 1:40 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

On the morning of Wednesday, Dec. 9, trustees will have an in-depth session about the role the Trust Fund Board plays in land conservation throughout the Islands Trust Area, while also making decisions in the business portion of the agenda.

The morning session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.

Wednesday is also the day

council will entertain delegations and hold a town hall session from 1 to 2 p.m.

The public is invited to discuss issues, ask questions and make suggestions about the work of the Islands Trust during that time.

The agenda for Thursday, Dec. 10 includes a refresher on orientation topics for trustees, riparian area regulations mapping, greenhouse gas emission reduction work and an update from the Community Housing Task Force, followed by a review of work programs and priorities with trustees and staff.

The public can watch meeting proceedings from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., and from 12:45 to about 2:15 p.m.

NEWSBEAT

GULF ISLANDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

School tutoring ban puzzles parents

Tutors want issue resolved once and for all

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Six months after the Gulf Islands School District prohibited private tutors from teaching on school property during instruction hours, Shilo Zylbergold still awaits an explanation.

“It’s an even bigger issue than tutoring,” Zylbergold said. “It’s about who controls the schools, who makes the decisions and, ultimately, what is best for the students.”

School District 64 informed Zylbergold and other tutors of its decision after it received a letter of concern from the union representing the district’s public school teachers.

The Gulf Islands Teachers’ Association maintains that allowing private tutors on school property when classes are in session threatens the spirit of public education and contravenes the province’s School Act.

Rather than proceed with costly arbitration to conclude the matter, the district informed tutors they could only use school grounds when classes are not in

session. Private tutors can still teach in the school during the lunch hour and after school, but Zylbergold feels that the prohibition restricts students’ access to one-on-one learning opportunities.

“I would like for parents to have access to instructors who could come into the school if that’s what works for their kids,” Zylbergold said. “The school does not belong to the teachers’ union.”

Parents like Vera Robinson feel that politics are getting in the way of what’s best for students.

“I feel quite strongly about this. My kids are grown up and in post secondary had help with Shilo in math and it was a huge help for them,” she said. “One reason I was shocked is that I always felt that Shilo is so tuned into the students’ needs. I never looked at it as a business.”

Parent Stephanie Conradi said having access to a tutor has allowed her child to get better grades and feel more confident.

Not allowing tutors at the school during the tutorial block, she said, introduces logistical and safety concerns because students have to go elsewhere to get instruction.

“I’m concerned that as soon as you

take away the convenience factor, some [students and parents] may not be able to work that into their schedule,” she said.

Jeff Hopkins, the school district’s superintendent, said he would like to see the issue resolved more than anybody. Funding constraints faced by the district, however, mean a costly arbitration process could compromise school programs.

Attempts to have the issue dealt with at a provincial level with at least part of the funding provided by the BC Public School Employers’ Association (BCPSEA) have so far been unsuccessful.

“It comes up and we are still in the same place that we were before,” Hopkins said. “It’s a frustrating situation. It’s frustrating to know that we’d like to have a conversation and can’t get the support we need.”

A BCPSEA spokesperson said the issue is not significant enough to warrant financial support from the provincial organization at this point.

“It’s not an issue that has arisen in any other district,” said Deborah Stewart. “It isn’t an issue with provincial implications.”

Hopkins said the approximate cost to set up the arbitration process can run up to \$5,000.

RCMP REPORT

Police launch impaired driving crackdown

With the holiday season fast approaching, Salt Spring Island RCMP officers remind island party goers that a little bit of foresight can save a giant load of grief.

Roadblocks set up by island RCMP officers over the weekend resulted in charges against four individuals

caught behind the wheel after having consumed alcohol.

In one incident on Beaver Point Road early Sunday morning, officers on duty were forced to pursue a vehicle for a kilometre after a 32-year-old female driver failed to stop at a checkpoint.

Later that day, police

charged a 39-year-old island man with obstructing a police officer and refusing to provide a breath sample. The man allegedly provided police with a phony name. Police eventually determined the man’s identity and uncovered that he had an outstanding warrant. He was released on a

promise to appear in court on Wednesday, Dec. 9.

Police charged a 66-year-old man with impaired driving after receiving a report of an intoxicated individual getting behind the wheel of a car in a grocery store parking lot on Monday morning. He will appear in court on Feb. 10, 2010.

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LIBRARY COSTS per sq. ft. – SOME COMPARISONS

Recent construction cost comparisons between Ontario public libraries built in 2002-2004 and the cost of our proposed new library building have made certain assumptions that are incorrect and therefore provide misleading information.

Seismic zoning in Ontario is zone 1; in B.C. it is zone 9, with the highest risk of earthquake activity on coastal B.C. The building code seismic standards are much higher in B.C., and therefore more costly.

The escalation factor from construction costs in Ontario in 2002-2004 to current costs is too low; it is an American-derived

factor, and does not take into account the greatly inflated construction costs in B.C. in the years 2002-2007 because of the hot housing market and the Olympic sites construction. These costs increased in the range of 100% or more over the 6-year period.

It is impossible to make direct comparisons between individual buildings because site conditions – and therefore foundations – vary, and ancillary features are not identical from building to building. The table of B.C. libraries illustrates the effect of the upward trend in construction costs in the preceding years.

RECENTLY COMPLETED B.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES

Year	Site	Area sq. ft.	Cost	Cost per sq. ft.
2007	N. Vancouver District	40,000	\$21,000,000	\$525
2007	Pouce Coupe	3,595	\$3,600,000	\$1001
2007	Greater Victoria ¹	14,047	\$6,500,000	\$463
2008	N. Vancouver City	36,005	\$35,000,000	\$972
2008	Whistler	12, 422	\$12,340,000	\$993
2009	Burnaby New Branch	17,500	\$9,800,000 ²	\$560
n/a	Salt Spring ³	12,250	\$6,266,576	\$512

¹Attached to Recreation Centre

²Cost approximate

³Costs derived from schematic design of Sept. 2, 2009

- The figures for 2007-2008 are from B.C. Public Libraries statistics; the 2009 figures were provided by the Burnaby library.
- Note that for all the libraries the costs are for finished construction costs without a contingency allowance.

- The contingency figure included in the \$7.3 million estimated cost for the new Salt Spring library is \$1,033,424; the projected construction cost is therefore \$6,266,576.

The design for the new Salt Spring library is in the low range for public library construction in B.C. The projected costs would apply to any building site.

Opinion



GOLD - Photo Essay, Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island / GOLD - Special Publication, AQUA - Gulf Islands Living
GOLD - Feature Photo Award, under 25,000, Derrick Lundy / GOLD - Ad Design Award, Under 25,000, "Pegasus Gallery"
GOLD - Ad Design Award, Under 25,000, Collaborative "Cardino's" / SILVER - Best All-Round Newspaper, Category C
2009 BC and Yukon Community Newspapers Association Awards
GOLD - Best All-Round Newspaper, 4,000-6,499 circ.
GOLD - Best Editorial Page, 4,000-6,499 circ. / GOLD - Best Front Page, 4,000-6,499 circ.
SILVER - Best Local Cartoon, Circ up to 9,999, Dennis Parker
SILVER - Best Ad Design, 4,000-12,499 circ. "Pegasus Gallery"
BRONZE - Best Special Section, Circ. 4,000 - 12,999, AQUA
BRONZE - Best Feature Photo, Circ. 4,000 - 12,999, Derrick Lundy
2009 Canadian Community Newspaper Association Award



EDITORIAL

Support library

Saturday is decision day for a new library in downtown Ganges.

The proposal, which requires voter approval of \$2.75 million in borrowing authority and \$600,000 per year to pay the construction debt and operate the service, has been a long time in the making. It is one that deserves voter support.

Our cobbled-together current library is in terrible shape and must be replaced. The library board has managed to secure an unprecedented (for Salt Spring) level of federal and provincial funding support for the project, and it would be folly to refuse that funding.

If the library association had not been successful in acquiring an infrastructure grant, it would be hard to extend support for the project as proposed because of the tax burden, but that is not the case.

It can be easy to support an increase in taxes when one's own pocketbook isn't unduly bur-

dened and one wonders how long the system can support tax increases for amenities based solely on property values. Many on Salt Spring are "land rich" but don't have unlimited means to pay ever-rising property tax bills. Regardless of that situation, communities must continue to replace aging infrastructure and

THE ISSUE:

Saturday's library referendum

WE SAY:

Library board proposal deserves yes

pay for it.

Those who believe another library building erected on another Salt Spring site is going to be less expensive in any appreciable way are frankly fooling themselves with the combination of a lack of solid information and wishful thinking. Timing is everything. The \$4.55 million grant is a phenomenal gift that is unlikely to return to bless a new proposal in the undetermined future.

And be assured that the next application would not take place in the near future. Changing sites and plans would be a massive undertaking, and one that will not simply happen by default if the referendum fails.

We believe the library board has acted responsibly throughout the process of trying to replace the current facility and has successfully made its case for the McPhillips Avenue project. It has satisfactorily addressed misleading information from members of the public about building costs in this issue of the Driftwood and has agreed that if the design needs some pre-construction tweaking, that could well be done.

A new library is needed now and we have an affordable means of getting one.



Library — choose it or lose it

BY SUSAN BERLIN

It's simple: vote "yes" on Saturday and get 60 per cent off the cost of a new library.

I hope everyone is aware by now that this coming Saturday, Dec. 5, is a crucial day for our library — and for everyone who depends on it for information, entertainment, communication and all the programs that are offered there (the Archives, children's reading, community meetings, book delivery for shut-ins, inter-library loans, the teen room and so on).

Crucial because by voting in the referendum to be held that day, we have the opportunity to:

- First, make sure there will be a Salt Spring library in future. The current building is in an increasingly unstable state; it will have to be replaced.
- Second, arrange for nearly two-thirds of the cost of the new library project to be covered by a grant from the federal and provincial governments. We will only get the grant money if we agree to provide local "matching" funds.

Below you will find the referendum question we will be voting on, as prepared by the CRD; in simpler English, it asks voters whether they want (a) to approve borrowing the money it will take to pay for the one-third of construction costs that is our share, plus "ineligible" costs (for example legal fees, interim financing fees) not covered by the federal/provincial grant; and (b) to agree to pay from property taxes both the repayment of the loan and the increases in annual operating budget that will be required for the new, larger building.

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

(a) Bylaw No. 3613, "Salt Spring Island Public Library Authorization Bylaw No. 2, 2009" authorizing the Capital Regional District to borrow an amount not to exceed \$2,750,000 for the purpose of

VIEWPOINT

paying the net costs of designing, constructing and equipping a new public library building on Salt Spring Island; and

(b) Bylaw No. 3612, "Salt Spring Island Public Library Service Area Establishment Bylaw No. 1, Amendment Bylaw No. 3, 2009" authorizing the Capital Regional District to raise a maximum annual requisition of the greater of \$600,000 or \$0.186 per one thousand dollars of taxable assessments for the purpose of funding the capital and operating costs of a new public library building and contributing to the cost of the library service on Salt Spring Island.

"YES or NO?"

Remember: if the referendum is not approved, we don't get the federal/provincial money. Period. No second chances!

This being Salt Spring, of course there are all sorts of arguments going on, chief among them those raised by people who wanted the new library to be built on Rainbow Road. However, that is not the issue in Saturday's vote! On Dec. 5, the issue is: will Salt Spring have a library in future?

Whichever way you voted on the last referendum, it seems unlikely that you want Salt Spring to be without a library. Remember that if we don't vote

yes on this issue, we'll run a distinct risk of not having a library at all. Certainly we'd be tossing away millions of dollars. That just doesn't make sense to me.

Make sure Salt Spring has a library in future. Make sure we don't turn down a \$4.55 million grant. Make sure you vote "yes" in Saturday's referendum.

Both property owners and resident renters can vote between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. at any of three locations: Salt Spring Elementary, Fulford Elementary or the Community Gospel Chapel.

The writer is a planner and writer.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

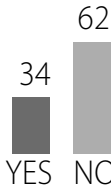
Will you spend less money than usual this Christmas? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Have you or will you get vaccinated against H1N1?



Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3

Phone: 250-537-9933 Fax: 250-537-2613 Toll Free: 1-877-537-9934

Email: driftwood@gulfislands.net Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

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

Yearly Subscription Rates:

In the Gulf Islands \$49.88* Elsewhere in Canada \$84.00*

Six months elsewhere in Canada \$58.30* Outside Canada \$179.00

* Includes GST

This newspaper acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program (PAP), toward its mailing costs. Publications Mail Registration No. 08149 International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782



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Member of: Canadian Community Newspapers Association, B.C. & Yukon Community Newspapers Association, B.C. Press Council



IslandVoices

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:
“The community is really tight and we are coming together to support each other. That’s basically what we do.”

CHRIS DANYLIW, SATURNA RESIDENT

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What do you hope will come out of the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference?



SANDRA TONG

I'd like to see some serious work on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



BETH GESSINGER

I'm embarrassed about Canada's performance. Maybe we can restore our reputation.



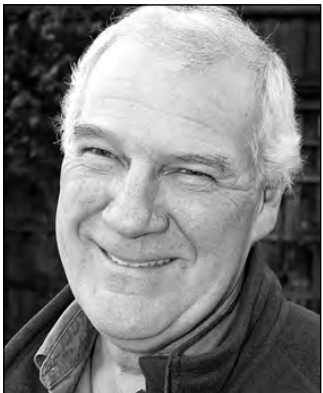
TERRY MCLEES

I'd like to see them make a big sign that reads "go plant a tree."



LESLIE REINHART

It's about time we get on with finding a long-term solution for the planet.



WAYNE LEE

We've got the brains and the resources. Let's hope Canada can catch up with the rest of the world.

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.**

Wake-up call

Good for the Driftwood for their coverage of a near disaster when the bulk carrier Hebei Lion blew into a reef last week in nearby Navy Channel. ("Freighter hits Navy Channel reef," also on www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com on Nov. 19). I didn't see coverage on CHEK TV or on CBC.

This incident should be a wake-up call for all of us who live on this B.C. coast. If I had waterfront property I'd be firing off letters to all our governments. In fact, the beaches belong to all of us, so we should all get motivated.

Harper is an oil guy and there is a plan underway to build a pipeline from the Alberta tar sands to Kitimat to service the tankers from China, Korea and other Asian ports. There is also talk of a second pipeline to carry the chemicals from the south to the oil sands that will make

the heavy Alberta oil easier to pipe. That's two sets of tankers going up and down B.C.'s coast, which consists of 850 km of jagged rocks. This plan must be stopped. Using this coastline to transfer oil and chemicals is an accident waiting to happen and when it does, your waterfront property and our island will be devastated.

For more information, go to www.dogwoodinitiative.org.

SUSAN PAYNTER,
KING ROAD

Library building costs

A Nov. 25 letter to the Driftwood ("Library costs") used both very dated information on library construction costs in Ontario and an inappropriate U.S. rather than a B.C.-based inflation index to suggest our new library will be unduly expensive.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Recent information from the B.C. Ministry of Education suggests the cost of constructing public assembly buildings like our new library has approximately doubled since 2002.

The per square foot cost estimates for a new library being constructed in Waterloo, Ontario, a library for which ground was broken as recently as Nov. 21, 2009, reflects that doubling. Those costs, almost the same as they will be for the new Salt Spring library, are for a LEED Silver building while Salt Spring's library will meet LEED Gold standards. Also, Waterloo, Ontario is not on an island on to which building materials must be ferried, nor do buildings in Ontario have to be built to satisfy B.C.'s more demanding seismic (earthquake) protection standards.

Note also the library advertisement in this Driftwood which demonstrates how favourably Salt Spring costs compare with those of other libraries recently constructed in British Columbia.

The new Salt Spring library building meets an important social need and will do so in a cost-efficient manner.

DUNCAN HEPBURN,
STAN SHAPIRO,
SALT SPRING LIBRARY BOARD

Cautionary tale

There is a cautionary tale for library referendum voters in the CRD's relationship with the Beddis Water Service District. That sorry episode was covered in a Nov. 18 Driftwood article ("Water board members want answers.")

With the inducement of a grant, Beddis Water District members voted ourselves under the jurisdiction of the CRD and allowed the CRD

to administer the upgrade to our water treatment facility. The CRD has charged large administration fees that it is reluctant to account for in any detail. The CRD also failed to adequately track cost overruns of about 90 per cent (that's right – almost double); yet, with the exception of a small contribution, the CRD expects member households to pay.

If Salt Springers vote to approve the library association's authority to borrow funds for construction of a new library, the CRD will manage that project as well. If there are cost overruns, the CRD will likely refuse to pay those, as it refused to pay in the case of the Beddis Water Service District.

I'm not sure what would happen at that point. The library association, as client of the CRD, would likely be required to pay. That means library association members,

library card holders, would become liable. An alternative might be another referendum to raise property taxes further; but, I don't see property owners accepting that.

There is a contingency figure calculated at about 15 per cent of the total referendum amount.

That seems egregiously inadequate, considering the Beddis Water Service District experience.

Expect complications if you give this project the go-ahead. The grant may prove illusory with respect to final costs.

The irony is that neither an approved property tax increase nor exposure of library members to the financial risks described above will result in service that meets public library standards.

MICHAEL FRIEDMAN,
SKY VALLEY ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on A10

Putting perspective on Mexico murder numbers

I was walking my dogs through Mouat Park a couple of weeks ago and ran into an old friend walking his two Mexican rescue dogs. This guy is well seasoned — I would guess on the dark side of 70, but very active — very much alive. He spends the summers up here on his sailboat, and travels down to Mazatlan in the winter in his little camperized van with his two dogs, to spend the winter blowing sax in the local bars and hanging out with his New York girlfriend. He has been living this enviable, bohemian life for 11 years.

This year, it's a little different. He's nervous. For the first time in 11 years he feels a little twitchy travelling down the Mexican highway by himself. He's afraid that he will get dragged out of his van by bandits, robbed and shot. This year, he's going to hang around the U.S./Mexico border and join a caravan — safety in numbers. This year, they finally got to him.

When I write "they," I am referring to the media — CNN, Fox News, the national papers, the talking heads who live and die by the time-tested creed "If it bleeds, it leads." It got to me as well. The grainy footage of pitched battles between Mexican drug cartels and the army, the soaring death toll, the mutilated, grisly remains of the kidnapped all begin to creep into one's consciousness. It's not that Mexico is a Spanish speaking Disneyland with toothy Mexicans in sombreros playing mariachi music anymore than Canada is inhabited by toque-wearing

beer drinkers or starchy RCMP officers trotting around on stallions. Mexico can be a dangerous place. The numbers don't lie.

Since Felipe Calderone took over the presidency of Mexico in December 2006, an estimated 15,000 have died in the drug wars. In Ciudad Juarez, a city of about 1.5 million on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande south of El Paso Texas, there have been 2,000 deaths this year alone, including 49 police officers.

Make no mistake. There is a war going on in Mexico. Mr. Calderone has deployed 40,000 regular army and 20,000 federal police to fight the drug cartels. That is about the same number as the present American troop strength in Afghanistan. The U.S. has committed \$1.4 billion in aid over three years for training, equipment and intelligence. The border crossing at Tijuana has recently been equipped with the latest surveillance to sniff out both guns and drugs.

Is it working? There is progress. In October of this year, over 300 alleged members of the Familia (one of the most notorious gangs) were rounded up in 38 American cities. Officers seized \$30 million cash and 2.5 tons of cocaine. There is a \$5 million bounty on Joaquin Guzman, the head of the Familia, who has been on the lam since his 2001 escape from prison. Life must be



Peter Vincent

HEAD TO HEAD

increasingly difficult for gang members.

Unfortunately, life has also become increasingly difficult for the vast majority of Mexicans who have nothing to do with drugs or narco wars. Tourism, one of the country's main sources of revenue with over 20 million visitors per year, is down over 20

per cent, according to an August 2009 ING report, with occupancy rates hovering at around 50 per cent.

It doesn't help matters when the U.S., gripped by media horror stories of decapitated corpses and innocents caught in crossfire, issues advisory warnings about travelling south of the border. It doesn't help when the U.S. Joint Forces Command states that Mexico "bears consideration for a rapid and sudden collapse." In other words, anarchy.

It is as bad or worse in Canada. A Mexican woman recently entering Canada was made to produce proof of property ownership, her last six bank statements and personal information about other members of her family.

The woman in question was one Rosario Green Macias. She is the president of the external relations commission of Mexico's senate and "a one-time senior United Nations official as well as diplomat and cabinet minister," according to the Globe

and Mail. In her words, "humiliating."

Earlier this summer, the Canadian government changed the rules, demanding visas from Mexican citizens. Apparently Stephen Harper watches the late news.

Let's get some perspective. Would you be concerned if you learned that your vacation hot spot was the scene of 20 murders and 40 wounded in the first three months of this year, as a fierce turf war between drug cartels rages in the streets in broad daylight? Would you be concerned if you learned that 32 women had disappeared without a trace on one single stretch of highway? Would you be concerned if you learned that possibly 26 women were slain just miles from your chosen hotel? Well, welcome to Vancouver. Welcome to the Pickton Farm. Welcome to Highway 16, dubbed "the Highway of Tears." Welcome to Beautiful B.C.

My much evolved girlfriend reminds me that people are the same all over the world. People all over the world put their shoes on one foot at a time, go shopping for groceries, have the same aches and pains and worries as your next door neighbour. Whether it's the U.S., Afghanistan, China, Mexico, or indeed Canada, people are generally good, generous and kind hearted. No matter where you end up on the planet, if you approach with an open heart, you will find people will reciprocate in spades. My girlfriend. She's a pretty smart woman.

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OPINION

MORE LETTERS
continued from A9

Sustainable library

We are voting “yes” for a new library on Dec 5. Voting “yes” is the only way to secure the \$4.55 million federal-provincial funding con-

tribution, which should enable the construction of a very green building.

This grant and the current library plans, together with the downtown location, will help ensure the new library achieves certification for a green building standard (LEED Gold or better).

Going green takes effort, but it is far better than simply designing and building to the minimum standards or going with the cheapest design. A green library is an important statement for our community in our collective commitment to become a sustainable community.

It will also help set a new standard for future buildings in Ganges and beyond, one that promotes going that little extra for an earth-friendly structure.

However, no standard substitutes for intelligent design based on thorough analysis. The library design does include a number of features which have yet to be analyzed for performance and cost-effectiveness within this “green” realm.

The library board has set aside funds for these purposes and if the community votes “yes” on Dec. 5 we are assured that the first task for the design team will be to undertake the analysis and fine-tune the design for optimum environmental performance and cost effectiveness.

The preliminary design is a very good start; a “yes” vote on Dec. 5 will enable the necessary fine-tuning and the emergence of a truly sustainable new library in which we can all take pride.

ELIZABETH WHITE & MARGERY MOORE,
SALT SPRING

Don't vote on rumour

I believe, as a member of our library board, that we have not been wholly successful in publicizing information about some key issues that should be known to all of us before we cast our votes.

I hope this letter will help to change that.

It is the library board, not the CRD, which is responsible for library services in our community. Our board is elected at an annual general meeting open to all of our approximate 6,600 members.

Like all other public libraries in the province, we must comply with the essential requirement of the Library Act that basic library services are available to all residents and that they are free of charge. As well, we comply with reporting and financial standards established by the B.C. government's Public Library Services Branch and the federal Charities Directorate.

Legislative changes made in 1994 prevent us from owning the new library building. We will continue to operate the library and be fully responsible for its services, but the building must be built and owned by the CRD. One of the consequences of this requirement is that the CRD will award, administer and fund the contracts for the new building so that the library association will not be handling the large cash flows that go along with a project of this size.

Our board is very much aware of the controversy surrounding the library location.

While we know that some continue to advocate the Rainbow Road location, we have been guided by the majority of local voters who, four years ago, told us that they were in favour of acquiring the property on McPhillips Avenue for a new building. What breach of faith would it have been to devote any of our scarce resources to a result democratically rejected by that majority?

A brief description of the design process may be helpful. About a year ago our board concluded that the existing library could not be renovated or expanded efficiently or economically and that we had no option but to build a new library.

Working with the CRD we selected an architectural firm which was commissioned to prepare a design with sufficient

detail to give a reasonable cost estimate. That estimate was then used to develop the project budget which is the basis of the referendum question being submitted to our voters for approval. Once the actual design process began in the late spring and summer, we organized opportunities for community input into that design. We were pleased with the level of participation and the many thoughtful ideas contributed.

There are two final points to make on this subject. Firstly, we have operated on a tight time frame driven by the need to have the referendum passed before the end of 2009 so that we could qualify for funding from the CRD beginning in the 2010 calendar year.

Secondly, all costs incurred up to the referendum will be paid from the library's building fund. We have been fortunate to have built up enough money in that fund to permit us to get to this point without affecting the quality or extent of the library services we provide.

Our library board strongly and unanimously supports this project and approval of the referendum question.

At the same time, we want all who vote to understand the issues and to vote based on knowledge rather than rumour or uncertainty.

On Dec. 5 we have an extraordinary chance to bring a critically needed new library to our island for a very modest price. Please vote “yes.”

PETER SHARPE,
SALT SPRING LIBRARY BOARD

Dutch know how to build

In response to George Sipos' Nov. 25 Viewpoint, George's observations from his recent trip to The Netherlands where he compares “scofflaws” not adhering to West Coast building codes with the sometimes crooked ancient structures “tilting” down there firmly places him between a rock and a very soft place.

George is comparing apples with bananas, or solid rock with shifting sand. “Get a permit, remember Holland,” he writes, implying and assuming that the crooked structures he saw were the result of lack of building code adherence.

Living on and having departed from our rocky West Coast shores, a traveller may not notice, or realize why the airport near Amsterdam where their plane lands is called Ship HOL (ship's hole/harbour), gateway to a country that, as the saying goes, was “made

by the Dutch, after God created the world.”

Being in The Netherlands (the low lands) allows the alert traveller the rare sensation of having to remind himself that he is walking, biking, sleeping, dining several metres below sea level.

Freighters can actually be observed gliding along in a canal, beside and above the road.

Fervent prayers of blessing towards the 24-hour pumps, making your “being down there” possible are in order. More than half the country would be inundated twice daily were it not for the dikes, the dunes and the state-of-the-art pumping structures keeping these man-made very low “netherlands” in place!

Scofflaws building on shifting Delta/River/North Seabottom sands? I don't think so.

Scofflaws constructing and adding to this unlikely country filled with churches, castles, museums and cathedrals, still standing after close to a thousand years, and yes, a few tilting structures beside millions of comfortable homes for a very dense population? I don't think so.

These people created, invented and adhered to their own building “code” over hundreds of years, alright. There would not be anything there to live in and to visit if scofflaws had built it.

ANKE SMEELE,
SALT SPRING

Farmed or wild?

Is it farmed or wild? This all-too-familiar question posed when purchasing salmon must now be asked when purchasing sablefish.

That is what came to mind as I read the business article in the Nov. 11 Driftwood regarding Sable Fish Canada Inc. To those of us who are concerned about the impacts of open net cage salmon farming on British Columbia's coast, this feels like another nail in the coffin.

All of the same concerns exist. Sablefish are a carnivorous species just like salmon. When the fingerlings leave the hatchery here on Salt Spring they go to an open net cage farm, just like salmon. Were extensive studies regarding possible impacts done before the Liberal government issued permits? Nope, just like salmon.

If you wouldn't put farmed salmon on your table, then I don't think you'll want farmed sablefish either. Curious about Sable Fish Canada Inc. (formerly Sablefin Hatchery) and their history here on Salt Spring? Go to www.saveawalkerhook.com.

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OPINION

Building awareness

Last Wednesday, Salt Spring Island community members came together to discuss the increasing problem of youth homelessness at a public forum called Conversations on Youth Under 29.

Fourth-year Vancouver Island University nursing students of the group Faces of Addiction were the hosts of the forum and Gulf Islands Secondary School graciously donated the use of the multipurpose room for the evening. Topics discussed were adequate food and housing, exploitation, and addictions with a focus on Salt Spring youth. Local professionals spoke about their experience and expertise, offering current information and insight about the problems with homelessness and addiction on Salt Spring. Community members had an opportunity to ask questions and express their concerns.

Major concerns raised by the community were a lack of awareness of food services available, such as the food bank and school lunch programs. Another concern was the lack of temporary shelter for youth struggling with conflict at home or those trying to support themselves independently.

The goal of Faces of Addiction was to build community awareness and conversations on the increasing issue of youth homelessness, addictions and poverty. Community members and the local experts achieved this goal through an honest conversation on the challenges facing Salt Spring youth.

Faces of Addiction would like to give special thanks to Country Grocer and Thrifty Foods for their generous food donations, as well as Salt Spring Coffee Company for their coffee donation.

DANICA STUART,
LIZ MANSON,
FACES OF ADDICTION GROUP, VIU

Design is important too

The character of the core area in Ganges results largely from its buildings. In our case this character reflects and preserves much of our community's cultural heritage. Protecting it forms a central objective of our official community plan, which contains guidelines for new development specifically aimed at reinforcing the village's appearance. Ganges has a comfortable, welcoming collection of buildings. They have a reasonably unified architectural style characterized by timber construction, integral low-slope roofs featuring large overhangs protecting both pedestrians and the building envelope from weather.

The proposed library design does not preserve the form and character of the village core; it does not meet the spirit or intent of our community plan. Tiered, convex/concave (green) roofs, extensive glazed walls and varied exterior cladding materials and styles (glass, concrete, aluminium, metal, rammed earth) are inconsistent with the prevailing style, and certainly do not complement existing structures on McPhillips Avenue and ArtSpring.

Here are a few other points to consider. Total shelf space footage is very nearly the same as we have now. It provides for an insignificant increase in the print and video collections. Computer workstations: nearly the same. Public seating: a modest increase but located next to



large windows where you cannot read or use computers in direct sunlight. Inefficient use of expensive land in the core area with large landscaped setbacks and outdoor program space of marginal use in our climate.

The off-square building design is inefficient with too much space given over to hallways, elevators, stairwells, lobby and offices. And the inappropriate use of windows for a library robs the interior of useable space, while creating problems for lighting, UV protection and glare.

This combination of a large building overloaded with "green" features, covering two downtown lots, is a very expensive option for a new library — particularly one that is architecturally inappropriate and provides only marginal capacity for future needs. Obviously the financial grant is a huge carrot, and the temptation to vote "yes" for any building just to keep the grant is strong.

However, take a close look at the concept drawings and scale model, and ask yourself if it fits in downtown Ganges. Does it blend in with the other buildings? Or does it look out of place, at odds with the character of our village? Remember, if you don't like it after it is built, about all you can do is plant ivy. So please consider carefully what is being proposed — design is important — as well as the costs involved. In this case a "no" vote is the sensible choice.

(I am a civil engineer, artist and constant library user.)

DON HODGINS,
SALT SPRING

Response to space issues

Editor's note: Because the above letter from Don Hodgins contained new allegations stated as facts (regarding shelf space and related matters), the library board was given an opportunity to address those issues for factual verification, since the referendum will be over before the next Driftwood is published.

We would like to make the following comments, in response to the submitted letter:

It is too simplistic to compare linear length of shelving. Pos-

sible measurement uncertainties aside, shelf length does not take into account aspects like using specific shelf heights for specific collection items (DVDs and CDs, for example). The new shelving will have about 20 to 25 per cent more capacity and will give about 30 per cent more room for future expansion.

Certain collections are increasing significantly: children's and teens'. It is a policy decision to hold the other collections about the same, except for non-fiction which will shrink a bit (through more aggressive culling) and VCR items will be phased out in favour of DVDs, which are much smaller. It is not correct to assume that more building space automatically means a proportionately larger collection. Our collection size, expressed as books per capita, already compares very favourably with other areas of B.C.

The number of computer stations increases from seven to 10, and there is much more working space for patrons with laptops.

The comments about building layout do not appear to account for the following aspects:

- A LEED Gold design target (i.e. the environmental aspect) is required.
- The old building must remain open during the main part of construction.
- The Building Code specifies a need for many aspects of the building, such as stairways, hallways, aisles, elevator, washrooms.
- The open design allows for much flexibility in location of services and furnishings, if and when adjustments are required in the future.
- The landscaped area adjacent to the street will allow future expansion of the building, if and when necessary.

We will be double checking the design and considering various architectural concerns that have been raised after the referendum for funding.

The architect, Mr. Ladi Holovsky, has designed several successful libraries in the recent past, so has considerable experience in the field. We are fully confident that his plan is viable.

DUNCAN HEPBURN,
LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE
CHAIR

MORE LETTERS continued on A12

PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

BE-WREATHED:

Debra Olson sells handmade wreaths at a Christmas craft fair held last Saturday at Ganges United Church. More craft fairs run this weekend on Salt Spring, at Beaver Point and Fulford halls, and WinterCraft opens at Mahon Hall, running until Dec. 20.



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OPINION

The Islands Trust Story — the final chapter

BY PETER LAMB

The story so far...
The permanent population in the Trust area has tripled since 1974, reaching over 25,000 in 2006. Property values are rising dramatically. It is now 2002, and the curtain rises on the final act with a new Liberal government in power.

ACT 6:

Scene 1: Governance
The community services ministry provides planning grants to Salt Spring and Gabriola islands for the restructure studies needed to assess the pros and cons, including the costs, of incorporation. After heated debates on

both islands, subsequent referenda are defeated. In 2002 on Salt Spring, 70 per cent oppose, and in 2004 on Gabriola, 87 per cent oppose municipal incorporation. In September 2003, trustees renew discussion of Trust governance, targeting four ideas for improving its effectiveness:

- Transfer of additional land use authorities to the Trust
- Improved coordination of Trust and regional district services
- Resolution of disputes between provincial programs and Trust mandate
- A differentiated property tax among the islands.

There is some progress made on these ideas within the Trust but still no success in achieving additional authority to carry out its provincial mandate.

A 2005 public opinion survey confirms widespread and popular, province-wide support (over 85 per cent) for protection of the Gulf Islands. In the same year, Trust Council holds an Islands Forum which identifies the #1 hope as “Recapture the original vision of the Islands Trust with increased legislative tools ...” and the #1 concern

as “Scale, type, amount, location and speed of development.”

In 2006, trustees establish a Governance Task Force “to improve governance and the services provided by the Islands Trust.” Its first priority, which would require legislative change, is political representation. After a consultant’s study and public meetings held on all the islands, Trust Council proposes a change in legislation to allow an increase in the number of Salt Spring trustees from two to four to increase representation and spread the considerable workload. In a November 2008 referendum on Salt Spring, the proposal is defeated with 57 per cent opposing.

Two extended but successful court actions by the Trust in 2009, on Salt Spring and Denman islands, confirm the authority of the Trust to enforce its zoning bylaws and development permit guidelines.

Scene 2: Transitions
All levels of government are overtaken by global events with priority attention shifting to the potential impacts of climate change and decreasing oil supplies. More scientific studies confirm global warming trends and the urgent

need to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) into the atmosphere. It is generally accepted that this is the most serious issue facing humanity and all governments are challenged to take action.

In response, the B.C. government establishes a Climate Action Team, promotes a Climate Action Charter (to which the Trust is a signatory) and introduces new legislation to address GHG emissions. Included is Bill 27, which requires local governments to set GHG emission reduction targets in their official community plans by May 31, 2010. In September 2009, trustees agree to this being the top priority for all local Trust committees.

Scene 3: Reflections

The need for the Islands Trust is as relevant today as it was in 1974 — even more so, given the extent of real estate development and speculation that prompted its formation. Surrounded by large and expanding urban centres in Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo and Seattle, the Gulf Islands are now at greater risk of disturbance and damage to its natural environment from land development and over-use.

Why is the Trust area considered worthy of such protection?

A comprehensive, science-based assessment of the province’s natural environment, prepared in 2008 by Biodiversity BC (a partnership of government and non-government organizations), confirmed the area’s importance and fragility.

The Coastal Douglas Fir Zone, where our islands are located, is designated “imperiled.” It is among the rarest (0.25 per cent in area) of all biogeoclimatic zones in B.C., contains the highest density of species of global and provincial conservation concern and has the highest percentage (97 per cent) of ecological communities of provincial conservation concern. The Trust area alone is the home of at least 36 endangered ecosystems and 218 at-risk plant and animal species.

Thirty-five years ago, the threat to the islands and of their provincial and national significance was recognized and acted upon by the B.C. government. Since then, the Trust has repeatedly sought the planning tools and authority needed for it to properly accomplish the mandate it was given by the province. At the same time, provincial

funding of the Trust has steadily decreased from its initial 100 per cent to less than three per cent today.

The Islands Trust Act, and the institution which it established, represents a promise made by the provincial government to islanders and to the people of B.C. generally, that the islands would be protected for all time from over-development and inappropriate development. The initiative was astonishing for its courage, imagination and foresight. There are no other local or regional decision-making bodies like it elsewhere in Canada or, it appears, in North America. Whatever its flaws, it remains alone in our country as a government charged with stewardship of a fragile environment and preservation of a special, rural quality of life.

In the view of many, it is doing a remarkable job. With continued support and stronger authority, it can become a model for preserving and protecting the health and well-being of the earth on which we all depend.

The end (for now) and the curtain falls.

The writer is an islander for 20 years and a former local trustee



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MORE LETTERS

continued from A11

Water management

In the recent heavy rains, I am sure I am not alone in having experienced a water-logged back yard and rising water levels threatening my home. While certainly not a new phenomenon, it is one that is increasing in severity in the area bounded by Park Drive and Kanaka Road, where I live. Recent changes to the drainage patterns in the Swanson's Pond area are most likely to blame, and yet drainage problems appear to remain low on the radar of concern of all local authorities.

As water rose around my house last week and my pumps worked overtime to divert it, I contacted the Trust, the Ministry of Environment, the CRD, the Ministry of Transportation and Mainroad. The Trust responded that they could not “ascertain how the Islands Trust with its available powers can immediately affect your concerns.”

However, a water stewardship officer at MOE wrote, “the high water concerns you have expressed lie within the purview of the local level of government. In your case I believe this to be the Islands Trust.”

The CRD, after ignoring a preliminary email some weeks ago, called to express concern and to promise a follow-up with MOT. My own call to MOT elicited the advice to call Mainroad, who were “monitoring the situation.” Perhaps they were, since a phone call to them got their voice mail although they never returned my call. Where does the buck stop?

I am now having to spend \$3,000 laying a drainage pipe system on my property in an attempt to protect my home from flooding this winter. However, this is at best a short-term solution. The increased water that now thunders down the enlarged Park Drive culvert and makes a 90 degree turn at the public right of way between Park and Kanaka (completely inundating the path at the Kanaka end), threatens to overwhelm the drainage system that carries it under Kanaka on its way beneath the middle school playing field to Ganges Creek. More development upstream can only increase the amount of water that this system must deal with. It is not sustainable.

Clearly, the water management infrastructure in this area is already failing.

Before any further development is permitted upstream, it needs to be fixed, but who is going to take responsibility for fixing it?

ISHBEL GALLOWAY,
KANAKA ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on A16

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JOEL SHAVER
- Sports Traders

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Islander Day reminder, last Thursday of the month, save 15% off everything in the store with your Residents Card (exceptions: lottery, postage, prescriptions, sale items, baby diapers, books, magazines and special orders).

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Raven Street accepts residents cards all day EVERY DAY of the week! Present your card and receive 10% off your entire food purchase every time you dine in or take out at the cafe. No restrictions. No special days :) ... and please tell friends and family that any stay at our Murata House B&B also comes with 10% off if they present their card. Please visit us at 321 Fernwood Road, 250-537-2273, www.ravenstreet.ca.

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KIDS FLY FREE until December 14th! Scenic Flights over the Gulf Islands! Book yourself, your guests, your friends - show your Residents Card and receive 20% off Gulf Island Scenic Flights from Tuesday to Thursday. New spring schedule to Vancouver four times a day. Visit our website www.saltspringair.com

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OPINION

RANTS and Roses

Rants

Very bad karma will follow the person who stole the beautiful plants out of the window boxes of Sabine's Bookshop. Cheyenne had just planted them for the winter for everybody to enjoy the sight of them and you ripped them out and destroyed the joy. Barnaby and Cheyenne took over the bookshop just a few month ago — what a mean welcome. May they turn prickly in your hands — they might even turn poisonous. Sophia vom Bauer, store manager

Roses

A wheelbarrow full of roses to all Salt Spring Islanders who have shown much love and kindness to our mother, Molly Frenette, these past 24 years. Mom's love of walking gave her the opportunity to meet many islanders. So many of you stopped along her route to escort her home when her forward progress began to slow down — roses to you. To her Brinkworthy neighbours, you are the best. Long-stemmed roses to Ron Reznick and lovely Jean, who care deeply, David Webb and the sharing of

enjoyable stories, Meals on Wheels volunteers, Home Support ladies and Country Grocer ladies for their smiles and hugs. Wonderful times with Mary Fraser, Olga Mason, Gwenth Roberts, and so many others.

International Volunteers Day on Dec. 5 is an international observation designated by the United Nations since 1985. Volunteer Salt Spring would like to take this opportunity to thank all volunteers for their efforts and congratulate them on their contributions to the many organizations they have supported. Here on Salt Spring, your assistance has helped make our community stronger and healthier. Pat yourselves on the back for a job well done and enjoy the satisfaction you feel by being involved.

Dozens of low-maintenance rose bushes to Partners Creating Pathways from Heritage Place for Seniors. Not only is Crofton Road now a safer place for seniors to travel, PCP built the path with incredible consideration for all the comings and goings of our seniors during construction. Plus, they left the bushes in place that

offer us privacy.

A bunch of whirling-dervish roses to the Salty Wheels Square Dancers for so kindly finishing early at Central Hall so that the hordes of young New Moon fans could enjoy their advance screening in the wee hours of Nov. 19!

A bouquet of blue, yellow, black, green red (Olympic colour) roses and a big thank you to all who helped gain Salt Spring Island a security portal during the 2010 Olympics. Thanks to The Driftwood, community board and business owners that helped get the word out to the public, the islanders that responded and the politicians, especially Gary Lunn, who listened. In the end, our voice was heard. Islanders together can make a difference. Philip Reece, Saltspring Air

Lots of roses to the kitchen staff at Lady Minto (Amanda, Penny, Amanda #2 - and the many others who work so hard to accommodate the patients). Mairi G.

Roses to maintenance at the hospital (Angie and Mac) etc., and to the pleasant girls at admit-



PHOTO BY SUSAN LUNDY

ALL AGLOW: Salt Spring firefighter Laurence Spencer looks from the window of the local fire department's brilliantly decorated truck as he — and a whole Salt Spring contingent — travelled to Ladysmith last Thursday night for that town's annual Festival of Lights and Christmas parade.

ting (Leah, Melanie, Tina). Also to the lab and X-ray staff and of course all the nurses and staff. Thanks to you all. Mairi. P.S. I sure miss the OR and surgeon and hope that will be reopened soon. We have lost so many good doctors due to these changes.

Bouquet of gratitude roses to Rene and Hermann of Calvin's. Thank you for supporting my art and hosting the longest-running art show at your delicious restaurant. Eight wonderful years of continuous shows, you are

the best! December 2009 our final month together before passing the baton. With great appreciation, Jill Louise Campbell

A big bouquet of roses to The Local for helping support Phoenix Elementary School. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated.

A big bouquet from the Salt Spring Island Prostate Cancer Support Group to Dr. Bob Crossland for his talk last Wednesday, Nov. 25. We learned a lot and had a great time doing it.

If there had been aisles, you would have had us rolling in them. Thank you for your generosity, community spirit and sense of fun.

A truck load of wildflowers to Miss Weir at Fernwood Elementary School. My daughter has grown so much this year under your guidance and support. D/M

Overflowing baskets of dramatic red roses to the generous individuals and businesses who have donated gift certificates

and items to our Stagecoach Theatre School raffle baskets. A standing ovation to Karen Arney, North End Fitness, Open Hand Coaching, Nixxi Clothing, Satu and Bob Troyer, B-Side Clothing, Skin Sensations, Rob and Tanya Grant, West of the Moon, Salt Spring Books, PharmaSave, Jill Louise Campbell, SS Vineyards, SS Inn, Bramblewood Farm, Mouat's, Island Magic Hair Salon, Grateful Heads Hair Design, Love My Kitchen, Ganges Tea Company, Salt Spring Soapworks.

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•What's for Dinner?

VEGETARIAN ROGAN JOSH

Short cuts to cooking for one or two © 2009 with Sarah Lynn
ROGAN JOSH: an aromatic curry dish hailing from Kashmir. It is quite popular in India, Pakistan, Singapore and the United Kingdom. Rogan means oil in Persian, while Josh means heat, hot, boiling, or passionate. Rogan Josh thus means cooked in oil at intense heat. Rogan Josh was brought to India by the Mughals. The unrelenting heat of the Indian plains took the Mughals frequently to Kashmir, which is where the first Indian adoption of Rogan Josh occurred. Making your own is time consuming but worth the effort. We are fortunate to have prepared sauces available to us that include authentic ingredients. Patak's is one such sauce. Although traditionally Rogan Josh is made with lamb, this is a vegetarian recipe.

Prepare **4 cups rice of your choice**. In a pre-heated frying pan add **2 tablespoons olive oil, 1 chopped zucchini, 1 chopped bell pepper, and 6 thinly sliced asparagus spears**. Stir fry for 5 minutes. Add **1 jar Patak's Rogan Josh Cooking Sauce**. Simmer for 15 minutes. Serve over rice.

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OPINION

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MORE LETTERS
continued from A12

Agreeing with Jane

What an excellent letter (“No Cadillac”) by Jane Horsburgh in last week’s Driftwood.

Why do we need a two-storey building with an expensive elevator? One storey under a good roof, with lots of parking space, away from the centre of town would be more practical and cheaper and more convenient too. Most of my neighbours have to drive anyway.

Get out and vote “no.”

J. DENNIS,
BRINKWORTHY

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Dr Richard Hayden Island Dental Centre

Talking about location, taxes: library board gives answers

Following is part II of a question-and-answer session between the Driftwood and the Salt Spring library board regarding the upcoming referendum on borrowing \$2.75 million for a new library building.

2. How many parking spots are in the site plans? Does the library association have any plans for how to defray the downtown parking demand a larger library will assumedly create?

A. The assumption that a larger library will create a substantially larger demand for parking is not entirely accurate. We are building a larger library because of chronic overcrowding of the collection and lack of working space.

The services now available in the library appear to match community needs and will not significantly increase. Therefore we do not expect a large increase in library usage beyond the 6,500+ people who already use the library.

There will be 25 parking spaces, a considerable increase on what the library has had in the past.

The OCP allows for alternatives to on-site parking, and these will be negotiated with the Islands Trust.

3. What about plans for managing the disruption that will occur on McPhillips Avenue during the construction period. Have you talked to property owners/tenants in the area about this?

A. Any site development anywhere on McPhillips, and for whatever building, will cause disruption.

We will write into the contracts requirements to keep the disruption at a minimum level. We are waiting until the referendum passes and we know the project can go ahead before contacting our neighbours.

Q. Are you absolutely sure the library would lose the \$4.55 million in provincial and federal funding if the Dec. 5 referendum fails? Where did that information come from?

The BC Provincial Guide for the grant program states that “a referendum to borrow the funds necessary to implement the project . . . must be completed within 6 months of receiving” government approval for the project.

Our approval letter is dated October 16, 2009. Section 159 of the BC Local Government Act states that if a referendum does not pass by a majority then “a bylaw for the same purpose may not be submitted to the electors within a period of 6 months . . . except with the minister’s approval.”

Taken together these two requirements mean that the grant would be lost if the referendum fails.

Q. Part a) of the referendum bylaw states that the CRD is seeking authorization to borrow and amount “not to exceed \$2,750,000...” Please explain what the term “not to exceed” means.

The amount to be borrowed in Part a) of the bylaw is an upper limit, and not a lower one.

The estimated construction cost of \$7.3 million includes \$1.033 million allowance for contingencies.

If we do not spend all the contingency allowance, and we hope not to, we will borrow less than \$2.75 million.

This in turn means the annual operating money needed for debt servicing will be less.

Also, day-to-day operations may not require the fully-authorized amount until some years into the future.

Islanders will be taxed only the amount necessary. (For example, the referendum for the land purchase authorized borrowing up to \$600,000. In fact, due to the successful fundraising campaign, the actual borrowing was \$350,000.)

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OPINION

The new library — it’s now up to you, the voters

BY STAN SHAPIRO

Many people have been supporters of the new library proposal from the very beginning. Others, whatever their original misgivings, have concluded that in light of the “one time only, choose it or lose it” \$4.55 million infrastructure grant, supporting the proposed plans for the new library is now the way to go.

If a majority of islanders vote “yes,” the library would move out of its current building and into its new home in the fall of 2011.

However, the project is still being attacked — but what project on Salt Spring hasn’t been? Here are the most common “against” arguments being raised and the library board’s response to them:

1. Rainbow Road would have been a better site for a new library and “cheaper.” In the last referendum, it’s clear people were split on the question of which was the better site for the library — the downtown site or Rainbow Road.

This referendum, however, isn’t about the location of the library — it’s about the existence of the library. We need a new library — soon; we have the technical studies done for the site, a plan in hand — and because of that, if we vote to approve it, we have a grant for two-thirds of the project’s cost. That makes the current plan far cheaper than Rainbow Road could ever be. Please remember to vote on the issues in THIS referendum — not those in the last one.

2. Then there are those who are outraged

at the cost of construction. “I could build the best house on Salt Spring for half the price per square foot of this new library,” they say. Unfortunately, a public building is far more costly to build than a private home. It costs about twice as much per square foot because of safety, seismic, handicap access and load-bearing requirements that don’t exist for private homes.

3. Another frequent objection to the library proposal is related to the amount of additional tax that will have to be paid even after the grant is taken into consideration. Every effort has been made both to generate reliable cost estimates (this was done separately and independently both by the architect’s team and by CRD Engineering) and to keep those costs as low as possible.

Nevertheless, the owner of the average home on Salt Spring, assessed value \$535,000, would be paying an additional \$6 a month, over and above the \$2 a month now being paid, for library services. We on the library board believe that the return on this modest community investment in library services would be a very significant one.

4. Finally, some people are unhappy about the actual physical design of the building. Many of those who don’t like the design argue that too much Salt Spring “funkyness” has been sacrificed in the effort to build to LEED Gold environmental standards. On the other hand, there are those who maintain that the new “green” library could have been a still darker shade of green. Taste, of course, is a matter of opinion. To see how well the new building “fits in” rather than “stands out,” visit the model on display at the current library.

Most islanders have responded quite positively to the new building, which will be just over twice the size of the old and decaying one. Its special features

include, among others, public meeting space, wider aisles and easier-to-access book shelves, adequate workspace for volunteers, a proper

home for the archives, an “open air” public courtyard and greatly expanded facilities for both children and teens. All of this could

be available in the near future: If a majority of islanders vote “yes,” the library would move out of its current building and into its new home

in the fall of 2011.

In a few months we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Salt Spring’s library. Voting “yes” in the library referendum seems an especially appropriate way of doing just that.

The writer is a library board member.



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NEWBEAT

COMMUNICATIONS

New network, devices improve Telus wireless service

Pender, Mayne and Salt Spring to benefit

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Telus has announced completion of a new network that will improve coverage of wireless internet service across B.C. and Alberta, with immediate results for Salt Spring, Mayne and Pender islands.

The communications company has invested \$975,000 to install new antennas

at existing cellphone towers on Salt Spring and Mayne, with additional funds to double the antenna on Pender.

Telus media relations manager Jeffery Baxter said the network uses new technology to improve internet access wherever mobile phone coverage exists.

Baxter said 3G+, or Third Generation Plus technology, is the “latest and greatest” in wireless capability and will remain that way until the “fourth generation” is ready several years from now.

The new wireless network will poten-

tially bring service to those who were not able to get broadband service at home, as long as cellphone coverage is available in that spot.

But it will especially benefit people with mobile internet needs, for those who travel or work in various locations.

The network can be accessed with a mobile internet key that plugs into a USB port, either in a portable computer or a “smart phone” with internet capability. Telus is promoting the new Sierra 306 internet key as “the fastest wireless inter-

net modem available” with the ability to transmit large files like songs or movies at “speeds of up to 21 megabits per second.”

Telus also announced new Clear Choice billing plans for mobile phone and internet users that don’t charge system access fees. Existing customers can keep current plans if they like them, or switch over to Clear Choice options.

For more information on services and billing plans, Baxter suggests visiting www.telus.com.

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PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

SCROOGE DUO: Actor Scott Hylands and cellist Rylan Gajek team up for two shows of A Christmas Carol this weekend: Dec. 5 at All Saints church, and Dec. 6 at Salt Spring United Church, at 7 p.m. both days. Admission is by donation to the food bank.

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SOCIAL SERVICES

In from the Cold: new premises

Cold-weather shelter ready to serve homeless

Salt Spring’s In from the Cold emergency shelter has new premises.

A transition of the service from the United Church, which ran it for four years, to Salt Spring Island Community Services began last year. Cheryl Bell-Gadsby, director of adult services, applied for and received some funding from BC Housing’s Extreme Weather Shelter Program and took primary responsibility for running the program in the church basement. This year SSICS has set up a spot in its refurbished outreach building at 268 Fulford-Ganges Road.

“The shelter will be open on nights when the temperature drops below freezing and when snow and rain make it particularly dangerous for people without proper shelter,” said SSICS executive director Rob Grant last week. “In addition to shelter for the night, people will receive a hot dinner and breakfast, as well as connecting with a worker to assist with housing and urgent needs.”

Shelter hours will be from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m.

“There is still a challenge in sending people away at 8 a.m., or in having a shelter that only opens about 30 to 40 nights per year,” said Grant. “Most communities of our size with our homeless population have year-round shelters with day programs. We are not there yet, but we need to be.”

Grant says local service providers estimate Salt Spring’s homeless population to be 50 to 80 absolute homeless, with an additional 100 to 150 in temporary or sub-standard

shelter.

Provision of a cold-weather shelter has been a great example of cooperation between the United Church and Community Services, said Grant.

Even though the United Church was challenged in providing the service as the number of homeless people increased and available volunteers decreased, “the United Church outreach committee showed great commitment and patience to stay involved until a proper transition to Salt Spring Community Services could be made,” he said.

The final piece in the transition was the change in location to the former Family Place building at 268 Fulford-Ganges Road.

“We are very excited to have this new home for In From the Cold on site at Community Services and we want to thank the United Church for all they have done and continue to do for our homeless community,” said Cheryl Bell-Gadsby.

The new outreach building is a comfortable environment with open living space, a kitchenette, washrooms and several offices. Relocating the shelter means it is now on the same site as the food bank, Yellow Sub drop-in and counselling services. Laundry facilities were recently installed and Community Services has plans to add showers and an improved kitchen in their main building.

Community Services has combined funding from a number of sources to operate the shelter. BC Housing provides approximately \$14,000 annually in operational funding. The Vancouver Island Health Authority funds a mental health housing program and the United Way of Greater Victoria

funds a mental health outreach program.

In addition to the shelter, Community Services has established an Outreach Services Team to provide services to the homeless year-round and hopes to have a mobile outreach service on the road soon. Community Services has been working to coordinate and link with the Canadian Mental Health Association in Duncan, which operates a year-round shelter.

Grant said squeezing the emergency shelter into the SSICS site was always a back-up plan when several years ago the concept of a resource centre called the Homefront emerged.

“The Homefront concept has been presented over the years to a variety of potential funders, to no avail,” said Grant, “but it is still a concept that Community Services keeps alive.”

SSICS and other groups are working hard to develop more affordable housing in the community, but that will not address the urgent needs of the homeless, he said.

“Providing an effective front-end service to support the homeless, address urgent needs, and link them to housing, health and counselling services quickly is both cost efficient and an appropriate way to lend a hand to a very vulnerable and hurting part of our community.”

How can you help the shelter?

- Donations of winter coats, mitts and socks.
- Donations to the food bank aid shelter users.
- Cash donations to the Barry and Betty Pinchin Fund, which was set up two years ago to help cover emergency and urgent needs for the homeless.



CFSI 107.9 FM

Salt Spring Radio

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NEWSBEAT

FUNDRAISER

Twilight shines on Salt Spring

Following is a Driftwood Q&A with 16-year-old New Moon actor Cameron Bright, who is on Salt Spring today (Dec. 2) for a fundraiser for young Jasmin Wilson and her family. Jasmin is at B.C. Children's Hospital facing a second bout of compartment syndrome. Bright, a West Coast native, plays the Volturi vampire Alec, twin brother to Dakota Fanning's character Jane.

BY AMY GEDDES
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Q. Where are you right now? What was the last thing you did before you answered this email?
A. My home . . . and I'm currently watching Top Gun.

Q. Since New Moon has been the #1 movie in North America in the past two weeks, I expect you've been in high demand. What have you been up to over the past few days?
A. Yeah, me and my mom have been travelling quite a bit for different things, like twi-cons and press as well.

Q. What made you decide to take time to make an appearance on Salt Spring?
A. When I have time and am back at my house I try to do what I can for charities. My main one is JDRC — juvenile diabetes — and currently I am working to support Island KIA, a youth sports fundraiser in Nanaimo.

Mike Best, who is from Salt Spring, has been working on this fundraiser with me, and that is how I came to hear about Jasmin Wilson. Mike mentioned there might be a role I could play, helping this family on Salt Spring in a way that might make their medical bills a little less.

With Michael Levy, the Salt Spring cinema owner, Mike organized the autograph signing and question and answer session to raise funds for Jasmin and asked me to come to Salt Spring for this. I am really excited to do this, and I hope everyone in the community will come out and support it. It is important that we help Jasmin and her family however we can.

Q. You were born in Victoria, but where is your permanent home these days?
A. I still live on Vancouver Island.

Q. Playing the Volturi vampire Alec in New Moon is a much darker role than your first gig in a Telus commercial. What was it like playing a vampire?
A. It feels great being able to be something that people have only dreamed about being in their life. As soon as I get my makeup and wardrobe on, the contacts, etc., you just feel like a vampire. It's amazing.



PHOTO BY AMY GEDDES
New Moon fans Thea Mai, 12, and Esmé Alexander, 13, display their Twilight paraphernalia in Alexander's bedroom on Salt Spring Island.

BRIGHT EVENT LINEUP



WHAT: New Moon star Cameron Bright visits Salt Spring Island.
A fundraiser for Jasmin Wilson and her family (the eight-year-old is in the hospital for the second time with compartment syndrome).

4:30 p.m. Autographs
@ the GISS multipurpose room. Bring your own posters, books, etc. or use preprinted cards at the signing desk. Autographs \$2. Photos with Cameron \$3 (bring your cameras).
6:30 p.m. Q&A with Cameron
@ The Fritz Cinema.
7 p.m. Twilight Saga: New Moon (2009) screening (last time on SSI)
@ The Fritz Cinema.
Tickets go on sale at 6 p.m. at the Fritz. First come, first served.

HOW IT WORKS: Local businesses sponsoring the event will match donations up to a ceiling of \$100.

LINKS:
www.camfans.org
Facebook: search for "New Moon Star Visit" event or join the Fritz Movie Theatre fan page.

Q. What is Alec's special power?
A. I can remove people's senses.

Q. So in real life, are you known as being a "bad boy" or a "good boy"?
A. I feel that everyone is good and bad, it just depends on their actions that make them what they want, as well as their choice in which emotion rules them . . . so I am bad when I need to be and good just as well, I would say.

Q. What blood type are you?
A. Blood type? Human . . . hahaha. I have no idea.

Q. Wikipedia says you're "reported to be in a relationship with someone in the south-east of Ireland." Is that still current? Can you give any other details to help quench your female fans' thirst for knowledge about your love life?
A. Hahaha. I have never been to Ireland and don't know anyone from there . . . but maybe in someone's dreams, I guess. I'm single, simple as that, and I don't really know — I'd say get to know me, that's the only way you're gonna be able to see how I really am.

Q. In addition to the fundraiser, do you plan to do anything else while you are here? Or will you be whisked off immediately to some other locale?
A. While on Salt Spring, in addition to the autograph session and Q&A, I am also going to meet some of the donors and supporters helping to raise funds for the Wilson family, and then I have other appearances to make elsewhere.
I only wish I had a little more time to visit Salt Spring because I have heard it is such a nice island, but right now, the time just isn't available to do that.

Have more questions for Cameron? Quiz him at the public Q&A at the Fritz Cinema at 6:30 p.m. tonight, Wednesday, Dec. 2, before the final showing of The Twilight Saga: New Moon at 7 p.m. (Tickets are on sale at 6 p.m.).

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\$21.99
3 course dinner

TO START	TO START
clam chowder or chilled prawn cocktail chilled with cocktail sauce	pan fried garlic prawns or classic calamari with watercress dip
ENTREE	ENTREE
prawn curry indian yellow curry with rice or spaghetti meat balls house-made tomato sauce or fall off the bone ribs ½ rack w/ fries & coleslaw	dungeness crab cake & tiger prawns or cedar plank sockeye salmon or sirloin steak – fire grilled sirloin steak 8 oz. fresh alberta sterling silver beef
Add skewer of prawns \$2.99	Add skewer of prawns \$2.99
DESSERT	DESSERT
cheese cake strawberries and whipped cream	chocolate ganche torte caramelized walnuts & carmel sauce

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The latest news on
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NEWSBEAT

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Walking in the UK on tap at Dec. 9 Pathways AGM

Zeke Blazecka gives photo-enhanced talk

At the Island Pathways AGM on Wednesday, Dec. 9 at Lions Hall, guest speaker Zeke Blazecka will present A Trio of UK Walks. After retiring from his career as a Canadian army engineer, serving across Canada and in Pakistan, England and Turkey, Blazecka moved to Salt Spring. “Here he is a member of Search and Rescue and president of the Trail and Nature Club, as well as serving as an Island Pathways board member and pathway construction supervisor,” explains a press release. “In addition to his invaluable volunteer contributions to island life, he

also began his long-distance walking adventures, including the 800-kilometre Camino de Santiago.” Blazecka will describe three walks at the AGM: Two Moors Way in southern England, coast-to-coast across northern England and West Highland Way on the west coast of Scotland. In his photo-enhanced talk, Blazecka will not only describe his adventures but will also give the crowd invaluable information about how to prepare for such journeys, what accommodations to expect, approximate duration of each walk, and the best and worst of each adventure. “If you have ever longed to become a pedestrian of the world, this is an evening you won’t want to miss.” The AGM begins at 7 p.m.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Zeke Blazecka on the Lower Ganges Road pathway when it was under construction last year. Blazecka is guest speaker at the Island Pathways AGM, where he will talk about three walks he has enjoyed in the United Kingdom.

CHARITY

Latest round of SSI Foundation grants touch all corners of island

Sixteen projects benefit from disbursement

The Salt Spring Island Foundation is pleased to announce the recent approval of \$44,750 in grants to the following organizations:

ArtSpring
To upgrade ArtSpring’s sound system.

Big Brothers Big Sisters
To help with costs related to designing and piloting a new preventative and early intervention project called “Mentoring Salt Spring Island.” This project is being done through a partnership of Salt Spring Community Services and the RCMP.

CNIB
For the CNIB’s Talking Books Program.

Fulford Harbour Child Care Society
For fencing at Tree Frog Daycare to ensure that the children’s play area is safe and secure.

The Greenwoods Foundation: Toward the cost of a state-of-the-art TheraKair mattress.

Gulf Islands Educational Trust (School District #64)
Toward costs related to Connecting Generations —Living Links Throughout the Gulf Islands. This school board project is designed to support lifelong learning and social health for youth, adults and seniors by encouraging interactions among the generations

based on mutual interests.

Gulf Islands Educational Trust (School District #64)
For the purchase of a seaquaria for use in a pilot project for students of grades 4 and 5 to enhance their understanding of water, with sustainability as a primary focus.

Island Stream & Salmon Enhancement Society
To help improve the salmon habitat of Ganges Creek adjacent to the United Church meadow and Okano Creek off Atkins Road, as part of the Salmon Enhancement Society’s Small Stream Restoration Project. (Some of the funding for this grant came through the Jacqueline Booth Memorial Fund.)

IWAV (Island Women Against Violence)
To provide a new high-tech security system to ensure the safety and security of IWAV’s clients and staff.

Meadowbrook Residence for Seniors
For a new printer for their computer and a bookcase.

PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Gays and Lesbians)
Start-up funds for support and materials for a local chapter of PFLAG.

VHES (Victoria Human Exchange Society)
To purchase tools and gardening implements for Bittancourt Manor, which provides housing for women in transition.

SSI Community Services — Community Wellness Program
For expenses related to

training and updating the qualifications of volunteers as senior peer counsellors.

SSI Land Bank Society
For electrical upgrades at Dean Road House, one of the Land Bank’s affordable housing projects.

SSI Water Preservation Society
To assist with upgrades to the St. Mary Lake watershed lands and trails. New signage and improvement to the trails will help protect the watershed and make the area safe and accessible for recreational use.

Salt Spring Literacy Society
For the Literacy Society’s “Travelling Books” project. This project will allow literacy tutors to reach out to potential learners in surroundings where they are comfortable.

Additional grants will be distributed in the spring.

Any organization wishing to apply for one of the spring grants should submit an application before March 31, 2010.

For information about applying for a grant and grant application forms, go to the foundation’s website at www.saltspringislandfoundation.org.

For those who aren’t already aware, the Salt Spring Island Foundation supports the community by providing financial assistance to a wide range of the island’s charitable organizations. It is the only island organization for which a single donation or bequest helps a broad range of causes.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

StoryTime sets 3 Dec. sessions at the library

For preschoolers and those in early grades

Young children are invited to the library in Ganges for December stories, fun and activities. On Dec. 4, kids can join Clare Cullen for interesting investigations into the letter “I.” On Dec. 11, celebrate Jul, listen to stories

and learn about Scandinavian customs with Margaretha Nordine. Then on Dec. 18, get ready for the holidays when Cullen shares stories for solstice. StoryTime for early-grade and pre-school children is on Fridays at 1 p.m. at the library. Salt Spring’s library encourages parents to read to their children early and often.

“Set a goal such as reading 1,000 books before your child starts kindergarten,” urge the StoryTime organizers. “To get started, pick up the pamphlet Read Me a Story! when you visit the library. You can keep track of the library books you have read to your child using the Book Bag feature when logged into your Salt Spring Island Public Library account.”

COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS



Coordinator: Sharon Glover 250-537-4607

December 2009

Exciting TRAINING OPPORTUNITY!!

With many thanks to the Salt Spring Island Foundation, Wellness Programs is offering group training for those who want to serve the community as *Senior Peer Counsellors*.

This may be the volunteer experience for you IF:

- you are 65 or better
- you are ‘a natural’ with people & care to help seniors
- you can commit to 50 hours of initial training over a two month period (daytime, February & March 2010)
- you are a good listener
- you would like to join a group of like-minded seniors

For more information, call Sharon Glover at 250-537-4607

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Available for winter cleanup including pruning, storm cleanup, leaves, gutters & snow shovelling.

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250.537.4256 • cell 250.537.3443

Salt Spring Medical Supply

We are pleased to announce that Patrick Cassidy has now taken over the services of Salt Spring Medical Supply with his new company, **Salt Spring Medical Equipment**. Patrick has relocated the business and he will continue to offer the same service enhanced with home delivery. Phone 250-537-1990 for all your home health care needs. Thank you Salt Spring for your support and business over the years. It has been a pleasure! - Pat & Richard Hannah

ANNOUNCEMENT

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DEADLINES

Driftwood

Published WEDNESDAYS

Display deadline: Monday 4 pm

Word ad deadline: Tuesday 10 am

Driftwood

WEEKENDER

Published FRIDAYS

Display deadline: Wednesday 10 am

Word ad deadline: Wednesday 4 pm

WHAT IT COSTS

3 LINE CLASSIFIEDS

\$12.95 - additional lines 92¢ ea

All ads are posted to BCClassified.com

EMPLOYMENT ADS

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

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

DISPLAY ADS

\$10.92 per col. inch



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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

PART OF the baby boom? Call Welcome Wagon for a personal Baby Visit. Gifts & greetings from local businesses and a warm welcome for baby. Haley 250-537-1558.

IN MEMORIAM



In Loving Memory of Gilbert Moise Marcotte Dec 11, 1946 - Nov 30, 2008

Love bears all things, Believes all things, Hopes all things, Endures all things, Love never ends.

Cancer is not so powerful! There is so many things it cannot do.... It cannot cripple love. It cannot shatter hope. It cannot corrode faith. It cannot destroy peace. It cannot kill friendship. It cannot suppress memories. It cannot conquer the spirit. It cannot silence courage. It cannot invade the soul. It cannot steal eternal life. 1 Corinthians 13: 7-8

Forever Loved and Remembered By Collette, Sam, James and Stephanie Reynolds.

DEATHS

Elizabeth Lee

Funeral Consultant

537-1023

Who reads us?

88% of Islanders read the Driftwood each week.

-Cambase survey

ANNIVERSARIES

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS CORNER



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR EXCEPTIONAL GIFT IDEAS?

DISCOVER INDONESIA at AL'S ASIAN TREASURES & IMPORTS. 10am to 4:30pm TUESDAY TO SUNDAY

Metal driveway gates, stone & wood carvings, many things, stone, slate pots & unusual finds. #7-9360 Smiley Rd, Chemainus off Henry Rd.

COMING EVENTS



SOUL FOOD & Co. Presents: Our Annual OPEN HOUSE offering Exceptional Arts & Edibles Dec 5 & 6, 10am-4pm 705 Beaver Point Road

Contact: Barbara Marie Slater Community Song Leader & Baker 250-653-4186 Cultivating Collective Joy

ANNIVERSARIES

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

BIJOUX DESIGNS - Fulford Hall Craft Fair Dec. 4, 5 & 6. Well priced, semi-precious jewellery. 10% off first 10 customers. Special: \$15 Christmas earrings. Come Join Us.

BINGO MEADEN HALL Royal Canadian Legion

7 PM THURSDAY December 3 Early Birds, 6:30 pm

Sponsored by Ladies Auxiliary Royal Canadian Legion Br. 92

All proceeds to bursaries for Salt Spring Students.

BITE ME! TREATS is @ Fulford Christmas Craft Fair this weekend with their full range of holiday gourmet treats. Hope to see you there! Greg & Donna.

Cowichan District Hospital is hosting their Annual community tree lighting event to honour those who have died in the past year. Wed. Dec 2nd at 6pm

Ceremony includes harpist Jenny Stevens, singer Alan Moberg, and Queen Margaret School Choir. Refreshments to follow.

SEEKING VENDORS for the Christmas market at the Legion, Crafts & collectibles, Dec. 12. If interested, 250-537-0710.

ANNIVERSARIES

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

Gecko Green Living

Now open Mondays in December! Great new 'green' gifts plus eco-friendly essentials, natural cleaners & office supplies, battery-free lanterns & radios (perfect for power outages). Located at 364 Lower Ganges Rd (in Country Grocer mall) Call us at 537-1151.

ISLAND TUTORING SERVICES

Has openings in:

Math 8, 9, 10

English 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Reasonable Rates 250-537-9761

JOSE SANCHEZ CUBAN PARTY. Saturday, December 12 at Fulford Hall. Free Salsa class with Armando @ 7pm. \$12 advance, \$15 at the door. For tickets: eljose@telus.net

LOOKING FOR a challenge? Free intensive (but fun) training course for Senior Peer Counsellors coming soon. We help other seniors get through life's bumpy bits. Come & join us. Call Sharon - 537-4607.

ANNIVERSARIES

25th Wedding Anniversary

Linda & Jamie Alexander




with love from the Ritchie clan in Ontario

Mom, Dad, Leisa, Blaine, Paul, Dana, Marj, Dave, Nieces and Nephews Mike, Michelle, Cara, Leanne, Denise, Danielle, Jordan, Mitch, Jake, Great-Nieces Madelynn and Chloe.

Gord & Shauna

30th Anniversary

December 6, 1979



Love Always, Gord xoxox

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

MESSAGE NIGHT

A DEMONSTRATION OF CLAIRVOYANCE

The Continuous Light Sanctuary

Friday, Dec. 4, 6:30 pm 506 Lower-Ganges Road (Masonic Hall) Suggested Donation \$10 Info: 250-537-2154

Salt Spring CHRISTMAS

ANTIQUE FAIR

Vintage Retro Collectible Art, Jewellery, Artifacts, Silver, more.

United Church, Ganges

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

10am to 4pm info: 250-931-7777

COMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

STIR CRAZY FOR CHRISTMAS

This weekend at Fulford Hall See you there Fri., Sat. & Sun.

COMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

SELF CARE FOR COLDS & FLU Learn to prevent and treat colds and flu naturally with homeopathy. \$30 incl remedy-kit. Sunday, Dec. 6, 2-4pm. Call Tami 250-537-4728 ext.1 to register www.arbutustherapy.ca

COMING EVENTS

YOGA Private Classes

FOR 1 OR 2 PEOPLE ~ \$68 FOR 3 OR 4 PEOPLE ~ \$78 FOR 5 OR 6 PEOPLE ~ \$88 PICK YOUR DAY AND TIME! ON-GOING OR JUST ONE!

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costa rica MARCH 20-27

WONDERFUL YOGA ADVENTURES FOR ALL LEVELS!



CONGRATULATIONS!

Farm to Feast Contest

The winner of a \$100 dining certificate from the Driftwood in our "Farm to Feast" feature was: Maurine Fryer

Maurine's Favorite recipe was: Harbour House Taco Salad

Congratulations to Bruce's Kitchen "The most voted for restaurant."

Also thanks to MarketPlace Cafe, RavenStreet and The Treehouse for such a delicious contest!

Twilight - New Moon Contest

Congratulations to winners of tickets to the movie premiere: Jessica Hatchard Derek Tamboline

Winner of movie posters were: Larissa Andrews Megan Caron Lauren Klimek Susie Buckley

THANKS TO ALL WHO ENTERED!

Driftwood

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960




60 Years

Edward & Mollie Lacy

December 3, 1949 - December 3, 2009

Together they have found friendship, raised a family and built a beautiful marriage.

You are most warmly invited by the children of Edward and Mollie Lacy to participate in the joyous celebration of their parents' 60th Wedding Anniversary on December 6th from 2-4 pm at Brinkworthy Clubhouse. No gifts please.



DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES
TUESDAY 10 AM

classified@gulfislands.net

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

NDP Christmas Bazaar
Saturday, December 5
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
United Church Hall-
Hereford Ave.
Books, Plants, China,
Christmas baking
*Great last chance
inexpensive gifts*
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250-537-4567

POTTERY SALE & CLEARANCE
at Pat Webber's Studio.
Many half price
"Deck the Halls and
Clear the Decks"
Sat. Dec 5th
10 am to 4 pm
425 Stewart Rd.

SALE! ORIGINAL hand knit-
ted & felted hats. Call Kristin
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workswith-
wool.com

**SELF-ACUPRESSURE
WORKSHOP**
Saturday, Dec.5th, 9-6.
This workshop includes
everything you need to
begin practicing this
powerful healing mo-
dality on yourself and
others, relieving pain, re-
ducing tension, and pro-
moting relaxation. \$60.
Cedar Mathias, 250-538-
1837.
resonant.touch@gmail.com

COMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

Solace
ORGANIC SPA
a harmony of the senses
BEAVER POINT HALL
Dec 4, 5 & 6
*****FAIR SPECIAL*****
\$100 Gift Certificates
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saltspringorganicspa.com

WINDSOR
**See our ad
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Who reads us?
88% of Islanders read the
Driftwood each week.
-Combase survey

COMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

StoneRidge Pottery
and
Flowers by Arrangement

*Fabulous pottery,
wreaths, Christmas
decor & glass jewellery
by Lisa Cherneff for all
those special people on
your list.*
Open 10am - 5pm
Tuesday - Saturday
250-537-9252
520 Long Harbour Rd.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

Flowers by Arrangement

CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP
Create an exquisite 'Wreath'
for your front door. Floral
designer Beth Cherneff will
guide you through using
fresh greenery and your own
creativity.
\$50 (includes materials)
Sat., Dec. 5th 1 - 4 pm
OR
Sun., Dec. 6th 1 - 4 pm
CALL BETH AT
250-537-9252
TO REGISTER

INFORMATION

www.saltspringtrustees.ca
ALL ABOUT THE ISLANDS TRUST

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS


Evening of Christmas Music
You are invited to an evening of
Christmas Music,
featuring choirs, soloists, harp & other
instrumental music
Sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-day Saints, we invite members of the
community to enjoy a special evening of a musical
celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Saturday, Dec. 5th, 6pm
221 VESUVIUS BAY RD.
With light refreshments following. No charge, but
donations to the Food Bank gratefully accepted.
For further information please call
Jenny Svendsen 250-537-1983

SWOVA Community
Development and
Research Society
S•W•O•V•A
Candlelight Vigil
Sunday, December 6 marks 20 years since
the death of 14 young women, murdered in
their classrooms at the Ecole Polytechnique
in Montreal: We invite everyone to attend a
Candlelight Vigil, to honor and remember all
women who have been killed by violence.
➔ CENTENNIAL PARK - SUNDAY, DEC. 6: 1:00 PM

**Run it 'til
it sells. \$24.99**
**Run your classified ad in
The Driftwood 'til it sells!**
All ads appear on-line at:
gulfislandsdriftwood.com and bcclassified.com
Your private party (merchandise) classified ad will run in our
next 4 insertions • If you need to modify the ad or run it
again, just call us and we'll run it again for another
4 insertions • Extra lines at ½ price •
Please, no more than 3 items, call
to remove an item.

COMING EVENTS

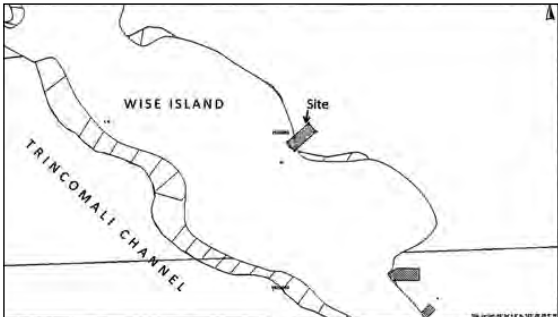
COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7 pm Wednesday, December 9
Lions Hall, 103 Bonnet Ave.
Update on Pathways will be given
Where do we go from here?
Special guest speaker & slide show
Zeke Blazecka will present A Trio of UK Walks
Refreshments

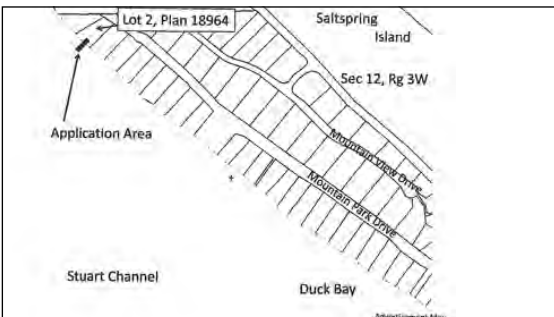
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGAL NOTICES

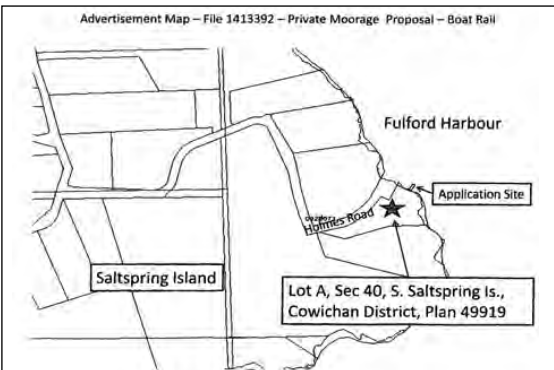
**Land Act:
Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of
Crown Land**
Take notice that Sandy Robley, Ryan & Laurie Bradley of Salt Spring
Island and John and Jody Lee of Parksville intend to make application
to Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB), West Coast Service
Centre for a tenure private moorage situated on Provincial Crown
Land located at Wise Island.
The Lands File Number that has been established for this application
is 1413386. Written comments concerning this application should
be directed to the Section Head, Integrated Land Management
Bureaux at 142-2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 or emailed to
AuthorizingAgency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca.
Comments will be received by the ILMB until Jan. 13, 2010. ILMB may
not be able to consider comments received after this date.
Please visit our website: <http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca> under the link:
Applications & Reasons for the Decision for more information.
Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered
part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of
Information Advisor and Integrated Land Management Bureau's
regional office.



**Land Act:
Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of
Crown Land**
Take notice that Simon Lord of Salt Spring Island, BC, intends to
make application to Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB),
West Coast Service Centre for a Private Moorage tenure, situated
on Provincial Crown land located at Mountain Park Drive, Lot 2, Plan
18964, Salt Spring Island, BC.
The Lands File Number that has been established for this
application is File # 1413393. Written comments concerning this
application should be directed to the Section Head, Integrated Land
Management Bureau at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9,
or emailed to: AuthorizingAgency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca. Comments
will be received by ILMB until January 22, 2010. ILMB may not be
able to consider comments received after this date. Please visit our
website: <http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca> under the link: Applications &
Reasons for Decision for more information.
Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be
considered part of the public record. For information, contact the
Freedom of Information Advisor at Integrated Land Management
Bureau's regional office.



**Land Act:
Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of
Crown Land**
Take notice that Steve & Anne Bent of Salt Spring Island intend to make
application to Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB), West Coast
Service Centre for a tenure private moorage situated on Provincial Crown
Land located at Wise Island.
The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is
1413392. Written comments concerning this application should be directed
to the Section Head, Integrated Land Management Bureaux at 142-2080
Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 or emailed to AuthorizingAgency.
Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca.
Comments will be received by the ILMB until Jan. 22, 2010. ILMB may
not be able to consider comments received after this date.
Please visit our website: <http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca> under the link:
Applications & Reasons for the Decision for more information.
Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part
of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information
Advisor and Integrated Land Management Bureau's regional office.



1st Annual Legion
**Christmas
Crafts
& Collectibles
Fair**
At Meaden Hall
Royal Canadian Legion
Saturday, Dec. 12
10 am - 4 pm
For details contact Fran @ 250.537.0710

SOLSTICE SOOTHER
SCHEDULE DEC. 1 - DEC. 19
Any or as many of these classes for \$37
Pass cards are valid for Solstice Soother classes.

Day	Class	Time	Instructor
Monday	Sunrise Yoga	7:30-8:30 am	Jenny
	Mixed Levels Yoga	9:00-10:30 am	Celeste
	Seniors Yoga	11:00-12:00 noon	Celeste
	Kids Circus Yoga	3:30-4:15 pm	Sunshine
	Teens Yoga	4:30-5:15 pm	Sunshine
	Nia	5:30-6:30 pm	Susie-Ann
	Beginners & Level 1 Yoga	7:00-8:00 pm	Celeste
Tuesday	Sunrise Yoga	7:30-8:30 am	Jenny
	Mellow Yoga	9:00-10:30 am	Celeste
	Chair Yoga	11:00-12:00 noon	Jenny
	Karma Yoga Klass	2:00-3:30 pm	Celeste
	Yoga Nidra	5:00-6:00 pm	Rupert
	OASIS 1 Yoga & Live DJ Music	6:30-8:00 pm	Sunshine & Daniel
Wednesday	Sunrise Yoga	7:30-8:30 am	Jenny
	Level 1 Yoga	9-10:30 am	Celeste
	Restorative	11:00-12:30	Jenny
	Mens Yoga	5:00-6:00 pm	Lee
	Mixed Levels Yoga	6:30-8:00 pm	Lee
Thursday	Sunrise Yoga	7:30-8:30 am	Jenny
	Kundalini Yoga	9:00-10:30 am	Shannon
	Pre/Post-Natal Yoga	11:00-12:00 noon	Sunshine
	Mindful Fitness	1:00-2:00 pm	Matt
	OASIS 2 Yoga & Live DJ Music	6:00-8:00 pm	Sunshine & Daniel
Friday	Sunrise Yoga	7:30-8:30 am	Celeste
	Level 1 & 2 Yoga	9:00-10:30 am	Celeste
	Move to Mozart	11:00-12:00 noon	Catherine
	Bhakti Flow	1:00-2:30 pm	Matt
	Restorative Yoga	5:00-6:00 pm	Rupert
Saturday	Mixed Levels Yoga	9:00-10:30 am	Lynday
Sunday	Yoga Nidra workshop	9:00-11:00 am (Nov. 29)	Rupert

GANGES YOGA STUDIO
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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

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IF YOUR Driftwood subscription label has the date highlighted, now is the time to renew!

THE VISION



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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO PERSONS who are or may be beneficiaries of The Sawridge Band Inter-Vivos Settlement (1985) or beneficiaries of The Sawridge Trust (1986). The beneficiaries of The Sawridge Band Inter-Vivos Settlement at any particular time are all persons who at that time qualify as members of The Sawridge Indian Band No. 454 pursuant to The Indian Act R.S.C. 1970, Chapter I-6 as such provisions existed on the 15th day of April, 1982 and, in the event that such provisions are amended after April 15, 1985, all persons at such particular time as would qualify for such membership pursuant to the said provisions as they existed on April 15, 1985. The beneficiaries of The Sawridge Trust at any particular time are all persons who at that time qualify as members of The Sawridge Indian Band under the laws of Canada in force at that time, including the membership rules and customary laws of The Sawridge Indian Band as they may exist from time to time to the extent that such membership rules and customary laws are incorporated into, or recognized by the laws of Canada. All person who believe that they qualify or may qualify as beneficiaries of either or both of the The Sawridge Band Inter-Vivos Settlement or The Sawridge Trust are asked to contact Paul Bujold, Trust Administrator by mail at 801, 4445 Calgary Trail NW, Edmonton, AB, T6H 5R7 or by email at Paul@sawridgetrusts.ca or by telephone at 780-988-7723 or by fax at 780-988-7724 listing the particulars supporting their claim to be a beneficiary of The Sawridge Band Inter-Vivos Settlement or The Sawridge Trust.

bcclassified.com

News Updates

Follow the Driftwood on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/GIDriftwood>

SPORTS & RECREATION

Female Indoor ½ Court Tennis Clinics

For females aged 13 yrs & up • Register NOW for the 6 week session of your choice • Session 1: Jan 8, 2010 • Session 2: Feb 19, 2010 • Session runs from 10:30 am to 12 noon (followed by snack) • Absolute beginners welcome! • Cost: \$35 per session (includes new Wilson racquet for you to keep!) • Space is limited... **Registration deadline: December 20**

Salt Spring Island Community Services

268 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
250-537-9971
or call Marianne at
250-537-5870

INFORMATION

Leah Hansel of **HEAL Your Body**, a division of **CORE Success Coaching** is happy to announce the winners for the four amazing door prizes from the recent Health, Wellness and Eco-Sustainability Fair! A VERY SPECIAL Thank you to the following businesses for providing their generous door prize donations: BC Hydro, Hairy Kids, Island Savings Credit Union, Northend Fitness, Patti Field of BeautiControl, Christin Boyd of Bowen Therapy, Rebecca Nygard of MamallMama, Skin Sensations, Mountain Equipment Co-Op, Salt Spring Coffee Company, Salt Spring Soapworks, Thrifty Foods, The Body Shop and CORE Success Coaching. All prizes distributed in handy HEAL Your Body 100% cotton, reusable tote bags!

Congratulations to the winners!

- Estela Rodriguez, SSI
- Wendy Eggertson, SSI
- John MacDonald, Pender Island
- Karen Stankunas, Vancouver

Enjoy your prizes and we look forward to seeing you at next year's fair! www.HealYourBody.ca.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO: RYAN TIGHE

You have been sued in relation to a motor vehicle accident that occurred on October 23, 2006, in Calgary, Alberta. You are the Defendant. You have only 30 days from the date of this publication to file and serve a Statement of Defence or Demand of Notice in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta in Calgary, Alberta. You or your lawyer must also leave a copy of your Statement of Defence or Demand of Notice at the address for service of the Plaintiff, which is c/o Scott Hall LLP, #203-200 Barclay Parade SW, Calgary, Alberta T2P 4R5 Attention: Domenic S. Ventura, Q.C.Tel: 403-261-9043, Fax: 403-265-4632 or dsv@scotthall-law.com.

If you do not do both of these things within the 30-day time limit, you may automatically lose the law suit. The Plaintiff may get a Court judgment against you if you do not file, or do not give a copy to the Plaintiff, or do either thing late.

PERSONALS

DATING SERVICE. Long-Term/Short-Term Relationships, FREE CALLS. 1-877-297-9883. Exchange voice messages, voice mailboxes. 1-888-534-6984. Live adult casual conversations-1on1, 1-866-311-9640, Meet on chat-lines. Local Single Ladies. 1-877-804-5381(18+).

TRAVEL

GETAWAYS

LONG BEACH UCLUELET Storm Watching Special Deluxe Waterfront Cabin, 2 nights- \$239. 3 nights- \$299 Sleeps 6. Fully equipped with Bbq. Rick: 1-604-306-0891.

TRAVEL

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SPORTS & RECREATION

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ATTENTION BABY Boomers! Looking for a Home Business you can really Build from Home? www.see-it-do-it.com

ATTN: WANT to Earn More Than Your Boss? Yes! Be your own boss! Learn to operate a Mini-office outlet from home. Free online training! Go to: www.123phd.com.

BED AND Breakfasts, Attractions, tourism operators get incredible exposure for your business...Advertise in the 2010-2011 BC Alberta Bed & Breakfast directory. Call Annemarie at 1-800-661-6335 ext. 744

DON'T HAVE \$1,000,000 for a franchise? Looking for a home based business? Learn how to turn \$1,000 a month into \$100,000 in 15 months. www.judys-minioffice.com.

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HELP WANTED

Dental Clinic Receptionist

required for a min 20 hr/wk plus relief work, position replacing long term staff member moving off island. Possibility of further hrs to be discussed. Position includes some chairside assisting. Flexibility regarding schedule essential with occasional partial day work as well as a small amount of evening and Saturday work. Ability to work closely with a welcoming, long established, very smooth team at front desk and chairside essential. This is a large busy clinic with two Drs as well as dental hygienists working with support staff in a very positive atmosphere. Previous experience in dentistry a definite asset but full training can be provided to someone energetic and keen to learn. Previous experience working with the public also an asset, as is a general office or healthcare background. Comfort working with computers essential. Please submit applications including covering letters to Dr. Lorraine Machell at her Creek-house clinic in Ganges or email to machsalt@telus.net.

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

DEADLINES
TUESDAY 10 AM

HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME Heavy-duty Transport mechanic required by Bailey Western Star & Freightliner. Experienced in service and repair of trucks, trailers & equipment required. Fax resume to 250-286-0753 or email employment@bailey-westernstar.com.

FULL TIME Parts Person required, Anchorage Marina in Nanaimo, B.C. Duties: ordering, receiving and sales of marine engine parts. Knowledge of boats, computer experience an asset. Fax resume (250)754-7144 or email to: rrispin@marinepartsupply.com

PARTS & SERVICE Manager. Diesel pickup truck performance, overhaul, maintenance. Must have technical training and experience with NA trucks, computer and inventory management, good interpersonal abilities. A progressive long term established business. www.dieselpowerperformance.com. Fax: 604.755.4022 brian@bd-power.com.

HOME CARE/SUPPORT

ARE YOU a senior who needs help at home? Experienced live-in caregivers available for senior, disabled or child care. \$1350/month for 40 hours/ week. Pacific Live-in Caregivers 250-616-2346 www.pacificcaregivers.com

TRADES, TECHNICAL

CERTIFIED JOURNEYMAN mechanics required at Summit Truck & Equipment Repair Ltd., based in Salmo B.C. and servicing the West Kootenay region. We offer: Competitive wages & benefits Modern shop and work environment. You bring: Desire to grow with our company Develop and maintain high level of skills Ability to work in a fast paced and challenging environment Positive attitude. Please forward resume to: doug@summitrepair.ca Ph: 250-357-2612 ext 234 Fax: 250-357-2009 Mail: PO Box 430 Salmo BC V0G 1Z0

WORK WANTED

LOOKING FOR WORK Cabinet maker services/carpentry and repairs. 30 years experience, call Pat. House-keeping/cleaning, seniors welcome, call Diana. 250-537-5734 for both.

TREE SERVICES Demolition & Hauling


- falling & bucking
- trees,clearing land
- brush & windfall
- demolition & hauling
- and other jobs

Call Gabriel 250-537-7536

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by appointment
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PSYCHIC READING and intuitive counseling. In person or by phone. Call 250-653-0036 or farmboy@uvic.ca

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HELP WANTED

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

CLEANING SERVICES

HOUSE CLEANING services available. Anyone out there looking for help with house cleaning? Please call Alexa at 537-4620 or 538-8881 cell.

COMPUTER SERVICES

CALL BOB McIvor for trouble-shooting, software & networking support. We do house calls. 537-2827 or (cell) 538-7017. Please go & back-up your important data now!

APPLIANCE REPAIRS

SAM ANDERSON Appliance Repair. Warranty technician for all makes & models. Sears warranty rep. 250-537-5268.

CONCRETE & PLACING



GULF COAST MATERIALS

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

- PARKING CURBS
- READY MIX
- WASHED GRAVEL
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- BAGGED CEMENT

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Various Insurance and Banking Opportunities

Looking for an opportunity to be a part of a company where your ideas are valued, you are given opportunities for growth, there is an excellent benefit package AND you get to have fun, then consider a career with Island Savings. Due to recent internal promotions and employee movement, we have several current and anticipated opportunities in both our banking and insurance divisions.

What do our star candidates have in common? First of all, they are all "keeners" who are driven to succeed. They seek out learning opportunities, question the status quo, and strive to improve. Second, they have a desire to help others, whether it's helping their team to win branch/agency of the quarter, helping our members with unsurpassed service, or volunteering in their community. Lastly, they are passionate about what they do and it shows!

Island Savings is the fastest-growing financial institution based on Vancouver Island and one of the ten largest credit unions in the province. We believe whole-heartedly in developing the brightest talent on the Island. So... if you're a star and you would like the opportunity to be a part of our team please send your resume to:

Manager, Human Resources
Island Savings Credit Union
#300 – 499 Canada Avenue Duncan B.C. V9L 1T7
Fax: 250-748-8831 E-mail: Careers@ISCU.com

This posting will remain open until our stars are selected.



ISLAND SAVINGS

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EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

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DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

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TUESDAY 10 AM

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HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

CONCRETE & PLACING

PLACING CONCRETE

Square Foot Charlie

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squarefootcharlie@gmail.com

DRAFTING & DESIGN

LET'S GET STARTED!

Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.

PLEASE CALL
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250-537-1037 & ask for Jim

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

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STRONG WOMAN HAULING

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Vanessa
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Photos are available for purchase @ our on-line photostore
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MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

RECYCLING

SALT SPRING Island Recycle Depot is located at 349 Rainbow Rd. We are open Tues. through Sat., 10am to 5pm. This service is operated by Salt Spring Island Community Services. Please call the Recycle Depot at 537-1200, or Community Services at 537-9971 for information on materials accepted for recycling.

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CHEAP TELEPHONE Reconnect! Low rates, fast connections, reliable service. Internet & long distance offered. Ask about holiday discounts! Call now - Phone Factory Reconnect 1-877-336-2274; www.phonefactory.ca.

PETS

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PETS

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PETS

PETS

PUREBRED AKBASH puppies (7 males, 3 females) available December 29. The sire and dam are excellent livestock protection dogs. These dogs are best placed in farm situations.
<http://www.dhomenest.ca>
Rob.O'Brien@ubc.ca or 250-878-4711. \$600 or \$800 (registered breed quality).

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REAL ESTATE

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

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RENTALS

COTTAGES

NEWLY RENO Vesuvius bach sep ent, nr bus, quiet area, NS \$575 incl utils. 250-537-0008.

HOUSESITTING

WANTED: HOUSESIT for 2 to 3 months, good refs., good carpentry & gardening skills, and experience maintaining alternate energy systems. I will take good care of your home and animals. Partial rent considered. Shari 250-333-8640.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR RENT

2 BDRM lovely new 1200 sqft garden suite on 1 acre, close to Ganges, oceanview, 5 appls, hardwood floors, long term, cat ok, Non-smoker, Dec. 1 \$1100+util. 537-8431.

3 BDRM DUPLEX with fenced yard, woodstove and electric heat, storage/workshop. \$1050/ mo. plus util. Avail. now. 250-537-4319.

NOW ONLY 2 sites avail. on acreage close to Ganges with services, bring your trailer or RV. \$400 & \$600 + hydro. 250-537-2650 lv. message.

HOMES FOR RENT

2 BDRM HOUSE, Jan 01, long term, quiet, N/P \$900/ month plus util. Ref. 250-538-7795.

2 BDRM house, newly reno'd, close to schools in Ganges. Studio or workshop. Avail. immed. \$1300/mo. + hydro. Call 250-537-6860.

2 BED, 1 bath, 5 appl., 1/2 acre, close to town. Dec. 1, Long term. \$1200 + util. 250-538-2323.

A BEAUTIFUL 3 bedroom with all brand new appliances available after December 15. \$1550. In town. 250-931-5483.

CABIN FOR rent, \$850/ mo, utils incl, 1 bdrm + small den, shared driveway, avail Dec. 1, call 250-537-9501.

COTTAGES ON St. Mary Lake, fully furnished, NS, NP. Starting at \$650/mo., available Oct. 15 to Apr 1. 250-537-2585.

RENTALS

RENTALS


HOMES FOR RENT

HOMES FOR RENT

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“Architectural Digest “ home features;
2,000 sq. feet of custom designed one level, informal living with 3 decks 3 spacious bedrooms, each with ensuite pool with private deck, gas bbq designer kitchen with Miele appliances-steam convection oven, in built coffee makers, double sinks, dishwasher, entertainment bar, wine fridge, limestone floor heat throughout, 3 fireplaces
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3 BDRM 2.5 BTHRM
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2 APPL FIREPLACE
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NS NP 1425 + UTIL MID ISLAND 105674

2 BDRM 1 BTHRM
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4 APPL ON BUS ROUTE
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3 BDRM 1 BTHRM
4 APPL W/CHAIR ACCESS
ELECT/WOOD HEAT
CEDAR PRE FAB COTTAGE
OCEANFRONT HIGH BANK
NS NP \$1675. + UTIL NORTH END 127254

2 BDRM 1 BTHRM
4 APPL OCEANFRONT
CEDAR PRE FAB COTTAGE
ELECT/WOOD HEAT
LOW BANK ACCESS
NS NP \$1700. + UTIL NORTH END 127253

LARGE OCEANFRONT
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2 BDRM 2.5 BTHRM
OFFICE AREA/ MEDIA RM
ELECT HEAT MTH 2 MTH
NS NP \$2000. + UTIL SOUTH END 123973

2 BDRM 1 BATH
OCEANFRONT COTTAGE
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LWR LEVEL APT
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FULL BATH PRIV LAUNDRY
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1 BDRM 1 BTHRM
AVAIL UNTIL 1 MAY
4 APPL
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2 BDRM 2 BTHRM
OFFICE AREA 5 APPL
FURN EXEC TWNHSE
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Post your comments on-line
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NEW IN: "Clic" magnetic reading glasses (as seen on CSI) Clearance Sale: Selected Sunglasses \$10, Readers \$10, Prescription Frames \$35. 250-537-2648

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WE REMEMBER Steve Davidson, Dec. 5 1979



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Claudia Picks a WINNER!



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This Week's

Noroscope

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

Tip of the Week:
There are many interesting facts to discover in Astronomy. Many fantastic phenomenal realities exist in our very own solar system. For example, the Sun is 99.9 % the mass of the entire solar system. Another is that Jupiter is larger than all the planets in the solar system put together. The fact that the Sun is as large as it is and the Moon is so significantly smaller, yet from the perspective here on Earth they appear to be the same size and thus periodically produce Total Eclipses. Venus spins on its axis slower than it orbits around the Sun. Triton, the big Moon orbiting Neptune, does so in the opposite direction to all the other Moons in the solar system. Pluto and its satellite Charon orbit around one another. The list goes on. One of my favourites is that the Sun's light takes about 8 light hours to reach Pluto and about 4.3 light years to reach the closest star!

ARIES (MAR 21 – APR 20)
Inspirations to take some pioneering initiatives are coming in now. This may include cultivating certain key friendships. Combining cultural activity with your plans is likely. Deepening your focus with concentration on where your energies are best directed implies strategic time management. Find reasons to play yet be careful not to overdo it as it is likely that you will do so now. Go big, gracefully.

TAURUS (APR 20 – MAY 21)
You have some big projects to do and you need extra room to do them. Asking for needed help is also likely. Whether it is borrowing tools from others or skills and/or labour, you will be glad you asked. Clearing out the old is part of the plot and this trend will continue for many months so take it in steps and stages. Where you do receive assistance, be sure to pay due respect and with full gratitude because it will be expected.

GEMINI (MAY 21 – JUN 21)
Increasing the breadth, depth and scope of your relationships continues. Travel and adventure is on your mind. You may feel the desire to escape altogether. Doing so with someone special would be ideal. Yet, getting away from certain people and places is the other side of the deal. This urge will not fade quickly, so you might make your plans slowly. Either way, change is brewing on all relationship fronts. Healing of some kind is implied and requires that you embark on a sacred journey.

CANCER (JUN 22 – JUL 22)
Paying attention to the details of the big picture stands to be extra important now. You may be at a critical turning point. You want to be as fully aware as you can be so you can choose wisely. The decisions you must make are big and carry significant weight. You feel extra ambitious yet perhaps not as energetic as you would like or may feel the need to be to achieve your goals. Know when to hold them, fold them, walk away or run...!

LEO (JUL 23 – AUG 23)
Your creative passions and drive is extra strong now. You are determined to explore new territory. This will require that you set yourself to the task of learning new skills and technologies. In order to expand your position, you may have to take a good, clear and perhaps hard look at what is working and what is not. Be willing to do the work and do exercise self reliance. Aim for a more creative and intelligent approach than ever!

VIRGO (AUG 24 – SEP 22)
Desires to create more beauty and function at home or at your work place are strong now. You are determined to create a smoother, more efficient and powerful flow. Clearing the clutter and replacing the old with better quality and higher vibration furniture, tools, equipment and perhaps even people is the game plan. Balance exploration with improvisation and be willing to face your fears.

LIBRA (SEP 23 – OCT 22)
A spirit of adventure is rising in you. You are curious and restless and want to go places. Yet, you may also feel the pressure of responsibility or the burden of restriction. If so, you may notice you are feeling extra rebellious and perhaps moody. Yet, if the opportunity to venture is available, you will feel like the happiest person in the world. If money or time does not permit a big trip explore your own backyard or journey with a good book.

SCORPIO (OCT 23 – NOV 21)
Nurturing a vision worthy of your ambitions, aspirations and talents is the call now. Interestingly, this may require that you make a few changes in your perspective, attitude and approach. Sometimes we rationalize that "we can't afford to..." when actually from a better perspective we may come to realize that we can't afford "not" to....Are you in your own way somehow? Build confidence for taking risks and making investments.


SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22 – DEC 21)
The time has come to explore new territory. You may have to push extra hard to do so. Whatever it takes, summon the courage and will to do what you feel you must. Sometimes push comes to shove and this may be one of those times. Take stock of all your talents, experiences, credentials and credit and make them go to work for you. Pay close attention to the details and the fine print and concentrate your focus.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22 – JAN 19)
Silence speaks and sometimes it whispers while at others it yells. If it is yelling, you have been resisting its command. Is this wise? Who is in control anyway? Take time out now to retreat, meditate and reflect. Perhaps you can review the past 12 months and or the next. New ambitions are probably brewing. Destiny wants you to take a commanding lead. Yet to make it so you must yield to your inner authority.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20 – FEB 19)
You are beginning to use your wings now. For the past few years they have been growing, yet only now is it time to really learn to fly again. Learn is the operative word here. The more you are willing to be open and humble to the learning curve you are now in, the better. Continue to be patient with your process and accept that change and transformation remain prerequisite features of the plot.


PISCES (FEB 20 – MAR 20)
You are in the mood to be seen and heard. You want recognition for your efforts. You may also simply want others to be aware of what you are offering. Probably all of the above are true. Learning new skills and gathering tools is likely. Focusing your mind with strategic and practical actions is probable. Balance open mindedness with concentrated attention. Believe you can do whatever you must and you will advance.

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a new Q&A column and blog by Driftwood reporter Amy Geddes. See the column on page B12.



WANTED: Your questions about Gulf Islands life. Email ageddes@gulfislands.net or fill out the question form on the blog.

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the twilight saga of new moon

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Sports & Recreation

MEN'S SOCCER

Salt Spring FC closes in on first

Old Boys have November to remember

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring FC is only one point out of first place following a one-all draw against the Prospect Lake Lakers at Portlock Park on Saturday.

FC took an early lead after a shot by Jeremy Byron deflected off the head of a defender and found its way into the Prospect Lake goal.

"We came out strong in the first half," said team spokesperson Jordon Morrison. "It was definitely our better half."

The first-half offensive surge set up many scoring opportunities, but FC couldn't add to its lead.

"The second half was a completely different story," Morrison said. "They seemed to control most of the play."

Prospect Lake got one back to tie up the match at the second half's 15-minute mark.

Morrison said the FC keeper stood next to no chance of making the save after slipping on a patch of wet ground.

"It was just unlucky," Morrison said.

Salt Spring FC trav-



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Joss Krayenhoff and Prospect Lake players jump for a header in FC soccer action.

els to Powell River on the weekend where the team will try to improve on its 4-3-2 record.

FC sits in third place of the Vancouver Island Soccer League's second division with 15 points.

Juan de Fuca and Bays United share the division lead with 16 points.

Meanwhile, in Masters-C division action, the Salt Spring Island Old Boys completed the unthinkable on Sunday by capping off a stellar November with a four-all draw against Zgoda.

Mark Aston, Doug Pearson, Martin Thorn and Richard Steel pro-

vided all the offence for the Old Boys side.

"We maintained our unbeaten record for November, but did so with little glory," Steel said after the game.

Zgoda (1-3-5) started the match with only nine players and finished up with eight men on the

field.

"The Old Boys let the visiting team off lightly and didn't make the numerical advantage count, as the slow pace of the game suited Zgoda," Steel said.

He added that the draw represents a missed opportunity for the team to climb up the division standings.

With eight points so far this season, the Salt Spring Old Boys squad is locked in a three-way tie for third position in its division.

The team next plays last-place Juan de Fuca in an away game on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 10:30 a.m.

The Old Boys went 1-0-2 in November.

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*The countdown
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SPORTS & RECREATION

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Teams pushing hard

Over 30s tie Bays; Div.-2 team beats Gordon Head

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring United's Over 30s team played an excellent game last Sunday, keeping opponents Bays United completely out of their end for the entire match.

Despite dominating the game, the Salt Spring women were unable to finish, leaving the score tied at 0-0. That didn't worry players, however, who were pleased by their effort throughout.

"We were in their end pretty much the whole game," said player Louise Doucet.

Doucet said everyone who played had a good game, with lots of shots on net and frequent passing up the field.

Next week Salt Spring faces off against Vic West on Victoria turf for their last game of the year before resuming play in mid-January.

In other women's soccer news, Salt Spring United's Division-2 team proved a force to be reckoned with on Sunday, facing off against strong winds and the team from Gordon Head on Victoria's home turf.

Salt Spring played a strong game

through the first half, said player Sue-Anne Donaldson. The score was 0-0 going into the second half, but Salt Spring clearly dominated the field, putting away two goals.

"Lorna Walde scored the first goal off a corner kick that became a scramble in front of the net and with a sure foot put a blaster into the goal to give us a 1-0 lead," Donaldson said.

"We continued to pressure them and to dominate their end beautifully."

The game was close to over when Salt Spring applied intense pressure once again.

"The magic of two-touch soccer gave Lorna the opportunity for an amazing finish on the ball and she was as sure-footed as before, giving us the winning score of 2-0," said Donaldson.

Donaldson said the team congratulates Walde for a great game in centre midfield. Joelle Morrison had a "stellar" game on defence while Mardon Dary and Val Cunningham clearly dominated the right side. Keeper Erin Hornell also had a great game.

SS United is currently still in the middle of the pack in the standings and looks forward to playing the second-place team Bays United on Dec. 6 at Windsor Park at noon.

MEN'S SOCCER

Alumni go head to head with division's best team

Gremio draws again

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It was a battle of the alumni over the weekend as Salt Spring's Alumni FC hoped to reverse its recent losing streak against the division-leading UVic Alumni in Victoria on Sunday.

The hosts set the stage with what players on both sides of the field have described as one of the greatest goals scored by any player anywhere this season.

"Everyone just went quiet," said Lyle Brown, a player with Salt Spring Alumni FC.

Alumni keeper Ken Marr stood no chance of making the save as Dante Zanatta's "rocket of a shot" found its way from the corner of the field into the corner of the net in a matter of seconds.

Marr said Salt Spring played a competitive game for most of the match, but allowed another two goals in the game's second half.

"That sort of dampened our spirits," he said.

"When we chose to play the short game we played well. Unfortunately,

ly, we didn't play the short game enough," he said.

Brown said Salt Springers can pride themselves on a great performance against the Masters-A division's most competitive team.

Alumni FC lost a 2-1 decision to the UVic Alumni in September.

The loss leaves Alumni FC in ninth place in its division with six points and a 2-8-0 record.

The team will try to get a win when it hosts sixth-place Juan de Fuca (3-3-3) at Portlock Park on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 10:30 a.m.

In other Vancouver Island Soccer League action, Ganges Gremio earned its sixth tie of the season by playing to a one-all draw against the Zgoda Juniors at Portlock Park on Sunday morning.

Gremio's Ryan Smith scored the home team's only goal on the day.

The tie boosts Gremio's record to 2-1-6. The team sits in sixth place in its division.

Gremio will try to move further ahead of seventh-place Pacific FC (3-5-2) when the team travels to Victoria for a game on Sunday afternoon.

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Arts & Entertainment

LIGHT-UP CONTEST

Toy store, fire hall top winners list

Judge's fear of police skews his numbers

• Take the tour, Page B2

BY SUSAN LUNDY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Ganges businesses dressed their windows in everything from teeter-tottering penguins to unemployed teddy bears, but it was The Twelve Days of Christmas that really got these girls (and a guy) groovin'.

West of the Moon's 12-part Christmas window display handily topped this year's Driftwood Light-Up contest, impressing and amusing the judges and winning "best overall" as well as "most creative."

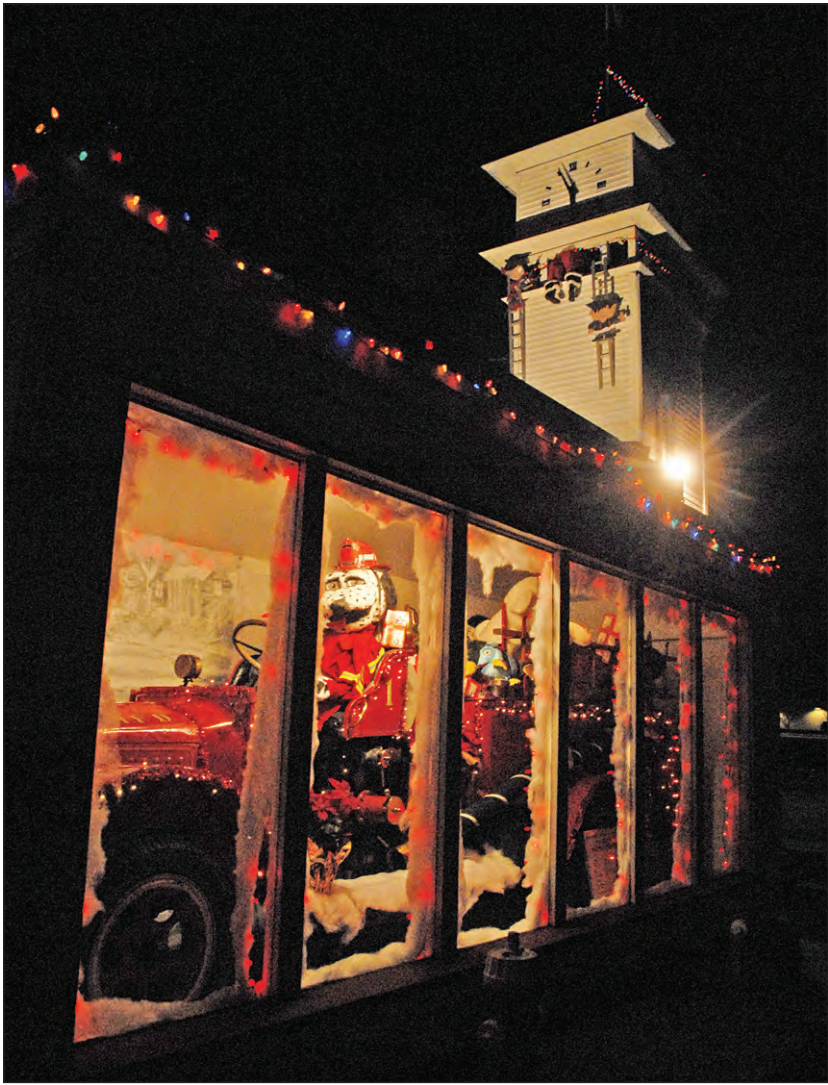
A combined effort among staff at the Ganges toy store took the popular song and tweaked it to suit various store items with such gems as "eight maids a groovin'" (Groovy Girl dolls), three French bébés and four callin' birds (on the telephone).

All five judges — myself, photographer Shari Macdonald, our 16-year-old daughters Sierra and Kai, and Driftwood "Head-to-Head" columnist Peter Vincent — bounced excitedly from scene to scene, reading out the clever captions.

(Even Peter, known for his cynicism, seemed to enjoy the display, eagerly wondering aloud if the toys in the "seven monkeys swimming" scene really wind up and swim. His overt enthusiasm prompted me to think Peter needs a bath toy.)

Rounding the corner from West of the Moon on our Friday night circuit, we got another pleasurable surprise with the colour-blazing fire hall display that ultimately took first in "best use of lights" and "best use of material."

With its mountainous roof-top light display,



ONE OF 500 PHOTOS BY DERRICK LUNDY

A fabulous light display, great window dressing and details like Santa crawling into the clock tower won the Ganges fire hall two first place ribbons in last week's Driftwood-sponsored Light-Up contest.

play, detail-conscious window scene and little surprises like Santa crawling into the clock tower, it became a contender for "best overall" as we later debated winners over dinner at Moby's. (Peter pushed for the fire hall, attempting now, I believe, to distance himself from how much he liked those monkeys.)

We spent some time at the fire hall, enjoying the encased 1920 pumper truck, which is dressed as Santa's sleigh, stuffed with gifts and finely decorated, right down to a bow on the hood.

Much of the display was put together by firefighter Jim Witherspoon, who designed and created the plywood cut-outs of a snowball fight scene

on the roof and even, apparently, sewed Santa's pants.

Driftwood photographer Derrick Lundy joined us at this point, snapping 500 photographs of the fire hall and then capturing the attention of RCMP Const. George Phipps as we "loitered" across the street at the Harlan's display.

Phipps stopped the cruiser, flashed the police lights, microphoned us to "move along" and appeared ready to handcuff Derrick (not his first time in handcuffs, I'm guessing, and readers can take that anyway they wish).

But most interesting was Peter's reaction to having the police "head to head." Apparently so unnerved by Const.

Phipps' presence, he had a "take your foot off the pedal" reaction and inexplicably gave Harlan's display 10 out of 10 right across the board.

Not to say that Harlan's didn't have a sweet offering with a series of beautifully decorated trees, but in a sea of "fives" and "sixes" on the hard-edged judge's sheet, those 10s did stand out. An interesting reaction.

As an aside to all this, we gave Phipps honourable mention for best use of lights.

This category was tough to decide as very few displays used many lights and several had almost inadequate lighting — making it difficult to see the designs. (This was especially trou-

blesome for lighting-hyper Shari, who has been known to walk into a room — my livingroom — and adjust all the lighting before being able to settle down.)

On the other hand, Mouat's Clothing's display — a fun-filled and creative collection of penguins, birds and snowflakes — is so bright and well-lit it almost draws people in with its warmth. Mouat's Clothing took second in both the "best use of lights" and "most creative" categories.

Rounding out the awards was second place in "best use of materials" for Love My Kitchen's traditionally stunning display. As usual, owner Linda Koroscil pulled out all the stops for a detail-rich scene, employing antiques and old photographs to create a "Christmas Past" ambience, all contained beneath a medley of glimmering ornaments.

Other highlights of this year's tour included Pharmasave Downtown's almost "Tiffany's-like" window scene; a "for hire" theme at the CARE employment office, and an elegantly-furnished bedroom at Mouat's Hardware.

During our tour, we met up with lots of people who joked about bribery. They'd say things like "oh, do you take bribes?" and laugh (as if it's not a legitimate question).

So later, over dinner, I

CONTEST continued on B2

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

LIGHT-UP CONTEST

Taking the Ganges Light-Up tour

Fifteen businesses entered the Driftwood's annual Christmas Light-up contest Friday night, illuminating Ganges in a seasonal glow and launching Salt Spring's holiday season with creatively crafted window displays.

Anyone looking for some Christmas cheer is encouraged to "press nose to pane" and take an after-dark tour of Ganges storefronts.

Following is a recommended tour route:

1. Start with the brightly-lit mannequins, penguins, birds and snowflakes at Mouat's Clothing. This display won second in two categories: "best use of lights" and "most creative."

2. Saunter past Old Salty and look closely for the Christmas moose and be-ribboned glass balls.

3. Across the parking lot at Mouat's Hardware, prepare to sink your eyes into an elegantly furnished Christmas bedroom . . .

4 . . . and then expect some fun with West of the Moon's The Twelve Days of Christmas theme. (West of the Moon took first overall and won the "most creative" category.

5. Also expect to take some time enjoying all the fine fire hall details (don't forget to look up at the clock tower). This display took first in "best use of material" and "best use of lights."

6. Cross the street and read Pharmasave's "nice" list and check out its beautiful white Christmas window.

7. Then peer into both the side and front windows of Harlan's Chocolates for several Christmassy scenes.

8. Always a spot to pause and peruse myriad details, Love My Kitchen's "Christmas



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Groovin' maids at the West of the Moon Light-Up display.

Past" theme is the next stop. (Love My Kitchen took second in "best use of materials.")

9. Just down the way is a simple-but-seasonal bird-on-branch scene at Salt Spring Soapworks.

10. Looping back past Pharmasave to McPhillips Avenue, check out a creative "hiring" theme at the CARE employment centre . . .

11 . . . and right next door is a cool Christmas tree graphic painted on the storefront window of Choices.

12. Dedicate some

Anyone looking for some Christmas cheer is encouraged to "press nose to pane" . . .

time to enjoy Island Savings' strip of different-themed office windows — there is lots to see at this stop.

13. Walking along Jackson Avenue towards Rainbow Road, you'll encounter the cheerily-lit outdoor Christmas tree and stocking-stuffed window at Stitches.

14. Now walk back down Hereford and if it's before closing time at Thrifty Foods, step inside to be greeted by seasonal decorations (not to mention some finger-warming heat).

15. The final stop in the tour (or make it the first) is the Thrift Shop, where viewers can enjoy a Christmas animal theme.

Judges consider 'bribery' options

CONTEST
continued from B1

checked with everyone.

Shari and I agreed that chocolate and pretty much anything from the BC Liquor store would top our bribery list.

Posing the question to our 16-year-



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Light-Up judges outside the cheery Mouat's Clothing display, from left, Susan Lundy, Kai Fishleigh, Sierra Lundy, Shari Macdonald and Peter Vincent.


old daughters with a do-we-really-want-to-know foreboding, we were pleased that, still flushed with West of the Moon toy store awe, they muttered something about Groovy Girls. (Huh? Really?)

Peter, on the other hand, responded quickly and sternly.

"Nothing," he said, giving a covert look behind him to see, I assume, if Const. Phipps was listening in.

Even without any bribery, it was a splendid evening with enough creativity and surprises to usher in another Christmas season.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

GALLERIES

Starfish adds new dimension to art scene

Owner-artist Andrea Collins aims to please local crowd

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The latest addition to Grace Point Square blossomed into completion last weekend with the opening of the Starfish Gallery.

Strengthening an already impressive art presence in the square, the new gallery presents a fresh perspective with a focus mainly on the photographic arts.

The gallery's official opening last Saturday saw scores of well-wishers enter the space, where many visitors were heard commenting on the excellent renovation of the former convenience store. White walls and track lighting present the work at its best, while a rustic alder archway between rooms softens the starkness for a welcoming appeal. Another nice touch that makes clever use of the small space is a freestanding display wall on one side that is a shelf unit with books for sale on the other.

Gallery owner and artist Andrea Collins said she first had the idea of opening a new space earlier in the year, when she contemplated setting up an open studio. Living "off the beaten path" on Mount Maxwell, Collins soon realized that she would rather be somewhere closer to people if she was going to be committed to one spot for most of each day.

"The idea of a gallery came to mind where I could exhibit and sell work by other photographers as well as my own, so the idea evolved from a studio to the gallery," Collins explained while setting up the new space



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Andrea Collins and her son Simon celebrate the opening of Starfish Gallery.

last week.

"There are so many artists who I feel are underrepresented, especially photographers," Collins added. "Most galleries don't show them, or perhaps just one or two artists."

A former art student at Emily Carr, Collins' projects often used photography as the medium through which she interpreted class assignments. She has been seriously exploring the medium and selling her work for several years.

Many of the artists being shown at Starfish are Collins' co-exhibitors at the annual Photosynthesis show, including Amy Melious, Larry Melious, Ken Ketchum, Susan Huber and Kevin Steinke.

Collins said the new gallery will provide her and her colleagues with new opportunities to grow as artists.

"The great thing about having a gallery to show your work is you're evolving much more quickly, whereas if you're just

doing a couple of shows a year, it's easy to get stale. I didn't want to get stale."

The gallery also shows sculpture, currently featuring Morley Myers and Saanich-based bronze sculptor Paul Harder, and art and poetry books published by Mother Tongue Press. Art cards and unframed prints provide balance to the higher-end limited editions and originals, an important consideration for Collins.

"One of the things I wanted to do with the gallery was make art accessible to people, so they don't have to spend thousands of dollars to own a piece of art. People can come in, browse and find something they like without feeling like they have to make a major purchase," Collins said.

A major purchase might be hard to avoid for some people when it comes to work by Anais La Rue, an emerging artist who until now has had little exhibition experience but is prominently featured at the new

space. Her captivating drawings, etched into black scratchboard, are delicately eerie visions that are a cross between illustrations for fairytales and botany expeditions. Woodcut prints in black ink similarly have a vintage folk art appeal.

Birds and plants are the subjects of some pieces, while a skeleton parade dances through another. Yet another shows a charismatic-looking rabbit standing upright in a frock coat. The white-on-black imagery of the scratchboard etchings suggests images made from superfine tendrils of smoke, or photographic negatives from the fairy world.

With the initial welcome of (and from) the community behind her, Collins said she's hoping Starfish Gallery will be a place that people want to keep coming back to.

"I want the gallery to be a place that local people come — it isn't just for tourists. That's my primary objective."

THEATRE FUNDRAISER

Theatre school hopes for support for fundraising

December basket raffle part of the campaign

StageCoach Theatre School is asking the Salt Spring community for donations to support the continuation of educational and creative opportunities offered by the well-respected and long-running theatre training program.

The school's board of directors aims to raise at least \$10,000 by way of an ambitious donor campaign, a Christmas raffle, a cabaret night and a silent auction.

According to press material from the school, hundreds of young people have benefited from StageCoach's instruction and performance opportunities since its inception in 1999.

StageCoach offers much to the island's arts community by providing theatre classes for kids two to 19 years of age, as well as shows at the ArtSpring theatre each year.

It has become a well-loved island institution, states the release.

This year, because of the economic downturn and virtual elimination of government grants, the school is faced with daunting budget challenges.

The board announced it has made every effort to trim its expenses while continuing to provide quality instruction, but unfortunately it is impossible to meet expenses through tuition

alone.

Many StageCoach students are the recipients of Shine Fund bursaries, without which they would be unable to afford tuition.

StageCoach's Christmas raffle prizes are three resplendent baskets, ready for giving.

Each basket features unique items and gift certificates generously donated by Salt Spring Inn, Salt Spring Vineyards, Jill Louise Campbell, Love My Kitchen, Mouat's, Bramblewood Farm, Ganges Tea Company, Skin Sensations, Salt Spring Books, West of the Moon, North End Fitness, Pharmasave, Nixxi Clothing and Island Magic Hair Shoppe.

Raffle tickets are on sale now and can be obtained from any StageCoach student or at the Christmas Craft Fair at Beaver Point Hall on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 5 and 6. They are also on sale at West of the Moon, Love My Kitchen and B-Side Clothing.

Draw date is December 20 at 4 p.m., just in time for Christmas giving.

Complete information about StageCoach Theatre School, a printable online donation form and information about the raffle can be found at www.stagecoachtheatre.net.

Contact the school by phone or by email with any questions: 250-538-7494 or office@stagecoachtheatre.net.

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ArtSpring

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FOLK CLUB

Master musicians join forces on folk stage

David Essig and Rick Scott headline Fulford Hall evening

Two of Canada's most accomplished roots musicians will perform together at the Salt Spring Folk Club on Monday, recreating the musical magic heard on their recent record release, Double Vision. Joining forces for songs about life, love and loss seasoned with literate wit, David Essig and Rick Scott perform music with grace and considerable kindness. Their acoustic roots music comes in the tradition of the Canadian singer/songwriter, with one foot on the mountain and the other in the swamp.

Their influences include Delta blues, R&B, bluegrass and old-time country music. According to his official website, Essig has been called "one of the finest blues guitarists and songwriters in the world." He was introduced to Canadian audiences in 1971 as a "talented newcomer" at the legendary Mariposa Folk Festival. Now, almost 40 years later, he is considered one of Canada's finest interpreters of original, contemporary folk music. Always paying homage to his roots in bluegrass and country blues, Essig uses these traditions to create new songs that are both timely and timeless. His intense energy and incisive wit have made him a favourite with audiences around the world. Equally renowned as an instrumentalist and traditional performer, Essig is a master of the blues and slide guitar. Whether on the lap-style Weissenborn or

the electric Godin guitar, his spontaneous style crosses all the borders between country, blues and the avant-garde.

Essig has been called "one of the finest blues guitarists and songwriters in the world."

Salt Spring Islanders will also know Essig as the long-time chair of Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee and as chair of Islands Trust Council. Scott is an award-winning singer, songwriter and actor who combines music and laughter in lively, participatory concerts for all ages. His website biography states he is

Canada's leading proponent of the Appalachian mountain dulcimer, known by kids around the world as "The Electric Snowshoe." Over 35 years he has released 17 albums and performed his lively, original music in nine countries. His gift for combining wacky humour and poignant human commentary has earned him a devoted following around the world. "His gift for enriching and healing the human spirit will not soon be forgotten," states the Rogue Folk Review. Local act Chamigos, featuring Alvaro Sánchez, will open the evening. Their repertoire includes songs from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru and Cuba, ranging from the traditional to the most contemporary. Sánchez will be singing in Spanish and Portuguese, accompanied by Laurent Boucher on percussion and Dick Miller on bass. Sánchez was born

in Buenos Aires where he took guitar lessons with Francisco Aletti. He travelled extensively in Latin America, taking special interest in the different styles of music. He settled on Salt Spring in 1990 and has been studying guitar with Peter Taschuk for many years. Boucher is a well-known local percussionist, originally from Montreal. He has a wealth of experience in the Latin music world and has worked and studied with some of the best. Miller has 20 years of experience performing bluegrass and jazz and has been a fast and enthusiastic learner of these rhythms that were new to him three years ago. Together, Sánchez, Boucher and Miller bring the rich and complex rhythms of South America to life. The show is on Monday, Dec. 7, beginning at 7 p.m. at Fulford Hall.

ART SHOWS

Big Small show at Fine Art Gallery offers intimate gift possibilities

New Ganges gallery offers first Christmas-time event

Few gifts are more personal than receiving a piece of original art, but size and price normally mean that art purchases are left to the individuals who will own the work. This holiday season, the Salt Spring Artists Gallery of Fine Art will provide a unique opportunity to give art with the Big Small show, a special event taking place this weekend. Members of the cooperative gallery (Jackie Breault-Spiess, Sheila Hoen, Donna Horn, Car-

ole James, Samantha Sander- son, Allan Sherman and Deirdre Tessman) will be joined for the show by ceramic artist Pat Webber, wood sculptor Antonio Alonso and glass artist Rachel Vadeboncoeur. Making art affordable and portable (good for mailing off-island) is the motivating factor behind this seasonal show, but gallery members have also found it's provided them with a fresh avenue for exploring their work. Tessman explained that for artists who normally paint on a larger scale, creating small works provides a rich experience both for the creator and the viewer.

"Small art tends to be more intimate — you tend to get closer to see it, instead of standing back six to eight feet with larger pieces. Because they're on a smaller scale, you really enter the viewing space." Tessman said working on a small scale also provides challenges for the artists, who can experiment with form in new ways while avoiding the risk of becoming too "precious." The Big Small show runs Dec. 4 to 6 with an opening reception on Friday, Dec. 4, 4-6 p.m. Small art pieces left after the weekend will continue to show at the gallery until the end of the month.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONCERTS

Viva Voce Choir presents premiere concert with Come to the Music

Seasonal themes woven throughout

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Viva Voce may be Salt Spring's most recently formed community choir, but the combined experience and talent of director Deb Toole predicts long-lasting success.

The 78-member group, formed in September this year, will present the premiere concert of its work with 67 performers beginning on Friday, Dec. 11 at All Saints By-the-Sea.

Toole said she formed the choir with the idea of "creating an atmosphere for healthy singing" and "getting to be as good a choir as we can be, and always, always being exposed to different types of music." Toole said she has been thrilled by the positive response.

"I love the idea of people from a cross-section of the community coming together to sing, but we also sing together as well as possible, with passion and dedication, to bring about music with our voices."

For Viva Voce's first ever concert, Come to the Music, Toole has create a "pastiche of



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Viva Voce choir members (from left) Jim Fogarty, Jake Watt, Jeff Bee, Deb Toole, Noni Fogarty and Amanda Gamley want Salt Springers to come to the music and take in the group's concert debut next week.

sound" that works off seasonal themes including snow, light, beauty and joy, and which samples music from all over the world. The concert's title refers to a big piece she's putting together called Come to the Music by Joseph M. Martin. Toole describes the song as being rhythmically thrilling with a counter melodic line for the men.

"It's very exciting," she promised.

Pianist Chris Kodaly accompanies the choir and will begin the evening with a solo piece. Delaine Faulkner will perform as soloist for the Catalanian song Carol of the Birds, woven in through the program in three parts.

A quartet with Jeff Bee, Jake Watt, Noni Fogarty and Amanda Gamley will lead the group into further explorations of music.

Faulkner has been in voice training with Toole since 1999 and returned to community choirs in 2002. In regard to Viva Voce, Faulkner said, "I really feel like it's coming together really well, and I really appreciate all the effort and energy that Deb brings to it. She searches for how we can find the notes and makes it all cohesive."

Frederick Howell, a fellow Viva Voce member, said he thinks having another community choir on the island is a positive step. While

part of the charm for the retired theatre director is being in back instead of out front, Howell said he delights in singing with the group.

"I'm enjoying it and Deb's a lot of fun. She's very knowledgeable, but she makes it fun to learn," Howell said.

Tickets for the show are available through choir members and at Salt Spring Books. The shows take place on Friday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3 p.m. at All Saints. In the "spirit of community collegiality," there will be no Saturday show to allow everyone to attend the Salt Spring Concert Band's Celestial Music concert at ArtSpring.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Something for everyone among latest library book acquisitions

Check out these new books on the shelves

BY MAGGIE WARBEY
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Each and every month our library orders and receives dozens of new titles covering a wide range of tastes, interests and needs. It is our goal to include something for everyone in the library collection.

Whatever your reading pleasure — travel, mystery, history, science, fiction, poetry, Canadiana, cooking, parenting, art — you'll find a book for you on the shelf. Here's just a sample of the books you'll find on the "New to the Library" shelf right now.

- 100 Most Important Science Ideas: Key Concepts in Genetics, Physics and Mathematics by Hudson, Baker and Crilly tells you all you want to know about 100 topics, including selfish genes, antimatter and codes.
- Something to Declare: Good Lesbian Travel Writing by Gillian Kendall is a travel book with a new and important focus.
- The Two of Us: My Life with John Thaw is Sheila Hancock's tribute to her husband, the great British actor we know and love as Morse.
- Cold Adventures in the World's Frozen Places by Bill Streever

instills a sense of the special, whether frightening or beautiful, in places even colder than January on Salt Spring Island.

Also check out:

- Our Turn to Parent: Shared Experiences and Practical Advice on Caring for Aging Parents in Canada by Dunn and Scott is "gotta" reading for the boomer generation. These authors take on the challenge so many of us face: becoming the caregivers. The book includes many aspects of this role switch how to get on with the basic discussion: what do your parents want; to finding appropriate care in your community; choosing the right place for your parents to live; making clear your parents' personal care and end-of-life wishes; and taking care of yourself in these stressful times. The many checklists within the text and the section on resources in Canada make this book as useful as it is informational.
- The End of Overeating: Taking Control of the Insatiable American Appetite by David Kessler, MD takes a different approach to the obesity epidemic sweeping North America as the author looks at the sources of appetite stimulation within our culture and makes positive and attainable suggestions to help us understand and take control

of our dietary urges. While Dr. Kessler doesn't entirely blame the food industry for our over-indulgence, he makes a strong case for its complicity in our lack of self-control. It helps, perhaps, to have someone to blame, but Kessler doesn't entirely absolve the eater for his or her condition.

- Dave Saunders' Arnold Schwarzenegger and The Movies offers the reader an outstanding analysis of the life and times of this movie icon-cum-governor of the fifth largest economy in the world. Looking at the historical, biographical and cultural background of Arnie's stupendous rise from Austrian body builder to governor of California, Saunders brings to life the phenomenon of the true American story: everything and anything is possible if you have faith and are willing to work. This book is an entrancing read.
- Communion with God is Neal Donald Walsch's most recent contribution to his and many others' conversations with God. In this book, Walsch moves from the internal dialogue towards actualization of oneness and complete union with the oversoul. The book is both a process and a workbook to help believers in their spiritual journey to completion.

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Christmas
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FRIDAY, DEC. 4 5 PM - 9 PM
SATURDAY, DEC. 5 9 AM - 5 PM
SUNDAY, DEC. 6 9 AM - 4 PM

FRIDAY EVENING DINNER! 5.30 p.m.

Entrees:

Seafood lasagna	\$10.00
Vegetarian lasagna	\$10.00
Cordon bleu chicken	\$10.00

All served with choice of:
Caesar or mixed green salad,
herbes de provence potatoes,
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Soups:

Roasted curried yam	\$5.00
Sweet corn fish chowder	\$5.00
Vegetarian chili with naan bread	\$5.00

Decadent Desserts
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Christmas Calendar

- November 28-29
- December 5-6, 12-13, 16-23, 27-29

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What's On This Week

www.gulfislandstourism.com/calendar.htm



What's On - the go!
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Wed.
 Dec. 2

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

A Winter's Light. Rasma Bertz and friends perform songs for the season at Music & Munch. All Saints. 12:10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Cameron Bright Fundraiser for Jasmin. New Moon star signs autographs at GISS, 4:30 p.m.; Q&A session at The Fritz, 6:30 p.m.
Salt Spring Library Referendum. Advance poll at Ganges Fire Hall. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friends of Salt Spring Parks AGM. Meeting room at #206 - 118 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 3:20 p.m.
Salt Spring Island Poultry Club. Meeting at the Farmers' Institute meeting room. 7 p.m. Info: Pat, 250-931-5179.
Adolescence and Mental Well-Being. Discussion led by social worker at GISS multi-purpose room. 7 p.m.
Family History Centre. Open at 221 Vesuvius Bay Rd. on the first Wednesday of each month. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Info: Sonja Baker, 250-653-4430.

Thurs.
 Dec. 3

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Jon Brooks. House concert at Fridas Villa. Check for ticket availability at 250-537-1333.
Open Mic. Hosted by Stephanie Rhodes at The Local. 8 p.m.
Thursday Night Blues. At Moby's. 8-11 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Islands Trust Community Award Ceremony. ArtSpring gallery. 11 a.m. to noon.
SSI Local Trust Committee. Monthly business meeting. ArtSpring. Noon.
Family History Centre. Open at 221 Vesuvius Bay Rd. on the first Thursday of each month. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: Sonja Baker, 250-653-4430.
Bingo. At Meaden Hall. 7 p.m. Early bird games at 6:30.
EDGU. Evolutionary Spinal Maintenance Practice continues at The Gatehouse on Thursdays. 5-6 p.m. By donation. Info: Wendy, 250-653-4286 or winnie@saltspring.com.

Fri.
 Dec. 4

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Alan Moberg. Live music at the Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Live Music. At the Tree House Cafe.

ACTIVITIES

Library StoryTime: Interesting Investigations. For children in early grades and pre-schoolers. 1 p.m.
Craft Fairs. See Exhibitions, below.

Sat.
 Dec. 5

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Salt Spring Singers' Frost and Fire. At ArtSpring. 8 p.m.
Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Solo performance by Scott Hylands with Rylan Gajek on cello. All Saints By-the-Sea. 7 p.m. By donation to the food bank.
WinterCraft Entertainment. Traditional dulcimer player Christie Cook performs at WinterCraft at Mahon Hall, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Acoustic Planet Music youth performances run from 2-5 p.m.
Evening of Christmas Music. Choirs, soloists, harp and other instrumental music. At The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 6 p.m. Food bank donations accepted.

Sat.
 Dec. 5

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Paul Mowbray. Live music at the Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Daryl Chonka. At the Tree House Cafe.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Library Referendum. Polls at Salt Spring Elementary School, Fulford Elementary School and Community Gospel Chapel. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
St. Nicholas Event. Learning activities, treats and fun for kids at All Saints. 1 to 2:30 p.m. RSVP to 250-537-2171.
Pet Pictures with Santa. SPCA benefit. Mouat's Housewares. 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
NDP Christmas Bazaar. SS United Church. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Learn to Love Your Jiggly Bits. Burlesque basics workshop with Rosie. Info/register: rosie@missrosiebitts.com; or call Jen, 250-537-9976.
Christmas Wreath Workshop. With floral designer Beth Chermeff. 1-4 p.m. Info/register: 250-537-9252.
Cookie Decorating & Bake Sale. At WinterCraft at Mahon Hall. Supports Acoustic Planet program. 12 to 2 p.m.
Pub Night at the Raven. Every Saturday at Raven Street Cafe from 8 to 11 p.m.
Craft Fairs. See Exhibitions, below.

Sun.
 Dec. 6

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

A Victorian Christmas. Drama and music from the Salt Spring Fiddlers group. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.
Salt Spring Singers' Frost and Fire. Seasonal songs from North and South. At ArtSpring. 2 p.m.
Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Performance by Scott Hylands, with Rylan Gajek on cello. Salt Spring United Church. 7 p.m. By donation to the food bank.
Barley Brothers. Fulford Inn. 6:30 p.m.
Live Jazz. At Moby's. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Candlelight Vigil. Marking the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women in Canada. Centennial Park at 1 p.m.
Christmas Wreath Workshop. See Saturday listing.
Gettin' Posie with Rosie & Bianca Venice. Pin-up workshop and photo shoot for women of all ages. Info: Jen, 250-537-9976.
Basketry Workshop. Free workshop with Lorna Cammaert and Melanie Thompson at Mahon Hall (WinterCraft) from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Craft Fairs. See Exhibitions, below.

Mon.
 Dec. 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Rick Scott & David Essig. Salt Spring Folk Club performers at Fulford Hall, with opening act Chamigos. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Eckart Tolle Practising Presence Group. Every Monday. Drop-in. 7:30 p.m. Info: Amrita, 250-537-2799.
Osho Kundalini Moving Meditation. Every Monday. Drop-in. 7:30 p.m. Info: Amrita, 250-537-2799.
Life Drawing. Mondays at the Core Inn upstairs. 1 to 3:30 p.m. Info: Jose Campbell, 250-537-1121.
Toastmasters Mondays at the Crofton Room at the Harbour House. 7 p.m.

Tues.
 Dec. 8

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Steel Magnolias. The Robert Harling play directed by Suzanna Laine. An Academy Presents production at ArtSpring. 8 p.m.
Carols for Christmas. Annual Anglican Parish event at St. Mark's Church. 2 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Copper Kettle Fundraising Drive. Outside Country Grocer.
SS Transportation Commission. Meets in meeting room at 118 Fulford-Ganges Rd (off of the hallway near the CRD office). 7 p.m.

Wed.
 Dec. 9

ACTIVITIES

Islands Trust Council. Quarterly meeting of trustees from 13 islands runs at ArtSpring. 8:30 to 11:45 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. with delegations and town hall from 1 to 2 p.m.
Islands Trust 35th Anniversary Party. Gulf Islands Secondary School. 8 p.m.
Island Pathways AGM. With talk on UK walks. Lions Hall. 7 p.m.

THE FRITZ MOVIE THEATRE

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Sun. 4 pm Matinee

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Sun. & Mon. 7pm

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Pirate Radio - In the 1960s a group of 8 rogue DJs on a boat in the middle of the Northern Atlantic, played rock records and broke the law all for the love of music. The songs they played united and defined an entire generation and drove the British government crazy. By playing rock 'n roll they were standing up against the British government who did everything in their power to shut them down. Stars Philip Seymour Hoffman, Bill Nighy, Rhys Ifans, Nick Frost, Kenneth Branagh

The Men Who Stare at Goats - Reporter Bob Wilton is in search of his next big story when he encounters Lyn Cassady, a shadowy figure who claims to be part of an experimental U.S. military unit. According to Cassady, the New Earth Army is changing the way wars are fought. A legion of "Warrior Monks" with unparalleled psychic powers can read the enemy's thoughts, pass through solid walls, and even kill a goat simply by staring at it. Now, the program's founder, Bill Django, has gone missing and Cassady's mission is to find him. Stars George Clooney, Ewan McGregor, Kevin Spacey & Jeff Bridges

EXHIBITIONS

- Salt Spring Artists' Gallery** presents **The Big Small Show**, Fri., Dec. 4 to Sunday, Dec. 6. Opening night reception on Dec. 4 from 4 to 6 p.m. At **135 McPhillips Ave.** Enjoy a wine tasting with Mistaken Identity Vineyards.
- Beaver Point Christmas Craft Fair** at **Beaver Pt. Hall**. Fri., Dec. 4, 5 to 9 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 5, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Christmas Artisan Fair** at **Fulford Community Hall**. Fri., Dec. 4, 5 to 9 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- WinterCraft** show and sale sponsored by the **Salt Spring Arts Council**. At **Mahon Hall** daily from Friday, Dec. 4 through Sun., Dec. 20.
- The Affaire Between the Fairs** at **Studio Gallery on the Rock**, 401 Beaver Point Rd., Sat.-Sun., Dec. 5-6, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Meredith Fawcett Open House & Sale.** Pottery and jewellery at **122 Hillgrove Rd.** Sat., Dec. 5 & Sun. Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Starfish Gallery & Studio** is Salt Spring's newest fine art gallery, open at **1108 Grace Point Square**.
- Roderick Shoolbraid's Nature 2008-09** is the December exhibit at the **Salt Spring Coffee Company** Cafe in Ganges.
- Tess Fama — Musical Paintings & PhotoArt** is the **ArtSpring** lobby show for November.
- Lisa Lipsett** is exhibiting her work at **Island Savings Credit Union**.

Our Calendar - on your smartphone

On your smartphone, go to **getscanlife.com** and download the free software. Use the scanlife software to take photos or scan the barcode. Information in the barcode will direct your mobile browser to the on-line version of the Driftwood's What's On Calendar.

Charles Dickens

A Christmas Carol

A solo performance with Scott Hylands & Rylan Gajek on cello

Saturday, Dec 5th - All Saints, 7 pm
 Sunday, Dec 6th - SS United Church, 7 pm

Food Bank Benefit - admission by donation

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

COMMUNITY THEATRE

Steel Magnolias hits ArtSpring stage



PHOTO BY ROGER GILBERT

Cast of Steel Magnolias, the play running at ArtSpring Dec. 8 to 10.

Love, loyalty, strength and sisterhood celebrated

Six local actresses will transport audiences to 1980s Louisiana with a theatrical interpretation of the beloved script by Robert Harling, Steel Magnolias, running Dec. 8, 9 and 10 at ArtSpring.

Wendy Beatty, Randie Clark, Megan Manning, Marit McBride and sisters Christina and Sarah Penhale give life to a tale of friendship as Southern women who share their secrets with a spritz of gossip at Truvy's hair salon. In complete openness with each other, every event in their lives, from the mundane to the essential, is faced with honesty, grace, strength and perfectly done hair. In the face of tragedy, they turn to the hair salon and each other for solace and support.

Press material for the event describes Steel Magnolias as a celebration of love, loyalty, strength and the bonds of sisterhood. Under the direction of Suzanna Laine, the cast and crew have been leaving their "er's" at the door, and working on perfecting this truly funny and touching play written in honour of the author's sister.

The Academy Presents is producing the play as a fundraiser for bursary funds for the Salt Spring Arts Academy. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for high school students, available at the ArtSpring ticket centre. The play is not suitable for children under high school age.

Showtime is 8 p.m. on all three nights.

The Arts Academy asks people to please come out and support local theatre and, by extension, local arts programming for kids and families.

CRAFT FAIRS

Homegrown island charm makes for authentic experience at island craft fairs

'Tis the weekend for shopping and socializing

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The first weekend in December marks the unofficial launch of the shopping season for Salt Springers, with the simultaneous opening of three major craft fairs at Mahon, Fulford and Beaver Point halls. And while fear and dread might characterize many people's idea of Christmas shopping, a mall-free environment that supports the entire community is an experience that anyone can enjoy.

Approximately 2,000 people pass through the doors of our traditional Christmas craft fairs each year. Great numbers of artisans present their best selections of handcrafted goods: close to 60 local vendors each at Beaver Point Hall and Fulford Hall, and over 80 at Mahon Hall's WinterCraft.

It's a winning formula that's been in place for decades, and while fresh faces and new products continue to arrive, the same underlying spirit of a home-grown community event informs each fair. And with a coordinated date for the opening of the fairs, shoppers can make a day or a weekend adventure travelling between all three.

The south-end fairs at Fulford and Beaver Point Halls are the major fundraising events that keep the buildings in good condition for community use. Both are entirely volunteer-run and have become known as much for the fabulous food as for the high-quality crafts. For years, Beaver Point Hall has sold out its menu each Friday evening, while Fulford has two community kitchens going full-tilt all weekend to deliver crepe breakfasts and lovely lunches, along with an assortment of decadent desserts.

Lynn Thorburn has been organizing the Fulford Hall fair for 15 years. Proceeds from the fair pay for the hall's heating and insurance bills for the entire year, through admission fees and a small commission from vendors. But despite the commercial motivation, Thorburn said the real reason volunteers, vendors and shoppers come back every year is because they enjoy it.

"Sometimes the Friday night is like a big cocktail party without the alcohol."

LYNN THORBURN
Fulford fair organizer

"I'm a great believer in grass-roots community," Thorburn explained. "It's a wonderful feeling [at the fair]. Everyone really likes to be there."

"The craftspeople say they have a great time, the food is good, the ambiance is great. Sometimes the Friday night is like a big cocktail party without the alcohol."

Although Fulford's event (renamed the Fulford Artisan Fair this year to reflect participating vendors' high-calibre products) does advertise off-island, Thorburn said she believes the greatest proportion of customers are locals or people staying with friends. That makes the fair into not just a shopping opportunity but a social event.

"People tend to linger and chat, have a piece of cheesecake. They're not rushing in and rushing out," Thorburn observed.

Organizers at both south-end halls make sure that vendors aren't double-booked, to ensure a variety of products, and that

everyone has a chance of participating. New faces are seen each season, but some families return year after year. Children who have grown up running food from the kitchen to their families' booths and contributing their art for decorations are now manning tables of their own.

This Friday also marks the opening of WinterCraft, presented by the Salt Spring Arts Council at Mahon Hall. Unlike the south end events, Mahon Hall's artisan's will have their work available for an extended sale and exhibition through Dec. 20. Now in its 34th year, WinterCraft is a juried exhibition of work by local artisans that features gifts at almost any price point, including one-off original art works.

WinterCraft supports the activities of the Salt Spring Arts Council, including grants and scholarships to artists, the Artists in the Classroom program for the public school system, ArtCraft and the operation of Mahon Hall for the Salt Spring community.

Boasting an extended holiday program of events that includes live music and weekend workshops on cookie decorating and basketry, the Arts Council started off the season with a visit from Santa last weekend, who arrived via float plane and then made his way to the hall for photos with the kids in an event sponsored by the Driftwood.

Vivienne Pearson, managing director for ArtCraft and WinterCraft, says she puts special care into preparing for the holiday show, from planning activities and workshops to overseeing the decorating for a truly festive event.

"WinterCraft is a tremendous asset to Salt Spring Island — as people are enjoying their local Christmas shopping they are also investing in the sustainability of our unique community," said Pearson.

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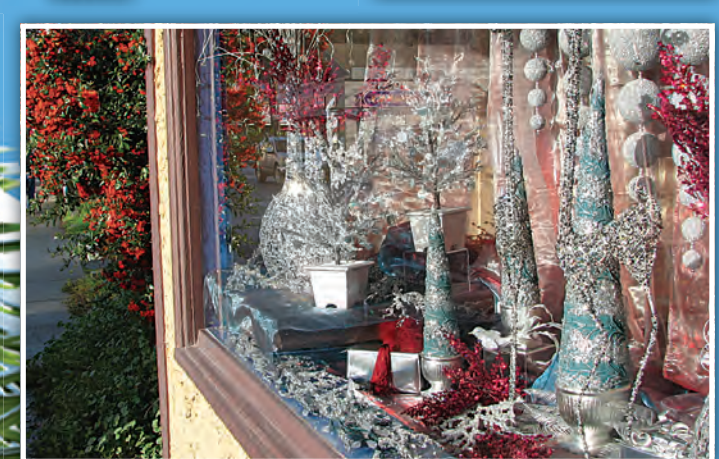



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONCERT

Mystery of Britten’s works rendered by Singers

Dec. 5-6
ArtSpring

BY MEGHAN HOWCROFT
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

You know it must be that time of year again, when the Salt Spring Singers start gearing up for their annual December concert — only this year islanders can expect something a little different.

Besides the return of the choir’s much-loved choral director Mitch Howard after undergoing treatment for a serious illness, the Singers also have some truly unusual Christmas offerings on tap, making this the must-see concert of the season.

Howard was diagnosed with multiple myeloma (a cancer of the immune system) in April of 2008. Although able to return for this year’s fall/winter choral session, he is anything but cured and still lives with the cancer every day.

“It’s an amazing treat to be back,” Howard said in a recent interview. “There’s not much that I can do out in public, so this is my one outlet, one that I can approach without worrying too much about stuff like getting sick.”

Because conducting includes only limited

exposure once a week during rehearsals, this really is the one thing that Howard can do . . . and even it is not without risks.

“But choir is one risk I’m willing to take,” he said with a laugh. “It is the highlight of my week.”

Howard can hardly believe he used to conduct while also working full-time. Because of the increase in his spare time, he now has the opportunity to really get into the music and plan the Singers’ rehearsals.

“I find I’m more present with the choir and with the music now. I don’t know how I did it before!”

This year’s concert, entitled Frost and Fire: Seasonal Songs from North and South, includes an unusual lineup of seasonal folk and art music. Islanders can definitely expect Christmas music they’ve never heard before.

Forming the backbone of the concert, pitting the music of hot climates against those of cooler regions, are Conrad Susa’s Carols and Lullabies: Christmas in the Southwest and Benjamin Britten’s Ceremony of Carols. Carols and Lullabies, commissioned in 1992 as a companion piece for Britten’s carols,

is a beautifully rendered collection of folk music at once simple and complex. For Howard, the Britten work is “a sublime example of the mystery of Christmas.”

Both the text and the music in Britten make the pieces ethereal, with some movements that can only be described as “wonderfully weird.”

“There is nothing this year that is standard fare.”

MITCH HOWARD
Singers director

Howard explained, “There’s nothing more Christmassy than Britten’s carols because there’s nothing tacky about them. This is music from another realm.”

Pairing Susa with Britten is an up-and-coming trend in choral communities, especially since both employ a harpist for accompaniment. Islanders attending Frost and Fire will have the added bonus of hearing both a professional harpist and a marimba player, as well as a multitude of Latin rhythm instruments.

The “hot” portion of the concert also features some Latvian carols and a unique song for Chanukah from the little-known Ladino community.

“There is nothing this year that is standard fare,” Howard said. “I have no doubt everybody will leave pleasantly surprised with both the depth and the breadth of the music.”

When asked why islanders should include this year’s community concert in their list of seasonal entertainment, Howard explained: “There is a huge difference in my mind between music-making as entertainment and music-making as building community. This concert isn’t just entertainment, or us singing for you. It’s us trying to engage you in something we find enjoyable.

“When you come to a community choir event, it’s really about being engaged in the process of how communities function . . . and to see your neighbour up on the stage, or the person who bags your groceries. It’s a phenomenal thing to hear Britten sung by your neighbour instead of a professional choir.”

“Anybody can put on a CD and be entertained,” Howard said. “But you’re

getting an engineered experience. The beauty of live, community music is that you get a really genuine, honest experience of what it is to make music.”

For Howard, conducting for two hours a week is actually a three-day affair. In order to have the energy required, he rests on Monday and all day Tuesday until rehearsal, and then sleeps most of Wednesday. But it is worth it.

“It’s a blessing to be back,” he said with a smile. “Two bone marrow transplants later and I can still participate, if only at a minimal level, in the community that I love.”

The Singers perform at ArtSpring on Saturday, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. Tickets are at ArtSpring.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Full steam ahead with activities through Dec.

WHAT’S ON AT ARTSPRING

Warm your toes and your heartstrings this December with festive seasonal events, beginning with the Salt Spring Singers’ concert and ending with ArtSpring’s free community sing-along set for winter solstice.

• **SS Singers’ Frost and Fire: Seasonal Songs from North and South** — Saturday, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. This concert, presented by Salt Spring Singers with Mitch Howard back on the podium, features Benjamin Britten’s A Ceremony of Carols and Conrad Susa’s Carols and Lullabies: Christmas in the Southwest. It contrasts cool, sometimes icy harmonies, with the fiery warmth of Spain and the Southern US. The Singers will be accompanied by Jennifer Howard (piano) and guests Josh Layne (harp), Luanne Katz (marimba) and Geoff McFarlane (guitar).

• **Victorian Christmas Concert & Party** — Sunday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. ArtSpring Theatre and Bateman Gallery. A violin concert with a delightful narration that takes the audience through the traditions of the holiday that are rooted in Victorian times. Fun, informative, featuring beautiful music, dancing, singing and poetry. The second act, a parlour scene (in the Bateman Gallery), includes traditional treats from the time and mulled cider. Guaranteed to bring out the Christmas spirit in everyone!

• **Steel Magnolias** — Tuesday, Dec. 8 through Thursday, Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. Produced by The Academy Presents, the play by Robert Harling stars local actors Wendy Beatty, Randie Clark, Marit McBride, Megan Manning, and Christina and Sarah Penhale. The close-knit women at Truvy’s Beauty Salon,

the unofficial hub of Chinquapin, Louisiana, have lots of time to gossip. Their husbands — absent, depressed or dead — have made sure of that. Alternately hilarious and touching, the play focuses on the camaraderie of these six Southern women who talk, gab, gossip, chitchat, needle and harangue each other through the best of times — and cry, caress, comfort and repair one another through the worst. The women at Truvy’s beauty parlour are the steel magnolias of the title: Southern belles, flowery on the outside, but strong enough inside to survive any challenge.

• **Celestial Music with SS Concert Band** — Saturday, Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. A concert by a collection of dedicated and talented wind and percussion players striving to transport listeners to the far reaches of the heavens and stars. The Salt Spring Concert band, under the direction of Dawn Hage, will perform an eclectic program of music that honours both the International Year of Astronomy and the joy and reverence that surrounds the holiday season. 2009 Solo Competition Winner, soprano Danielle Topaz, will sing Caresse sur l’ocean from the hit movie Les Choristes, as well as a stunning arrangement of Ave Maria for voice and winds by Franz Biebl.

• **Sharon Minemoto Trio** — Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2:30 p.m. Vancouver’s Sharon Minemoto is another of the fine musicians to have emerged from Capilano College’s renowned jazz program. Both her quintet and jazz trios have been featured at the Vancouver International Jazz Festival, The Vernon Jazz Club, The Okanagan Jazz and

Blues Society, The Powell Street Festival, The Hornby Island Arts Festival, Festival Vancouver, the Jazz On The Wing series in Whitehorse, and at Club JZ in China. Sharon is a superb pianist who has studied with Geoff Keezer and with Don Thompson. This will be an afternoon of cool arrangements of jazz standards as well as Sharon’s widely respected original compositions.

• **GISS Dance** — Tuesday, Dec. 15 and Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. In end-of-term performances, GISS students in Grades 9, 10 and 11 explore and find power in the expressive qualities of dance. The dance pieces have a variety of themes: love, relationships, holding the students’ power against negative influences and finding their way in life as young people. These themes are important to the dancers and are what informs their work.

• **Met Opera Live in HD** — Les Contes D’Hoffman — Saturday, Dec. 19 at 10 a.m. Offenbach’s fictionalized take on the life and loves of the German romantic writer E.T.A. Hoffmann is a fascinating psychological journey. Met music director James Levine conducts a stellar cast, including Anna Netrebko as the tragic Antonia, Kate Lindsey as the ambiguous Nicklausse and Alan Held as the demonic four villains. Tony Award-winner Bartlett Sher directs this new production.

• **ArtSpring Community Sing-along** — Monday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. Sing in the season with community members and local stars of the stage at this annual, free Christmas event. Please bring a food bank donation.

• Note: ArtSpring will be closed from Dec. 23 -29 inclusive.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

WRITERS’ CELEBRATION: Visiting performance poet Sheri-D Wilson was among many congratulating Salt Spring writer Brian Brett on his Writers’Trust of Canada award for Trauma Farm: A Rebel History of Rural Life at a Theatre Alive literary evening featuring Wilson. The award, among Canada’s highest honours for writers, was announced last week.

ARTS & CRAFTS

Studio Gallery on the Rock welcomes fair-goers for weekend

Two artists promote work at Beaver Point locale

Situated between Fulford and Beaver Point halls, Studio Gallery on the Rock is hosting the Affaire Between the Fairs during the weekend of the Christmas craft fairs, Dec. 5 and 6.

Home to the art of sculptor Ineke de Jong and painter and glass-fusion artist Rachel Vadeboncoeur, the Studio Gallery offers large and small works to satisfy a wide range of tastes.

“Having gleaned inspired insight into movement and human form during her time working as a professional dancer, de Jong expresses herself in figurative sculptures in terra cotta and cement fondu that are abstract, unique and moving,” explains a press release about the event. “Well known to islanders as the manager of Salt Spring Transit, she invites you to drop by and experience her soul work.”

Vadeboncoeur manifests her artistic vision through the mediums of stained glass, glass fusion, acrylic painting and sculpture. Many of her paintings incorporate fused glass, creating an exciting three-dimensional effect. Vadeboncoeur offers a range of artwork from paintings and small glass pieces, to stained glass windows; all of her works strike a luminous chord of joy and authenticity.

Affaire Between the Fairs runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Saturday and Sunday. Studio Gallery on the Rock is #28 on the studio tour at 401 Beaver Point Rd.

Capital Regional District



Notice of Adoption of Bylaw 3643, Amendment to Hartland Landfill Tipping Fee and Regulation Bylaw

The Board of the Capital Regional District (CRD) gives notice that it intends to adopt Bylaw 3643, Hartland Landfill Tipping Fee and Regulation Bylaw No. 5, 2003, Amendment Bylaw No. 8, 2009, at its meeting of Wednesday, December 9, 2009, in the Board Room at 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC.

The purpose of the bylaw is:

- to increase the tipping fee for general refuse by \$5 to \$100 per tonne at the Hartland landfill, effective January 2, 2010
- to accept out-of-region controlled waste that is waste asbestos, contaminated gypsum board or wallboard
- to accept out-of-region general refuse from the Cowichan Valley Regional District under emergency conditions.

A copy of the bylaw may be inspected between the hours of 8:30am - 4:30pm, Monday - Friday inclusive, from the date of this Notice until December 9, 2009 at the CRD locations listed below:

- Public Notice Posting Place, Main Floor Foyer, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria
 - Hartland Landfill Administration Offices, Hartland Avenue, Victoria
 - on the CRD website www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/solidwastehartlandla/_index.htm
- Select Bylaw 3643 from the list of bylaws.

Questions regarding the bylaw may be directed to John Craveiro, Environmental Services, Tel: 250.360.3164 or 1.800.663.4425 (local 3164).

Dated November 23, 2009

Carmen Thiel
Corporate Officer



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FAMILY RESOURCES

Family Place ready for business at new, central Ganges location

Same great services unfold in new building

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

For someone who has frequented the Family Place's former location on Fulford-Ganges Road, entering the new Park Drive locale provokes a strange sense of déjà vu.

The cozy living room features the same sectional couch with room for a bevy of nursing mothers. The bookshelves hold the same combination of parenting guides and illustrated stories.

But the déjà vu feeling ends with further exploration of the character home owned by the neighbouring All Saints church. Pretty painted walls in soft aquamarine or butter yellow are set to advantage with polished wood trim. A large, open and fully equipped kitchen provides a table large enough to host meetings, while the back porch looks over a jewel-like fenced back yard. Out front, the fenced yard has a playground and a newly constructed tricycle track.

Downstairs on the ground level, there's a clothing exchange room with a sewing machine for people to borrow, a toy library and an absolute luxury: a free-use washer and dryer where parents can pop a load in while their kids play.

Ragnhild Flakstad, longtime coordinator of the program sponsored by Salt Spring Community Services, said the new location was offered last spring with the ending of a group living program for independent teens. Low-income housing at Murakami Gardens and changing community needs meant that program was no longer necessary, but All Saints still wanted to use the house for the good of the community.

Flakstad was thrilled to take on a new



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Mark LeCorre serves up pancakes at a Family Place program called Dad 'N Me.

home for the Family Place, bringing the long-running facility right into Ganges. Popular programs include Stay & Play three mornings a week, Rugg Huggers baby and parent drop-in on Fridays, and the Dad 'N Me pancake breakfast on Saturdays.

"Something that's a little different than the Ministry of Education's Strong Start program is we're as much for parents as the children," Flakstad said. "We provide a safe and clean environment for the kids, but the parents can network and visit over a cup of tea or coffee while the kids play."

A full spectrum of early years programming is also offered, including one-to-one support and counselling and parent education programs. Flakstad is avail-

able after Stay & Play hours for individual counselling sessions by appointment. She said families with young children may just need someone to talk to on issues like separation and divorce, early childhood behaviour, grief and loss and parenting as a grandparent.

With sea views out the front windows and a fabulous location with lots of parking to recommend it, all that's lacking is for the word to get out, Flakstad said.

For more information on specific times and programs, visit www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca/earlychildhood/familyplace.htm or drop by in person at 120 Park Drive.

Family Place's phone number is still 250-537-9176.

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Driftwood OWNER'S MANUAL

..... chapter 2

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Does the Driftwood use news tips and sports scores?

Yes! We want your news tips, sports scores and short write-ups from games and sports events. News tips can be submitted any time — the news@gulflands.net e-mail is checked regularly — and sports items are ideally received on paper, by phone or e-mail by 10 a.m. on Monday.

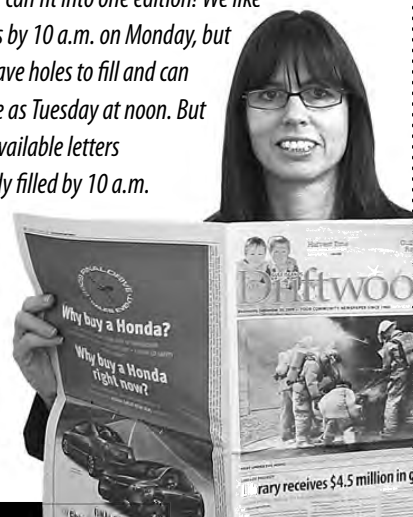
Do you accept cool photos or video?

Yes again. We definitely appreciate submissions by our citizen journalists, even if we don't always have room for them. Watch the Weekender for occasional pages of submitted photos. We'd love to receive video footage from breaking news or community events for posting online. Check the website for specifications.

How do I submit a letter to the editor?

Send them to news@gulflands.net, fax to 250-537-2613, or drop them off at the Driftwood office — 328 Lower Ganges Road. Aim for 350 words or less. The shorter the letter, the more of them we can fit into one edition! We like to have all letters by 10 a.m. on Monday, but sometimes we have holes to fill and can take them as late as Tuesday at noon. But sometimes the available letters pages are already filled by 10 a.m. Monday!

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How do I submit an opinion piece?

Longer opinion pieces — Viewpoint, In Response, In Depth — are also welcomed but may not make it into the paper as quickly as a letter. Priority is given to pieces on current local news topics. Viewpoints can be up to 600 words in length, while 900 words is the max for other opinion pieces.

How can I check on past articles in the Driftwood?

Talk to anyone at the Driftwood front office about your specific request. Sometimes it might involve coming into the office to look through our archives. Sometimes a story can be e-mailed to you.

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TURNING TO US FOR ALMOST 50 YEARS

Charity begins at home



COLIN NICOL
General Manager, Wealth Management
Island Savings Credit Union

During the holidays, it’s important to turn our thoughts to those in need—and to opportunities to give. Take some time to review the donations you’ve made over the year and consider whether there’s room to make a contribution to your favourite charity in time for Christmas.

If you don’t have a charity in mind, look online, visit a neighbourhood charity’s office or call them to ask questions. If you don’t have time to research a specific charity, look for organizations that support broader causes such as the

United Way or the Victoria Foundation.

Most charities have a systematic donation plan which allows you to donate monthly with your credit card or by debiting your bank account, or through contributions deducted directly from your paycheque. This will save you from having to donate a larger sum at the end of the year. A registered charity will also provide you with the required forms for tax filing purposes. Giving to the needy is the first priority, but remember that donations to registered charities provide you with tax credits which will also benefit you. A win-win!

Keep reading this publication for more answers and financial planning insight.

Have questions of your own? Come speak to any advisor on my team at an Island Savings branch near you today, or email me at cnicol@iscu.com.

PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

Frozen hummingbird feeders: islanders search for solutions

Q: We have four to six hummingbirds still coming to our feeder. I know some species overwinter on the coast, but I am worried about them if there is a freeze. Does anyone have any advice for keeping our feeder from freezing?

— Gail Neumann, Salt Spring Island (originally posted to the Salt Spring community email list) and a Driftwood reader who dropped into the office a while back.

A: The species of hummingbirds seen at Gulf Islands feeders during winter, according to retired biologist John Sprague, is the Anna’s hummingbird (*Calypte anna*).

Rufous hummingbirds (*Selasphorus rufus*) are often spotted here, but they migrate south during winter.

Anna’s hummingbirds, however, remain on throughout winter on the Gulf Islands. When the winter flowers and sap lie under snow cover, these fast-flying hummers rely on local sugar water feeders to survive winter.

How to keep feeders flowing with their water/sugar mixture in sub-freezing temperatures is a hot topic among local bird lovers.

Fortunately, sugar water will not freeze until a few degrees below zero, so local birders have some leeway when trying to keep feeders from turning to ice.

Sprague admits that during particularly chilly periods last year he changed his feeder every four and a half hours to keep one step ahead of the freeze.

Other local birders, searching for a better way of keeping feeders warm, have recently appealed to one another via the Salt Spring Community email list.

Here were suggestions for keeping feeders warm in winter that were posted on the email list throughout November:

- Wrap a string of Christmas lights around it
- Point a flood light at it from about from about a foot away
- Keep it under the cover of a porch or next to the house
- Keep it in a location protected from the wind
- Bring it in at night
- Keep a few feeders inside and rotate them
- Insulate bottle type feeders with bubble wrap
- Use heat lamps
- Get up early in the morning and run the feeder under hot water

Sprague has just ordered a candle warmer from www.candlewarmers.com (\$6 USD) and he plans to affix it to the base of a flat-bottomed feeder.



PHOTO: MAHLNESS/PHOTOSTREAM ON FLIKR.COM

An Anna’s hummingbird at a feeder.



Amy
Geddes

YOUASKED

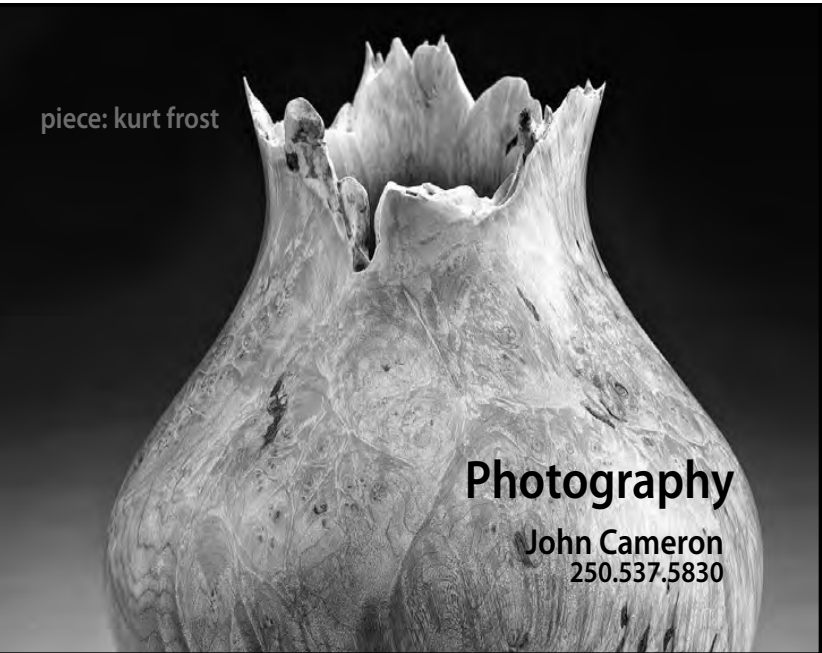
READ THE BLOG AT WWW.GULFISLANDS.NET/WORDPRESS

I’m hoping his invention works so he can have some free time this winter. Running out in the snow (I’m imagining him in slippers) to change his feeders every few hours — to me, that is the perfect mix of both the mad and the heroic that I so admire in devout ornithologists.

NOTE: A quick scan of the conversations on the email list shows some locals are torn on whether or not it is desirable or necessary to feed our little hummers over winter. According to Wikipedia, scientists have found that the Anna’s hummingbird can survive periods of sub-freezing weather by lowering its metabolic rate and entering a state of torpor (temporary hibernation). Some say they survive without feeders. Others worry the home feeders make the birds dependent and when the sugar water freezes, they have trouble locating alternative carbohydrate sources.

Have your say. Post a comment on the blog.

piece: kurt frost



Photography
John Cameron
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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Seniors wanted for new peer counsellor training sessions

Natural listeners with desire to help others ideal for successful program

For the past number years, a group of Salt Spring volunteers has been quietly offering an invaluable service to island seniors.

The senior peer counsellors group of the Wellness Program provides a supportive role to any island senior in need of the free service, which can be simply summarized as one of “active listening.”

“They love it and are very faithful to the program,” says Wellness Program coordinator Sharon Glover of her current group.

In early 2010 Glover will train up to 15 new senior peer counsellors, in the first such session offered locally in five years.

Senior peer counsellors should have the following attributes:

- be a senior themselves (but can be a bit younger than 65);
- be “a natural” with people and care to help seniors;

- can commit to 50 hours of initial training in February and March of 2010;
- be good listeners;
- would like to join a group of like-minded seniors.

Once training has been completed and participants matched, ongoing support is provided through monthly meetings and further training, as required.

Initial training takes place over an eight-week period beginning in February, although Glover asks people to inquire and register before the end of December. They can do so by calling her at 250-537-4607.

Glover stresses that men are certainly encouraged to become senior peer counsellors.

“We need to have that kind of mix,” she said.

Glover says participants will meet some wonderful people and new friends.

The senior peer counselling training session is made possible thanks to a grant from the Salt Spring Island Foundation, for which Glover is extremely grateful.

PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

SANTA HUG: Met by a crowd of children after flying into Ganges on a Salt Spring Air floatplane, Santa scoops up one of his young fans for a hug. The annual Driftwood-sponsored visit by Santa took place in Ganges on Sunday.

FUNDRAISERS

All funds raised for Rarámuri trip

All-round community effort makes it possible

As a result of a successful fundraising dance held at Fulford Hall in November, Salt Spring-based Terralingua can bring a group of indigenous Rarámuri people to Salt Spring next spring for an intercultural educational exchange.

“We have been working with the Rarámuri in their communities for several years, and now it’s time for them to visit here,” said Tania Aguila of Terralingua. “The fundraiser was a great success. It brought together over 200 people from different ages to dance to popular Cuban rhythms. It was an inter-generational gathering, including small children with their parents and a good number of teenagers, all dancing for a good cause.”

Aguila said the group has received support from many quarters, including School District 64 superintendent Jeff Hopkins. They were also proud to receive the endorsement of the new National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, who in his letter recognized the Terralingua project as a “meaningful initiative that should be supported and celebrated for the innovation and modernization of education.”

Aguila also extended “warmest thanks to each and every volunteer who made the fundraiser a reality, and to all the local businesses and artists that generously offered items for our silent auction.”

Volunteers included Ometepe-Gulf Islands Friendship Association members who helped run the bar, especially Brian Finnemore who went the extra mile, “and many wonderful helpers:” Daisy and Emma Sky Dilts, Heather Reynolds, Mary Anne and Debby Stevenson, Tilai and Lou Ellis, Maya Nordine, Corrina Grace, Jacqueline Kennedy and Margarita DaSilva, Shanti and Yasmin Amal, Ury Corcio, Andrea, Marcello and Jose Sanchez, Hanna Brown, Krishna Rodriguez, Kathalina and

all the others who offered a helping hand during the event.

Businesses and individuals who donated for the silent auction were Country Grocer, Salt Spring Adventure Co., Foxglove, Choices, Thrifty Foods, Blossom Botanicals, Saltspring Soapworks, Fables Cottage, Antonio Alonso Woodturning, West of the Moon, Rainbow Road Trading Co., Funk Hats, Salt Spring Books, Acoustic Planet Music, TJ Beans, Island Star Video, Unusual Jewellery, Lou Ellis, Andrea Sanchez Aguila, Jose Sanchez, Daniel Flores Nature in Form, Dawne Fennell and Don Monteith, Luisa Maffi and David Rapport, Billie Woods, Derrick Milton, Bob Stimpson, Waterfall, and Yasmin Amal.

Terra Lingua advises people to stay tuned for more information about the Rarámuri visit in 2010.

CONFERENCES

Electrical engineering meets new physics of consciousness

Dec. 12-13 at GISS

A cutting-edge scientist has put Salt Spring on his 2009-10 world tour.

Dan Winter, known as a “fractal field inventor,” presents Sacred Geometry and Breakthru Fractal Science of Spirit at Gulf Islands Secondary School next weekend.

The program runs from 1 to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12 and 13, with a range of topics including deep physics of alchemy, fractal field technologies, measuring and creating sacred space, fractal secrets of life force, breakthrough technologies and the healing earth grid.

Tickets are available at Salt Spring Sound or Windflower Moon, with a cost of \$50 for one day or \$80 for both.

More information is online at www.golden-mean.info.

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Christmas Story Writing Contest

The deadline for our annual writing contest is **Thursday, December 3rd.**
Win a cash prize for a story of up to 500 words about Christmas or the Christmas Season.

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

Teachers: Classes with the highest participation level are eligible to win a donation of \$100 made on behalf of the class to the charity of their choice!

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Families welcome to meet the real St. Nicholas

All Saints hosts story-centred event on Saturday

The Anglican Parish of Salt Spring is holding a special event for island families at All Saints By-the-Sea this weekend.

The parish is inviting children — especially those between the ages of three and seven — and their siblings, parents and friends to learn about “the real Santa Claus” by attending its St. Nicholas event on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Learning activities and fun will celebrate the life of Nicholas, Bishop of Myra and patron saint of children and sailors.

Activities will include Montessori-method-based learning centres, which encourage children to reflect on “I wonder” questions using stories about St. Nicholas.

A cookie decorating table and simple treats will also be on hand.

A visit from Bishop Nicholas is also expected, so families should bring cameras to capture a photo of him with the kids.

People are also asked to bring an unwrapped gift for someone very young or very old.

“The feast of St. Nicholas helps to encourage a spirit of giving rather than receiving and teaches us about the compassion and caring for those in need demonstrated by this saint, and it reminds us that this parish once had a church dedicated to St. Nicholas in Vesuvius,” said the Rev. Richard Stetson, the new rector of the Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island.

Families are asked to please send an RSVP to the church office at 250-537-2171 or ssanglican@shaw.ca.

Photos are available for purchase @ our on-line photostore

gulflslandsdriftwood.com



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

LIPPY: Kirsty Girard adds her lips to the “sexiest lips contest” board at Pharmasave Uptown’s annual Women’s Wintereve event last Friday night.

SENIORS HEALTH

Island caregivers sought for new program at UVic

Coping with transitions in dementia one of the benefits

An innovative educational program will provide Salt Spring caregivers who deal with dementia the opportunity to explore the loss and grief issues associated with the illness.

“There is relatively little information about grief, or how to address it, associated with progressive cognitive decline or dementia,” explains project leader Dr. Penny MacCourt, from the Centre on Aging at University of Victoria.

“Unattended caregiver grief can compound other stressors and increase caregiver distress and negative health consequences.”

The new Coping with Transitions program will connect Salt Spring caregivers with a skilled registered coach with extensive knowledge and experience in counselling caregivers of people with dementia.

Coaching is being offered individually by phone, and in telephone and on-line groups.

This means that caregivers do not need to leave home or travel winter roads.

Evening or weekend coaching is available to accommodate people who work during the day.

“The group formats allow participants to share experiences and to learn from each other,” said MacCourt.

“Individual tele-coaching has the advantages of caregivers being able

to arrange a time that suits them, and they do not pay phone charges.”

Interested residents must pre-register for the program by contacting MacCourt toll-free at 1-877-244-0419.

She will explain the research project, answer any questions and provide assessment forms that are required before the first meeting.

While in the program, participants will explore the loss and grief issues of the caregiving experience.

“The dementia journey requires ongoing adjustment to many changes over a long period of time that result in feelings of loss,” said MacCourt.

“You are witnessing the progression of your family member’s dementia. The progression results in many changes: in your relationship, in shared activities, in roles and responsibilities, in dreams and plans for the future and in living circumstances, to name just a few.”

The goal of Coping with Transitions is to identify tools and strategies for weathering the losses and provide a greater number of options for caregivers to better meet their needs.

“We will be evaluating how helpful this educational program is to caregivers.

“Increased access to support will benefit them and may delay the need for placement for their family members with dementia.”

The program is funded by the Alzheimer Society of Canada, and supported by Vancouver Island Health Authority and the Alzheimer Society of B.C.

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

HERITAGE

Local architect receives widespread recognition for conservation projects

Jonathan Yardley's passion for history earns kudos

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Enthusiasm and energy are two words that might best describe Jonathan Yardley. An architect who turns 70 this week, Yardley has more projects on the go than most people half his age. A recent spate of honours shows that his work is not only interesting but important, a combination anyone would envy.

Yardley has been working from his home base on Salt Spring since 1974, when he moved here with his wife to raise a family and have more space. In recent years, with the kids grown, they've downsized from a hobby farm to a smaller waterfront home.

Coming originally from England, where living reminders of ancient history abound, Yardley has observed a reluctance to respect history in B.C.

"I think we have to respect our built environment and its background and where it comes from — if we're not careful one can lose sight of that perspective and how it connects to the future."

Yardley's commitment to conserving heritage is reflected in his work serving on the boards of both the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals and the B.C. Association of Heritage Professionals. He just finished a term as past president of Heritage B.C.

He has been recognized this year with the nationwide CAHP Award for Preservation of a Heritage Building for the Sikh Temple in Abbotsford and the Award for Heritage Planning for the Dawson City Heritage Management Plan. Last May he received an Award of Merit from the Hallmark Society for the restoration and adaptive reuse of the Butterworth Cottage on the grounds of Government House in Victoria. This project,

MENTAL HEALTH

Focus on adolescence at GISS event

Social worker facilitates Dec. 2 discussion

A special event at Gulf Islands Secondary School will help educate parents about mental health challenges and teenagers.

The evening of information and sharing stories on the theme of Adolescence and Mental Well-Being led

by social worker Laura Allen takes place tonight (Wednesday, Dec. 2), from 7 to 9 p.m.

Allen will address concerns of adolescence, including signs of mental health challenges such as anxiety and depression.

All parents are encouraged to attend the free event.

For more information, call Lori at 250-653-9090.



Jonathan Yardley at his Salt Spring office.

PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

"You look at a building and work out its history, how it was built — it's fascinating."

JONATHAN YARDLEY
Architect

the only one commissioned by the B.C. government to celebrate the "BC150" anniversary, also received an Award of Recognition in June from Heritage B.C.

Describing himself as a conservation architect, Yardley referred to a quotation by a famous proponent of the field: Martin E. Weaver's father was a Scotland Yard detective, and he saw his job as a detective of buildings. This description works well for Yardley, too. "You look at a building and work out its history, how it was built — it's fascinating."

Although even at 70 he shows no signs of slowing down, Yardley is becoming more selective about the projects he'll work on. His favourite proposals make adaptive reuse of an existing building, combining modern elements with the past in a way that honours both.

This doesn't mean replicating older styles, but working with existing components to create "visible layers of history."

"Most buildings and structures, if they're looked after, can last a really long time. The trick is to find a use," Yardley said.

For the past year, Yardley has flown to Vancouver every Thursday to consult with architects working on the Woodward development, where his focus is the original 1908 structure.

Other projects include rebuilding the Kinsol Trestle in Cowichan, the conversion of the old post office into a community arts centre and theatre in Dawson Creek, and acting as heritage consultant for a new hospital in Dawson City. He'll be working with a group of architects from Calgary on a rehabilitation and conservation project involving the Cave and Basin Hot Springs in Banff. Locally, Yardley was recently instrumental in finding funds and recognition for Fulford Hall's heritage significance.

Also on Salt Spring, where the family has built up meaningful friendships and ties to the community in their 30-odd years here, Yardley has been actively badgering the Islands Trust for 20 years to

form a heritage commission and a heritage plan. So far he's succeeded in getting about a dozen homes listed as having heritage significance in the official community plan.

Ultimately, Yardley's efforts to conserve heritage encompass not just architecture but all the components of human habitation.

"It's not just because something's old, but about connection to the human history of the people living there," Yardley explained. "It's not just homes, but fields, fences, trees, everything. That's part of the history and the heritage."

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- * **Let's Do Brunch:** Tuesday, 9:30am - 12:30pm
- * **Food Bank:** Open Tuesday, 11am - 4pm
- * **The Wall:** Indoor Rock Climbing Gym, open Thurs. & Sun. 6:30-9:30 pm. Information: ahasenfratz@gmail.com or 250-537-8970
- * **Recycle Depot:** Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 250-537-1200.
- * **Seniors Wellness Programs:** Call Sharon Glover at 250-537-4607.
- * **Emergency Mental Health Services:** Available 4 pm to midnight at Lady Minto Hospital. Call 250-538-4840
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Spirit of Salt Spring



The recent cellphone recycling program, co-sponsored by the Salt Spring Recycling Depot, Thrifty Foods and the Driftwood, raised \$389.10 for the Salt Spring Island Community Food Bank.

(l-r) Peter Grant, Mike Boizard and Peter McCully thank all who recycled their cellphones for the promotion, with special thanks to Energy Options.

The Spirit of Salt Spring is a regular feature in the Driftwood for local businesses and organizations to publicize charitable donations.

First-come, first-served basis as space permits.

Call Peter for details.

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