



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 51ST YEAR — ISSUE 16

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

NATIVE ART: Salt Spring's Jeannie Paynter looks closely at the face of a First Nations sculpture before it and others in the background head to the Wickaninnish Interpretive Centre at Pacific Rim National Park in Tofino. Paynter painted all the faces on the pieces, which were created by Bryn Finer.

FIRE DISTRICT

Brinkworthy proposed for fire hall site

Discussions underway with ALC

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Attendees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District's annual general meeting on Monday learned the long search for a new fire hall site could come to rest at Brinkworthy.

Michael Schubart, chair of the fire district's board of trustees, reported the owner of the Brinkworthy complex has offered to donate a two-acre parcel from an unused 14-acre field to the community as the replacement site for Fire Hall #1 in Ganges.

As the field is currently part of the Agricultural Land Reserve, the board is taking a proactive approach of talking to members of the Farmers' Institute to seek their support before meeting

with the Agricultural Land Commission.

Trustee Richard Hannah, who is an active member of the fire hall committee, said there is another potential but less preferable site on Norton Road. The Brinkworthy property has the advantage of meeting all the technical requirements and is situated just at the northern limits of where the board would like the new hall to be.

Schubart explained during a follow-up interview that the idea had been raised by Brinkworthy owner Tristar Communities Ltd. as much as a year ago, but details had to be worked out while that company attended to its proposal to convert its manufactured home complex to a bare land strata.

"I'd have to say with geographic and other considerations this is certainly among the best of the sites," Schubart agreed Tuesday, adding only the unavailable BC Hydro property had better specifications.

The Brinkworthy location is within the critical two-kilometre range of Ganges centre, on a main road, relatively flat and adjacent to a power source. The nearby hydro lines do not pose a problem to radio communications and the site is close to other emergency services such as the RCMP detachment.

Even better is the free price tag, potentially saving the district \$500,000 or more towards land purchase.

FIRE HALL continued on 4

WATER

CRD floats water solution

New monitoring process could end water advisory

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Installation of a monitoring system at the Highland water treatment plant could spell the end to a three-month drinking water advisory for the area's approximately 250 households, according to a Capital Regional District spokesperson.

Stewart Irwin said plans to install a new communications system and a chlorine analyzer at the plant mean residents could be drinking water from their taps within two to four weeks.

Toxin-producing algae in St. Mary Lake continue to flourish, according to the latest information from Capital Regional District and North Salt Spring Waterworks District staff who've been monitoring the situation since January.

"We continue to monitor it and the toxins continue to be detectable in untreated water," said Trevor Hutton, general manager of the NSSWD.

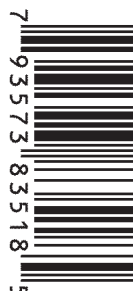
Though chlorine treatment at the Highland plant is able to kill the toxin, the lack of any alarm to warn of a chlorination failure means "the toxin could enter the Highland distribution system without anyone knowing it."

No such problems exist at either the Fernwood or NSSWD treatment plants.

The \$10,000 upgrade will

WATER continued on 2

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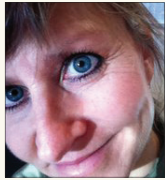
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TUES: Blue-green algae in Weston Lake
MON: Saanich-GI riding TV clip
FRI: St. Mary Lake water update
www.twitter.com/GIDriftwood

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Patience Bell is the Driftwood's Facebook "Fan of the Week." Unicorn Photography is her island business.

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NEWSBEAT

WATER QUALITY

Algal bloom toxin strikes Weston Lake

CRD issues water advisory to 18 south end households

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Residents of the Fulford Harbour drinking water system who live on Sunnyside and Tahouney roads are advised not to use their tap water for drinking or food preparation in the wake of an algal bloom on Weston Lake.

"It appears to be similar to what's taking place in St. Mary Lake [at the Highland Water Service District,]" said Stewart Irwin, a water quality expert who works for the Capital Regional District, on Tuesday afternoon.

Residents can obtain water from a

valve in front of 122 Sunnyside Rd. until further notice.

"The drinking water at this tap has passed through two separate chlorination process steps: one at the Reynolds Road chlorination plant and the second at the new treatment plant," reads part of the April 19 advisory.

As with the St. Mary Lake bloom, Irwin cannot say how long the drinking water advisory will last. Residents of the Highland system have been subject to a drinking water advisory since January 26.

Water samples taken from Weston Lake indicate microcystin concentrations of roughly 1.73 micrograms per litre.

Irwin said the advisory has been implemented as a precautionary measure given that test results are "not tremendously

high." Households affected by the advisory are not served by the district's new water treatment plant.

"Tap water on Sunnyside and Tahouney can still be used for showering, bathing, washing dishes and brushing teeth. Boiling the water has no effect on this toxin."

Irwin said reports of a dead horse seen floating in the lake late last week are being investigated by the Vancouver Island Health Authority. The horse carcass is not related to the algal bloom, he added.

The bloom is a result of excess levels of phosphorus in the lake.

For updates on the Sunnyside and Tahouney road advisories, visit the CRD website at www.crd.bc.ca or call 250-360-3061.

VIHA approval needed for new water detection system

WATER

continued from 1

mean the plant can be automatically shut down and CRD staff would be notified if a chlorine failure is detected.

The new system must be approved by the Vancouver Island Health Authority's chief medical health officer before the water advisory is lifted.

"It will provide us with some

assurance that we can deliver water safely and offer residents the assurance that their water is safe to drink," Irwin said.

According to information provided by the CRD, Highland residents will still be able to access water during a shut-down.

In other water district news:

Veteran water-guru and retired engineer Bob Watson

was elected April 12 to serve another term as director on the North Salt Spring Waterworks' board of directors.

Watson rejoins the five-member board as the district embarks upon renewed discussion about raising the weir at St. Mary Lake to secure long-term drinking water supplies.

Hutton said meetings with the Department of Fisheries

and Oceans held throughout the spring will precede any further public discussion, including any that involves residents with property near the shoreline of St. Mary Lake.

"We want it as close to what DFO will agree to," Hutton said.

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Newsbeat

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FEDERAL ELECTION

Dropping voter rate signals ailing democracy

Can ballot box turnout levels rebound from all-time low?

BY SEAN MCINTYRE

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Whatever the result of the May 2 federal election, a figure that's sure to get plenty of attention from journalists and pundits across the country is the percentage of Canadian voters who turn out to cast a ballot.

Voter turnout for federal elections has been on a slow decline since participation rates neared the 80 per cent level back in the early '60s. During the last election in October 2008, the level of public participation dropped to 58.8 per cent, its lowest point in the country's history.

The Saanich-Gulf Islands riding has experienced similar declines but consistently ranks among those with the highest voter turnout rates in the country, a fact commonly attributed to the riding's older demographic and relatively higher family household income.

The steady decline has left political scientists like the University of Victoria's Dennis Pilon wondering what's gone wrong and, more significantly, what can be done to reverse the trend.

Considering research conducted on voting systems throughout Canada and around the world, Pilon confidently states, "Just about anything would do better than the system we have now."

Pilon isn't alone when it comes to calling on elected officials to consider a move towards a system based on proportional representation.

Under a PR system, the number of elected officials is more closely aligned with their party's popular support. Such a system would address the 2008 Canadian election anomaly wherein the Bloc Quebecois, a party that received 10 per cent of the vote, elected representatives in 49 ridings, while the NDP's 18 per cent share of the national vote resulted in only 37 seats. The Greens, who received just under seven per cent of the vote, didn't get to send a single MP to Ottawa.

Unsurprisingly, most of the political rhetoric about electoral reform during the past several weeks of campaigning has come from NDP and Green party candidates.

Green party leader Elizabeth May has even written a book on the subject and calls for a Royal Commission to examine threats to democracy posed by our current electoral system.

"Our democracy is in crisis," May said during a recent interview.

Wendy Bergerud has dedicated nearly a decade to making sure Canadian democracy becomes more relevant through her work with Fair Vote Canada. The group is dedicated to implementing a PR system at all levels of government across



Source: Elections Canada

Voters turn out to cast ballots in a recent election.

Canada.

"The declining voter turnout is not good for democracy," said the president of Fair Vote Canada's Vancouver Island chapter from her home in Victoria. "It's a symptom of a broken voting system where more and more of us feel that our votes don't make a difference."

"Our winner-take-all system promotes nasty partisan rhetoric, rigid party discipline and discourages real engagement with voters."

Royal Commissions and electoral reform aside, Pilon's research at UVic indicates that a basic factor of voter turnout levels has to do with a party's "mobilizing agents."

In layperson terms, he said, that comes down to candidates and volunteers knocking on doors and getting face time with voters who are likely to vote for their party.

The process acts as a not-so-subtle reminder to get out and vote.

Making that connection, Pilon said, was a crucial element in Barack Obama's successful 2008 campaign. That election saw the voter turnout levels rise to nearly 57 per cent, the highest participation in a U.S. election since 63 percent of eligible voters turned out for Richard Nixon's successful

1968 election campaign.

The "doorstep campaign" has also proven a trademark feature in each of Saanich-Gulf Islands incumbent Gary Lunn's five successful campaigns.

"A lot of people will respond to that personal contact," Pilon said.

Despite the attention given to social media and the rise of online resources, Pilon said it's premature to say how influential these elements will affect overall voter turnout levels.

"Obama had a doorstep campaign and only followed up with social media," he said. "What's for sure is that social media alone, like television or any other medium, is not enough."

From a nonpartisan perspective, Pilon said, strategies such as the one-time door-to-door enumeration system that walked people through the electoral registration and voting system is a tried-and-true method for increasing voter turnout.

"People overestimate that people understand politics like shopping," he said. "What we've discovered is that people who don't feel well informed tend to avoid elections like the plague."

News briefs

Pathways get facelift

Walking on the Lower Ganges Road off-road pathway has been made easier through improved drainage and upgrading of the surface in recent weeks.

"Everyone thinks it's the cat's meow," said Partners Creating Pathways project manager Zeke Blazecka, referring to the new surface material. "People ask me if the new surface is mixed with concrete as it is so hard. Many of them say, 'You guys are doing good work.'"

The PCP group thanks Blazecka, Philip Grange and Charles Gosset's crew for a job well done.

New pathway sections should be under construction soon. Anyone wanting to help on a work party should contact Jean Gellwicks at 250-537-4859.

LTC holds extra meeting

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee has scheduled a special meeting to discuss amendments to language in draft Bylaw

No. 449 about the new Development Permit Area 4.

Trustees and staff will meet at the Islands Trust office (500 Lower Ganges Rd.) today (Wednesday) at 3 p.m. to make several "technical edits" and resolve "administrative ambiguity" contained in the draft bylaw's current form, said a Trust planner on Tuesday.

The special meeting is not intended as a forum to receive comments on the draft bylaw, which incorporates Riparian Areas Regulation provisions into the existing DPA4 to pro-

tect the island's wetlands and drinking water. Those comments will be gathered during a community information meeting at the Harbour House Hotel between 5 and 9 p.m. on April 28.

A staff report outlining proposed changes to draft Bylaw 449 will be available to the public at the Trust office on Wednesday.

Framers seek hit-and-run driver

The driver of a late-model blue Subaru SUV is getting

a second chance to confess after she fled the scene of a minor accident in front of the Pegasus Framing Gallery on Upper Ganges Road on Friday afternoon.

"We were working in the back, had the saws going and the building kind of shook," said Carmen Tetreault, manager of the Pegasus Framing Gallery.

When Tetreault and her co-workers ran to the front of the shop to investigate, they noticed an older woman parking her car and appearing to pretend as if nothing had happened.

"I don't know what her

condition was but she obviously meant to hit the brake but stepped on the gas," she said.

Within seconds of seeing the gallery's staff, the woman drove off and never returned.

Tetreault said the building sustained minor damage.

"I'm assuming her car was damaged because there's blue paint on our wall," she said.

The incident, along with the driver's licence plate number were caught on video, said gallery owner Ian Sigvaldason.



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NEWSBEAT

BC FERRIES

Ferry group members demand action on Fulford terminal and traffic issues

Ferries hopes to have something for public in June

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Ferry Advisory Committee members had tough questions about Fulford traffic issues but received no definitive responses at their semi-annual meeting with BC Ferries reps last week.

Public envoy Martyn Day summed up community frustration when he told ferry executives that residents had received no information since a public consultation meeting held last year.

"There's been no communication, no feedback. Nothing is happening and we don't know what's happening. That's our concern with Fulford."

Ferry executives said they have started a design consultation process and would like

to bring the matter back to the public in June of this year. They also noted potential problems with title to part of Fulford-Ganges Road in the village, which is divided between three private individuals as well as the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

FAC members learned after questioning that BC Ferries has taken no steps to contact the private owners and feels it's not the company's responsibility to do so. Participants also heard that some capital funds have been earmarked for the project in the 2012-13 fiscal year. However, with BC Ferry Commissioner Martin Crilly's recent challenge to the company to find some \$30 million in savings, capital projects could be the most vulnerable.

"When we say earmarked, they are earmarked, but it's a bit of a moving plan right now," BC Ferries' executive vice-president Rob Clarke said, noting the commissioner's request had caused the company to "reshuf-

fle the deck of priorities." He further observed the company's current focus is directed at negotiating the price fare caps for Performance Term Three.

In regard to BC Ferries' 20-year plan for Fulford, FAC member and island trustee George Ehring urged the executives to look into purchasing key properties now for sale in Fulford village for future terminal space.

"We're going to encourage you to move on this quickly while an opportunity exists, because sooner or later it's going to close," Ehring said.

Also at the meeting, participants heard BC Ferries' current service contract with the province leaves no room to change service levels and therefore Route 9 between Tsawwassen and the Gulf Islands will continue to stand.

"Until there is an agreement to do something different, Route 9 is safe," Clarke confirmed.

TRANSPORTATION

Highways ministry eyes Ganges Hill upgrades

Drainage work to ease pedestrians' commute

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Help is on the way for pedestrians and cyclists who've grown tired of the muddy and treacherous conditions along Fulford-Ganges Road just south of Ganges.

Baljinder Jacques said the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure plans to rebuild shoulders along the stretch of road commonly known as "Ganges Hill" to improve stability and drainage at some point before summer.

Jackie Truscott, an avid walker who frequently uses

the route to get to and from town, welcomed news that shoulders from the corner of Seaview Avenue and Fulford-Ganges Road to the Salt Spring Community Services building would be rebuilt.

Truscott said she brought the issue to the ministry's attention over fears that someone could be seriously injured or killed if nothing was done.

From her home near Fulford-Ganges Road, Truscott regularly witnesses island residents and visitors travelling through the muck and uneven terrain along the island's busiest road.

"It gets bad as soon as you get two days of rain," she said.

On summer Saturdays, she added, cars parked on both sides of the road often force pedestrians into the middle of

the street.

"I would like to know that pedestrians have some rights," she said.

The transportation ministry's commitment to perform a "surface fix" is a step in the right direction, she said.

Meanwhile, the Salt Spring Bicycle Working Group, has identified Ganges Hill as a top-priority area for a paved cycling route.

Working group coordinator Brenda Guiled said the route will form an obvious extension once the Salt Spring Transportation Commission completes work on the North Ganges Transportation Management Plan.

"Through the cycling survey report, there is consensus that the Ganges Hill has to be

done," she said.

Guiled said any move in that direction will have to wait until the provincial government undertakes a repaving of the roadway, something that hasn't even been hinted at.

The bicycle working group will launch the Salt Spring Island Cycling Report in conjunction with its "wheely fun" bicycle parade event on April 23 in Ganges.

The event features a youth ride between the Kanaka Road Skate Park and Centennial Park with people meeting at the park at 10:30 a.m. and leaving at 11 a.m.

Visit the group's website for more information: www.ssbicycleworkinggroup.blogspot.com.

Subdivision of donated land needed for fire hall site

FORE HALL

continued from 1

An obvious drawback is that the land is part of the ALR and the board will therefore have to gain permission from the ALC to permit a non-farm use. If they succeed, a subdivision and rezoning process will follow.

"We'd like to do it as expen-

ditiously as prudent," Schubarb said, but also noted the trustees will not push the plan through without care.

"I always try to be optimistic, but I've been down this road before and there are no guarantees," he said. "You can only take each step as it comes."

Also at the AGM, accountant Jean Elwell presented the audited financial statements

for 2010 and stated the records and accounts were kept correctly.

Trustee Bruce Patterson reported that committee members had met with contractor Hans Hazenboom last week to go over plans for the new training facility at the Fulford hall site. Drainage and septic plans are being finalized prior to a Capital Regional District

inspection.

Members were also congratulated for their work over the past year, in particular for their recent success in passing and exceeding requirements on three Superior Tanker Shuttle Service Accreditation tests.

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21	02:01	2.6 8.5	25	00:59	3.3 10.8
TH	06:34	3.1 10.2	MO	07:44	2.3 7.5
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22	03:18	2.7 8.9	26	01:41	3.2 10.5
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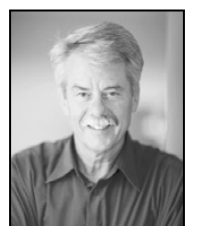


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NEWSBEAT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

SITE WORK:

An archaeological team was back in Ganges last week after three more human remains were discovered under the sidewalk adjacent to the Creek House Phase III development during preliminary construction site work.

GANGES

Shell begins site assessment

No firm timeline for environmental process

Staff from Shell Canada began to gather soil samples at the former site of Johnson's Shell station in downtown Ganges last week.

The work is being conducted to collect baseline environmental data to assess the level of hydrocarbons that have leached into the site.

Spokesperson Jeff Gabert said islanders who pass by the site during the next several months can expect to see plenty of action as

workers compile the data.

"Until we know that data, we won't know what the next step will be," he said on Thursday. "We are not sure what to do with the building."

Gabert said the site's prominent location at the heart of the island's commercial centre has encouraged him to keep people up to speed on what takes place on the site.

"Oftentimes when you have work crews there, people are just naturally interested," he said. "Given that it's so visible, I wanted

to take a look and make sure everybody knows what's going on."

Although Shell Canada leases the property, the company is responsible for costs in the event provincial government standards require cleanup of the site.

"I know people want a timeline, but it's going to take as long as it takes," he added.

Although Shell gasoline is no longer being sold on the island, Johnson's Automotive Service has reopened in the former home of the Salt Spring Coffee Co. warehouse on Alders Avenue.

MEDIA

Weekender publication put on the shelf

April 22 the last one

Driftwood Publishing Ltd. will suspend publication of the Driftwood Weekender beginning next week.

Publisher Peter McCully says production of the free eight-page Friday paper will resume when the economy rebounds.

"In the meantime we'll concentrate our resources on the Driftwood newspaper and its special features and supplements, and The Gulf Islander visitors' guide and Aqua magazine."

Regular Weekender columnists Arthur Black, Meghan Howcroft

and Patrick Cwiklinski will be accommodated in the Driftwood as much as possible, and their contributions will also be carried online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

McCully says the company continues to upgrade its online presence, with news content regularly updated through the week, occasional video reports and a redesign of gulfislandstourism.com.

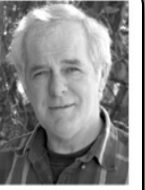
The Driftwood's E-dition, a weekly news digest emailed each Friday with links to website features, will be expanded to include more of the Weekender editorial until its return in hard copy.

To sign up for the E-dition, go to: <http://www.gulfislands.net/signup.html> where people can also follow the Driftwood on Twitter and connect to a news update service for breaking or important news stories sent out via email.

A link to the Driftwood's Facebook fan page is at the same spot. Readers' submitted photos and other extras are posted on the page, and fans can be selected as Facebook Fan of the Week in the paper on Wednesday. The page can also be found by searching Gulf Islands Driftwood on Facebook.

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Wednesday April 27th

Display deadline:

Thursday, April 21st, 2pm

Classified Display Deadline:

Monday, April 25th, 4pm

Classified Word Deadline:

Tuesday, April 26th, 10am

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Dr. James Buchan Medical School Awards

Under a trust under the will of Dr. James Buchan, provision is made for annual awards to former students of Gulf Islands Secondary School who are attending an accredited **MEDICAL SCHOOL** on a full time basis. The trustee may review a variety of criteria including:

- Academic excellence
- Financial need or
- Leadership qualities and school/community involvement.

This award may be renewable in subsequent years, should the student wish to re-apply. The value of the awards may vary.

Final deadline for applications (letter, resume, transcripts of marks, letters of reference and income information) is May 16, 2011 to the Counselling Office at GISS.

NEWSBEAT

LADY MINTO HOSPITAL

Mega Code Kelly joins training team



PHOTO BY DIANA HAYES.

Mega Code Kelly will aid in emergency room training at Lady Minto Hospital.

Who reads us?

88% of Islanders read the Driftwood each week.
-Combase survey

Versatile 'manikin'
good for all kinds of
scenarios

BY DIANA HAYES
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Mega Code Kelly, a.k.a. M.C. Kelly, is the new versatile medical training "manikin" (as spelled in the medical world) recently purchased by the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation and offering a wide range of educational opportunities for local doctors and nurses.

A big part of working at the Lady Minto Hospital is the demanding role of providing emergency room coverage on a 24/7 basis.

This means staying up-to-date with the most advanced procedures in order to treat anything and everything that comes through the doors, including such urgent and life-threatening conditions as heart attacks, multiple trauma, airway obstructions and gastrointestinal bleeds.

Chief of staff Dr. Shane Barclay is excited about this new acquisition, which he presented as a proposal to the foundation board at its February meeting. The \$12,000 teaching device was used at a weekend RemTech course provided at Lady Minto by Vancouver Island Health Authority emergency physicians. After experiencing Mega Code Kelly firsthand, Dr. Barclay came back to Salt Spring and did some homework on the advantages of having this sophisticated manikin on site.

"How does Mega Code Kelly work and what can she teach?" I asked.

The manikin is computer chip powered and can be pre-programmed with myriad medical scenarios to provide standardized training. It can also be programmed for customized scenarios.

Dr. Barclay has specifically programmed M.C. Kelly to run through medical situations such as treatment for severe head injuries, pneumothorax and difficult airway. T

These programs require users complete initial treatment or diagnostic steps successfully before the next step can be taken. In the case of emergency cardiac treatment, a total of 1,400 cardiac rhythms, with synchronized pulses, allow users to interpret and intervene with defibrillation, pacing and drug administration.

M.C. Kelly can replace the need for expensive on-site Advanced Cardiac Life Support courses and can in fact teach a broad range of solutions for abnormal cardiac rhythms. ACLS and ATLS (trauma) certification can be achieved with M.C. Kelly when a certified instructor oversees the training and testing using the manikin.

Other training opportunities include assessment of heart, breath and bowel sounds, as well as pupillary assessment of normal, constriction and dilated pupils.

The instructor-controlled blood pressure arm allows for realistic palpation and auscultation. I.V. drug administration via bolus or drip using the multivenous arm, chest tube insertion, trauma bleeding control and first aid training are all part of what M.C. Kelly can offer.

I asked Dr. Barclay how medical students learned these techniques in the pre-Mega Code Kelly days. He explained that a veterinarian had to be hired to provide live animals (usually dogs or pigs) so that procedures could be done on actual specimens. Unfortunately, following training sessions, the animals were euthanized.

"This was always a costly option," Dr. Barclay says, "as the vet had to be hired and the animals had to be obtained

and then euthanized. Not a great solution, but the only one available for a long time until this high-tech equipment became available through a company called Laerdal about 10 years ago."

There have been a number of training sessions offered to nurses and doctors over the past few months and M.C. Kelly is always available for practice. There is nothing like the real thing when it comes to perfecting medical technique.

This device will increase the competency of staff at Lady Minto, and with its pre-programmed capabilities, it can be tailored to teach the exact scenarios that are most likely to come through the emergency room doors.

Mega Code Kelly is durable, rugged and lifelike, made to withstand years of use — just what we want in a manikin. It even comes with sound effects — cough, moan, gurgle, gurgle! This purchase is another case of donor dollars going to great use and helping to save lives on Salt Spring.

The Lady Minto Hospital Foundation will be arranging a public demonstration of M.C. Kelly (with the date and time announced in the next few weeks).

Be sure to come out and see how this equipment works and how it can help those who require emergency treatment. Lady Minto will also be demonstrating a number of other recently purchased items, including the FAST ultrasound machine, the tonometer — which is a sophisticated device that measures eye pressure — and the interosseous device, which teaches correct technique for introducing I.V. lines into bone.

The writer is the planned giving and development coordinator with the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation.

All Candidates Debate

Saanich - Gulf Islands Federal Election

Thursday, April 21st,
1:30pm - 4:00pm

Gulf Islands Secondary School Gym

In attendance:

Gary Lunn - Conservative Party
Renée Hetherington - Liberal Party
Edith Loring-Kuhanga - NDP Party
Elizabeth May - Green Party

Moderator: David Wood

The moderator will accept questions from the general public. Each questioner has 30 seconds to ask his or her question.

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NEWSBEAT

RCMP NEWS

'Fowl' play answers sought

RCMP warns area residents to watch their flocks

Police continue to hunt for clues that may shed more light on a bizarre early April theft that's resulted in the disappearance of six muscovy ducks and as many as 18 hens.

Art Falardeau, known throughout his neighbourhood as the birdman of Creekside because of his extensive collection of feathered friends, said two young men in dark clothing drove up to his Creekside Drive property during the evening of April 3 in an older-style red Jeep Cherokee.

Falardeau initially thought the thieves only made off with the ducks, but later discovered that half of his 36 prized hens had also gone missing.

Falardeau said the pair returned early the following morning to steal

one or more of his pet emus. The pair were scared off by a tenant who lives on the property.

"It's a good thing because it's not easy to steal an emu in the middle of the night," he said.

The thieves escaped before he could get a glimpse of the Jeep's licence plate. Falardeau discovered a decapitated chicken near his handmade henhouse the following morning. He isn't confident that the birds will be found and returned alive.

A spokesperson for the local RCMP detachment says officers have received no further information about the incident or the birds' whereabouts.

Residents of the Creekside Drive and Beddis Road areas are advised to be on the lookout for suspicious behaviour and are encouraged to keep their animals indoors at night.

Anyone with information about the theft can reach police by calling 250-537-5555.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Art Falardeau with a beloved pet emu.

FAMILY HEALTH

CAN group aids families living with autism

Parents invited to next Wednesday's Fulford school event

Staff at the Fulford Community Elementary School invite parents to check out some of the newly acquired resources that will support children and youth diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

The tools, designed to assist families and caregivers, were donated to the school through

the Canucks Autism Network.

CAN's mission is to provide year-round, innovative, high-quality sports, recreational, social and vocational programs for individuals and families living with autism, and to build awareness and capacity through community networks across British Columbia.

The organization was launched in 1996 by Paolo and Clara Aquilini, compelled by the growing need in the community and driven by their

own personal experience of constantly searching for ways to support families living with autism.

"It is their profound desire to enhance the quality of life for these families in B.C.," reads a press release about the upcoming event.

CAN seeks to become a leader in enhancing the quality of life for families living with autism in British Columbia.

Each class at Fulford Community School has begun

using the group's "We CAN be friends" program.

Parents are invited to come to Fulford school on Wednesday, April 27 from 12 noon to 2 p.m. to join in giving thanks to the CAN and to view the new resources.

Parents and community professionals will be able to sign out the resources for a two-week period.

For more information about the organization, visit the CAN website at www.canuck-autism.ca.

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Opinion



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 Gold - Best Photo Essay Award - "Day in the Life"
 Gold - Newspaper Promotion Award - "Owner's Manual" / Bronze - Best Overall Newspaper
 Bronze - Best Special Section - "Derrick Lundy Retrospective"
 Bronze - Best Sports Photo - "John Cameron - Slugger"
2010 BC and Yukon Community Newspapers Association Awards
 Gold - Best Overall Newspaper / Silver - Best Editorial Page / Silver - Best Front Page
 Silver - Best Special Section - "AQUA Gulf Islands Living"
 Silver - Best In-House Ad Campaign - "Owners' Manual"
 Bronze - Best Community Photo - "Residents Card Program"
2010 Canadian Community Newspaper Association Awards



EDITORIAL

Voter disconnect

Since the last federal election saw the lowest voter turnout in Canadian history, how to prevent the 2011 version from beating that record has been a hot topic.

University of Victoria political scientist Dennis Pilon is an expert on the subject of voter participation. In this week's Driftwood, he suggests a move to a proportional representational system would increase the voting rate.

But as we saw in the battle for a PR system in B.C., those who benefit the most by the status quo — the dominant political parties — are not interested in promoting such a change, so it's going to be a while before we can count on results from that kind of move.

Pilon also points out that if people don't feel well informed, they just won't vote. It's hard to imagine how anyone could avoid becoming well

enough informed to cast a ballot amid the flood of information during a campaign.

THE ISSUE:

Voter turnout

WE SAY:

It's up to politicians to improve communication

But citizens understandably find it difficult to break through the melange of political rhetoric to interpret what is really being said or figure out what difference one outcome over another will make in their daily

lives.

It's really up to the political parties to find ways to connect with their voters, and despite a plethora of media tools and supposed communications experts at their disposal, those connections are often not made.

That's especially true for youth voters, where the 18 to 24 age group saw only 37 per cent participation in the last federal election. How to boost that figure has been talked about a lot in the past few weeks.

The fact is that many youth — and especially those in the Gulf Islands — are more skilled than older folks at speaking with honesty and expect that from others in all forms of communication. They just don't get it from politicians indoctrinated in double-speak and slogans.

Holding the Salt Spring all-candidates debate at the high school on Thursday afternoon is one way to hopefully pique youth interest in our political process, yet depending on how the candidates connect with those young hearts and minds, it might not help the cause.

The pressure is on our local candidates to rise to the standard set by youth. We wish them luck.



Varzeliotis' party-o-crazy Q&A

BY TOM VARZELIOTIS

Q: Did we need or want this election?

A: We have an election because party-o-crazy has displaced democracy. In this episode: Parliament lost confidence in the boss of the governing party; the discredited party boss retaliated by dismantling the people's parliament; next, the discredited elected tyrant launches an election and battles the other poli-parties from the ramparts of the PMO, the epitome of power in the land. Through all this, he continues governing us despite having been declared unfit for doing that. Because he is in such a position of power on that uneven battleground, the previously discredited party boss has the odds in his favour to replace the people's parliament that found him untrustworthy with one that is obedient to him and manageable with a party whip. Hence the election.

Q: Why are so many voters apathetic?

A: Mostly, we are not born apathetic, we are made so. We have lost control of the society to political parties; the resulting erosion of the effectiveness of the demos makes involvement unattractive, which, in turn, the politicians label "apathy" and treat it as a licence to "govern" us.

Remember that in moments of frankness we refer to them as the "rubber-stamps" who represent "us" in "our" parliament. Those who know better use stronger terms: Trudeau called them "nobodies" and Mulroney called them "trained seals."

Q: Must we not dread government instability?

A: Yes, we must not! Democracy was invented precisely as the best means to destabilize governments — the alternative to unstable government is dreadful. Unstable governments are a blessing: Japan and Italy are notorious for indulging in unstable governments. With meager per-capita resources they have built a prosperity rivaling ours, and we arguably have had mostly "stable" governments and the most resources per capita on Earth.

Q: Are not "majority" governments what democracy is about?

VIEWPOINT

A: It depends! In a party-o-crazy, "majority" denotes more than one half of the total number of the members of the people's parliament being controlled by a party boss. In democracy, "majority" is more than one half of the citizenry (demos) defining the government of their society. The latter is potent and known as "democracy," the former is eunuch-ized democracy better denoted as "party-o-crazy."

Q: Can we survive another "minority" government?

A: Of course we can! Most of what makes us proud Canadians is the legacy of the Pearson "minority" government. For five years Mike Pearson danced with Tommy Douglas on the floor of the House, pretending their relationship was platonic, but they were going all the way every day. That is how Medicare was born, along with the other social programs we love and cherish.

By the way, between the pair, they had the confidence of a large majority of the electorate.

Q: But what about the prospect of a "coalition?"

A: That is something to crave, it is the best possible arrangement we can have if we are made to endure party-o-crazy. Imagine a "coalition" bringing the concerns of the majority of Canadians to the cabinet table. Imagine a prime minister having to make sense instead of deploying the party whip — just imagine! It would be as close to democracy as it can get in a party-o-crazy. It would be the light at the end of the tunnel, it would whet our appetite for the ultimate "coalition," it being a parliament where each MP is a party in him/herself, free of the fear of the party whip, faithful to constituents.

Q: Why was Elizabeth May banned from the leaders debate?

A: Simple! Because she would be effective.

Q: Why would Elizabeth May be effective in Parliament?

A: Because, due to a lack of mercenaries, she must cling to reason.

The writer is a retired engineer.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Could Adrian Dix become premier of B.C.?

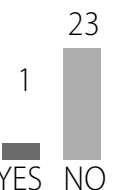
Yes No

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:

Did the TV leadership debates change your vote?



Driftwood

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Peter McCully
 PUBLISHER
sales@gulfislands.net



Gail Sjugberg
 MANAGING EDITOR
news@gulfislands.net



Lorraine Sullivan
 PRODUCTION MANAGER
production@gulfislands.net



Eva Kuhn
 OFFICE MANAGER
ekuhn@gulfislands.net

President: Frank Richards **Editorial:** Sean McIntyre, Susan Lundy, Derrick Lundy, Elizabeth Nolan
Production: Kaye Segee **Advertising:** Rick MacKinnon, Kim Young, Erin Jory

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

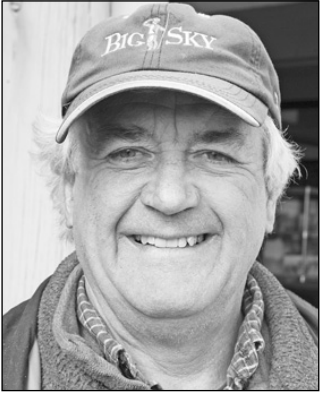


IslandVoices

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:
“What we’ve discovered is that people who don’t feel well informed tend to avoid elections like the plague.”

DENNIS PILON, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What would you ask election candidates at the local debate?

RANDY CUNNINGHAM

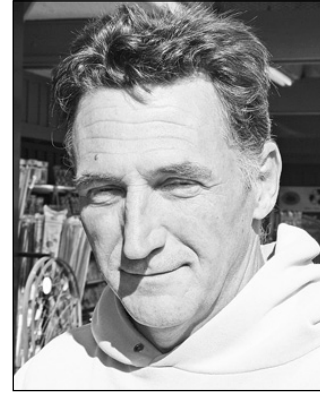
I have a lot of different questions. I guess with Elizabeth May in the race, I'd ask how the other parties can incorporate more green policies.


MARJOLYN VAN ZANTEN

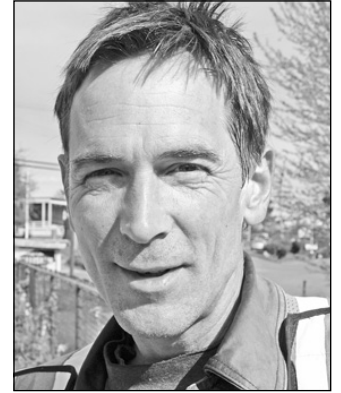
I'm an environmentalist and a Raging Granny and I think it will be more fun to listen to what the high school students have to say.


CARRIE COGAN

I might ask them if they like to swim. You can tell a lot about how someone by the way they react to the water.


CHRIS BUDD

I'd ask them about when they'll start talking about policies to run a country instead of policies to win an election.


STEPHEN KELLY

I'd like to know what they'll do to reduce taxes and let people keep more of the money they earn.

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.**

Change direction

Recent letters re vote splitting (Toby Keys, Chris Dixon) and Peter Vincent's excellent April 6 edition column on the possibility of Elizabeth May being our respected MP have prompted this two cents worth.

For years I voted NDP, though one year I had both a Green and New Democrat sign out front. Even though I have no grandchildren, lots of my friends do and I'm concerned about the quality of the environment when their grandchildren are adults.

Last year I voted Liberal since Briony Penn was such a strong environmentalist. If a few Progressive Conservatives, some Greens and New Democrats had voted for her we could have had an excellent replacement for the Harper candidate who was so ineffective (incompetent?) as

Minister of Natural Resources that he was demoted to look after amateur sports.

This election we have an even better environmentalist, Green party leader Elizabeth May, who could bring civility, intelligence and eloquence to the House of Commons and help restore our democracy, which has been so cruelly eroded by Harper and company. Ms. May is so knowledgeable about health issues, problems facing seniors, education and well informed about all the contentious matters such as aboriginal concerns that sometimes get short shrift in the Commons that Gulf Islanders would be proud to have her as our representative in Ottawa.

Elizabeth is the only one running who has a good chance of unseating the incumbent. Those, to quote Peter Vincent, "ill-informed voters" who voted for the New Democrat who was no

longer in the running but whose name was still on the ballot could redeem themselves by voting for the best and only person who could defeat the Harper incumbent.

Some of the people who voted Liberal last time because they had a strong environmentalist as candidate could vote for an even better and stronger candidate this time. It is imperative that Harper, who is relentlessly destroying our once respected democracy, be prevented from not only gaining a majority but loses many seats so that a government can be formed that is not taking its direction from the American Tea Party.

**JACK HALLAM,
BRINKWORTHY**

Endorsement

You might be as surprised as I was to learn who it was that recently wrote of the Green party platform that it

"lays out quite a compelling vision of a new and more environmentally sustainable economy and fairer society."

David Suzuki? Robert Bateman? Dorothy Cutting?

Nope. None of these prominent B.C. environmentalists.

It was Andrew Jackson, chief economist with the Canadian Labour Congress.

He went on to write of the platform that: "In terms of detailed policy prescription, it overlaps very closely with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives' Alternative Federal Budget, and is bolder in places. . . . There is a welcome emphasis on labour and human rights issues, on arts and culture, on democratic governance reforms, and very strong sections on global economic and social justice issues as well as on defence."

So much for the Greens being a single-issue party.

Put that together with polls

that show Elizabeth May running neck-and-neck with Gary Lunn and our choice on May 2 is clear. We can make a little history right here on Salt Spring or resign ourselves to another two, three, even four more years of being represented by a party that holds Parliament (that's us) in contempt.

**MURRAY REISS,
FULFORD**

Clear choice

I didn't watch the debate among the leaders of the larger parties. I learned everything I need to know about them the previous week when Elizabeth May was denied participation by a corporate consortium.

I've learned over the years to watch what people do rather than listen to what they say.

The leaders mouthed pious platitudes about how they wanted her there, but did nothing. Any or all of

them could have said that they would not take part unless Elizabeth did.

But they showed themselves to be self-serving, undemocratic, spineless pawns of corporate interests (yes, even you, Jack). Who in their right minds, concerned about the well-being of the people of Canada, would vote for anyone in parties with such leaders?

Instead, I saw Elizabeth May's interview on Channel Zero. Speaking without notes and, as far as I know, without vetted questions, she was intelligent, informed, clear, to the point and witty. No wonder the other leaders didn't want to face her — she would have made them all look like idiots.

The choice is clear. Every journey begins with a single step.

**ANDREW OKULITCH,
SALT SPRING**

MORE LETTERS continued on 10

Journalists like Goodman protect us from Orwellian nightmare

Amy Goodman will be performing on Salt Spring Island on April 30 at Gulf Islands Senior Secondary. Amy Goodman does not play guitar, does not hammer out rhythms on a set of congas, nor belt out heartfelt love songs. Amy Goodman's talent is her brain, and an unrelenting passion for the truth. Amy Goodman is a journalist.

Twenty years ago, Ms. Goodman was on the streets of East Timor covering that country's fight for independence from Indonesia. Few western countries cared about the thousands that were dying at the hands of the Indonesian military. A tiny island a little over twice the size of Vancouver Island with no oil? Who cares? Amy Goodman. The Indonesian military put the boots to her and her partner Allan Nairn. They had witnessed the mass execution of around 250 demonstrators.

Seven years later, Amy Goodman travelled to Nigeria to document Chevron Oil providing helicopters to the Nigerian army in order for soldiers to force local villagers off the oil platforms. The villagers were protesting their farmland being contaminated by the drilling. Two villagers were shot dead, 11 others wounded.

Three years ago, Amy Goodman was in St. Paul, Minn., covering the Republicans' nomination of John McCain and Sarah Palin to run against Obama. Again, she ran up against men with guns during the protests outside the convention centre. She and many colleagues were arrested for "interfering with a peace officer."

In 2009, Amy Goodman was travelling north to Vancouver through the Peace Arch to give a talk at the Vancouver Public Library. Canadian border guards took her to a back room and grilled her for 90 minutes about her purpose in Vancouver and about the "real" subject of her talk, demanding to see her notes. During this time, her car was tossed, her laptops opened and searched. The border guards relentlessly grilled Ms. Goodman about any interest she may have in the Vancouver Olympics. Apparently, the government had no truck with an uppity, trouble-making journalist ruining the party.

Eventually, Ms. Goodman was allowed to enter the country. Her photograph was taken and a document stapled to her passport which stated she must be out of Canada within 48 hours or suffer dire consequences. Welcome to the new Canada.

I first came across Amy Goodman 15 years ago while scanning my car's FM stations in the radio badlands somewhere west of Phoenix and east of LA. I found a program entitled Democracy Now. I think the show was about the Oklahoma City bombing. It's not important. The thing was, here was a program not pandering to Scope Mouthwash or Budweiser, a show that held a mirror up to the power brokers in Washington, D.C. It was brilliant, intelligent and exciting.

Democracy Now is heard and seen on


Peter Vincent

HEAD TO HEAD

more than 900 radio, podcast and TV networks in North America, including 39 into Canada. Locally you can tune in the Victoria community radio station, CFUV at 101.9 any noon or stream it over the internet.

Democracy Now is not funded by any advertisers, corporate donations or government funding. Its operating budget comes from listeners, viewers and foundations. Which is why (I am guessing) Amy and company operates on a shoestring, likely paying the bills through book sales and appearances like this one on Salt Spring (assuming Mr. Harper and the border guards deign her fit to enter the kingdom).

It is important that there are organizations out there that hold the government and corporations accountable without relying on those self-same governments and corporations for funding. Our own CBC has a giant conflict of interest. As Stephen Harper said, "If Ottawa giveth, then Ottawa can taketh away." The CBC is essentially living by the good graces of the federal government. The CBC always seems to be first to feel the sharp edge of the knife when it comes to cutbacks. The message is clear: don't bite the hand that feeds you.

If you don't play nice, government has the power to make your life untenable. As in the case of Amy Goodman, they can make it difficult and demeaning to enter the country. They can turn their backs on fellow citizen

Omar Khadr, left languishing in Guantanamo since the age of 15. They can make your life hell by budgetary strangulation as in the case of the CBC, or just miserable by ordering up a nice personal tax audit. Where are the watchdogs?

It takes a whole lot of moral courage and sacrifice to do what Amy Goodman does. It is so easy to ignore the injustices of the world — so easy to watch the next hockey game, the next American Idol instead. But there are still heroes out there reporting. Forty-four journalists were killed in 2010 — two journalists confirmed killed in the current fighting in Libya. Twenty-nine killed in Mexico since 2004. It's a dangerous business if you choose to do more than sit in your hotel room emptying out the hospitality fridge as Baghdad or Cairo or Misrata burns below you.

They are made of stronger stuff than I. Which is why it is important for me and you to come out to hear Amy Goodman — to pay our respects to someone who continues to walk the walk. Amy Goodman and others like her are what separates us from the Orwellian nightmare of 1984. Some would argue we are already there. They have a good case.

Amy Goodman will speak at GISS on Saturday, April 30 at noon on The Importance of Independent Media in a Time of War. Tickets are \$20 (or \$15 for Salt Spring Forum members) at Salt Spring Books, Salt Spring Coffee and Salt Spring Air.

republicofsaltspring@mac.com

OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

SPRINGTIME COLOURS: Amelia Norget plays in a field of daffodils on a recent sunny, spring day. Yes, we had Amelia's photo in last week's paper too, but the photographer (now beheaded) got her name wrong so we're trying again!

MORE LETTERS

continued from 9

Alive with promise

To paraphrase Rick Mercer, "Let Elizabeth into Parliament. She's the vinegar that brightens up the vegetables."

Here in Saanich-Gulf Islands, we have the opportunity to elect her, something millions of people across Canada will be thanking us for.

Why? Because Elizabeth knows that our democracy, our health, our future, are in peril and she is in politics to, as Raffi urges us, "turn this world around." She has already shown her ability to work with parliamentarians from all of the other federal parties for meaningful

change, and once elected, she will be even better able to do this work.

For those of us in Saanich-Gulf Islands who have been hoping for change in the way we are represented federally, Elizabeth is the candidate who has the best chance of achieving that goal.

Once elected, she will not only heighten the profile of western Canada but of Canada on the world stage. Already Newsweek magazine named her as one of the world's most influential women.

Of course, Elizabeth cannot accomplish miracles alone. She will need our help, especially because there are well-funded interests spreading disinformation on a range of issues, including climate change, the positions and policies of opposing candidates, the viability of coalition governments, to name a few.

The first thing we need to do is vote for her, and encourage our friends, especially those who may wonder about the value of voting, to do likewise.

As Elizabeth said, not that long ago: "We are in a very dangerous spot right now. Humanity still has the chance to avert disaster — in terms of climate, in terms of war, in terms of slipping from democratic governance to elected dictatorship. The moment is perilous, but also alive with promise."

JOHN BATEMAN, ARTHUR BLACK, MICHAEL DRAGLAND, E. MARGARET FULTON, O.C., BILL HENDERSON, DEREK LUNDY, SHELLEY NITIKMAN, VICTORIA AND ALEX OLCHOWECKI, DR. HOLLY SLAKOV, RONALD WRIGHT

other chemicals have been sprayed or spread on lawns and gardens, sometimes inadvertently in a fertilizer conditioner mix. These poisons can get spread by gardeners who haven't read the labels.

Three provinces in Canada (but not yet B.C.) have banned the cosmetic use of these products because of their link to cancer and the environmental damage they do, poisoning not only song birds but bees, butterflies, ladybugs and other beneficial insects, frogs, and if they get in the ground water and so to streams and lakes, fish too.

The residue from these poisons can get on the fur and paws of our pets and seriously affect them when they lick themselves. Pets get cancer too. It comes into our homes, and is dangerous to our children and ourselves as well.

Please, please don't be tempted by those ads. in the fliers that also arrive at this time of year full of promises of the perfect garden if you will just buy and use these products. They were first invented to be used as chemical warfare during WWII. They were created to kill, and they still do.

NANCY WIGEN, FERNWOOD

Best bet

There are three excellent women running for election in this riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands, competing with each other to split the vote and hand the seat to the Conservatives one more time.

Last election almost a million Canadians voted Green. They deserve to be represented; and that party deserves a seat in Parliament. This riding is the best bet in the nation for that.

For a better Canada we need cooperation, which often involves compromise. The polls (and lawn signs) indicate that Elizabeth May is the most likely person to beat Mr. Lunn. Therefore, I recommend that the supporters of the Liberals and NDP, just this once, switch their vote to get Elizabeth May into Parliament.

LOIS SPRAGUE, SALT SPRING

Don't use pesticides

This morning a flock of goldfinches arrived in my garden with their bright wings and sweet songs. These little wild canaries come with the dandelions, yellow birds for the seeds of these yellow flowers, their favourite food.

But that can be a problem, a death sentence, if herbicides or



Islands Trust

You're invited

Community Information Meeting

Proposed New Development Permit Area 4 (DPA 4)

Come find out about proposed Bylaw No. 449 - DPA4 Lakes, Streams, Wetlands and Riparian Areas that will implement the Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR), protect sensitive riparian habitat, and increase the protection of drinking water on Salt Spring Island.

This bylaw was developed after researching other jurisdictions, through consultation with Salt Spring Island residents, with staff, advisory committees, qualified professionals, and other government agencies.

Staff will present a detailed overview of the Proposed New Development Permit Area (DPA4) - Bylaw No. 449 and discuss the associated implementation measures. Staff will also be available to talk one on one with residents prior to the presentation.

Where:

Harbour House Hotel Ballroom, 121 Upper-Ganges Road

When:

Thursday, April 28, 2011

Public Open House: 5 PM to 9:00 PM with staff in attendance for questions and comments.
Staff Presentation at 7:00 PM. followed by a question and answer period

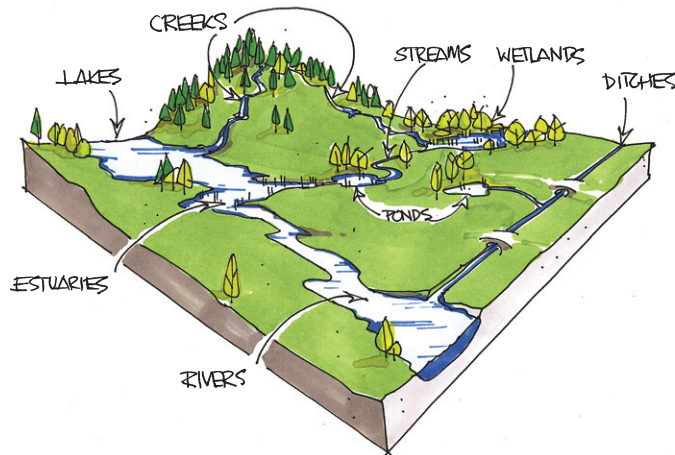
Why:

To give residents an opportunity to learn about the proposed bylaw and associated implementation measures.

What is the Riparian Areas Regulation?

The province of British Columbia's Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR) under Section 12 of the *Fish Protection Act* requires that local governments establish regulations to protect riparian areas. "Riparian" refers to the interface between land and streams. The regulation requires local governments to protect riparian areas during residential, commercial, and industrial development by ensuring that proposed activities adjacent to fish bearing streams are subject to a science based assessment conducted by a Qualified Environmental Professional. The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee has given first reading to Proposed Bylaw No. 449 (DPA4 Lakes, Streams, Wetlands and Riparian Areas) implementing the Riparian Areas Regulation.

RIPARIAN AREAS ARE ...



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OPINION

Bad behaviour

So now, right into the middle of this election campaign, we get new revelations from the Auditor General about how the Harper government operates.

They apparently spent \$45.7 million in pork projects in Tony Clement's riding during the G8 — on things that had nothing to do with the G8 — to improve Tony's chances in the current election.

I say "apparently" because everybody involved agrees that's what's in the Auditor General's report, but the report can't be submitted except to a sitting Parliament, even though all concerned say they don't have any problem with it being released now.

So the Conservatives can prorogue Parliament to avoid an embarrassing investigation, election spending laws can be broken, but we are not allowed to see a report as important as this because of a parliamentary rule about when a report can be released. This can't be the "accountability" and "transparency" Gary Lunn was talking about before the last election — this is contemptible.

In our riding we are in the uniquely fortunate position of being able to elect Elizabeth May, a candidate who is ethical and highly knowledgeable, and in a position to be a powerful voice on environmental issues of concern for all of Canada. The energy that has been build-

ing during this campaign is amazing, and I've talked to so many people who normally vote NDP or Liberal who are ready to help us send her to Ottawa.

I believe that both the NDP and Liberal candidates running in this riding are good, honourable people, but the Harper government has again demonstrated that it cannot be trusted and Elizabeth May has the best chance of defeating the Conservative. I urge you to get out and vote on May 2nd, and to vote strategically to help us make history.

BRIAN SMALLSHAW,
SALT SPRING

Voting with integrity

It is my understanding that on voting day it is our democratic right to put a cross beside the name of any candidate we wish to vote for, for whatever reason we may have.

Toby Keys ("Insulted by vote splitting" letter, April 6) says that we would be abrogating (giving up, abolishing) our democratic right if our reasons for voting for that particular candidate are not the reasons that he thinks they should be. He is suggesting that the only way we ought to be voting is for the candidate (and/or the party?) that we truly wish to be elected and not to use our reasoning abilities any further than that or we fall into the pit of attempting deceit (artifice), lack of integrity and even illegality (ballot rigging) if we try and

persuade others to do the same. He is referring to what he calls the "artifice" (clever or cunning devices especially used to deceive) of strategic voting.

Here is my thinking on who I might vote for. I might vote for the NDP (for Edith Loring-Kuhanga) as I always do, if there is a candidate; this would be closest to my heart and my thinking; my roots here are strong and deep.

But I have lots of other thoughts and feelings, first amongst them being that I very strongly do not want Gary Lunn to represent me. He does not represent me and nor does his party and its values and I do not trust its leader, Stephen Harper, especially if he were to govern with a majority.

And although nobody is sure of anything, we all know that the only person who stands a chance of drawing more votes than Gary Lunn is Elizabeth May, a good person whose party would be my second choice. If I voted for May, I would be voting strategically, giving the Liberals a better chance of forming the government than the Conservatives, which would also be my second choice of possibilities.

Whether I vote for the NDP candidate or for the Green party candidate, the choice will be difficult but it will be democratic and it will be done with integrity.

JACQUELINE THOMAS,
KING ROAD
LETTERS continued on 13

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OPINION

Misled public is real RAR issue

BY ERIC BOOTH

As reported by the Driftwood last week, Linda Adams, CAO of the Islands Trust, said "... that (Eric) Booth's submission to the LTC relies on a staff report written in 2005 before the RAR was enacted and details were known."

Ms. Adams' statement is entirely untrue and disingenuous for three reasons:

1. As is clearly stated in my submission (see full text at www.islandstrust.org), the province's Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR) policy directive was in fact enacted in July 2004. This is not conjecture on my part, but an historical, legislative fact, one which Ms. Adams surely is, or should be, well aware of.

2. The "details" of the RAR were exceedingly clear in March 2005. In fact, the RAR, enacted the previous year, gave local governments until March 31, 2005 to implement it. How much clearer can you be? The regulation was clearly "known" to Ms. Adams and I challenge her to produce any additional "details" which prevented any local government in B.C. from implementing them by March 31, 2005. In early March 2005, Bill Barisoff, the Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection, confirmed there were local governments

IN RESPONSE

which had already implemented the RAR, and "... those who want to move forward now can do so, and for those who have issues, we are developing a timeline that contains some flexibility." Subsequently, the province extended the compliance date from March 31, 2005 to March 31, 2006. However, as is clearly stated in my submitted position, as of March 7, 2005, the Salt Spring LTC was deemed to already be in compliance with the RAR, and since then 15 Riparian Area Assessments have been conducted on the island.

3. My submission does not, as Ms. Adams suggested, "rely" upon the staff report to make my case. My case, as is clearly stated in my submission, is reliant upon (a) trustee Kimberly Lineger and my knowledge of the RAR, which both of us had read and understood, (b) our knowledge of our land use and official community plan bylaws, which we were extremely familiar with, (c) the Fish Protection Act, which enabled the RAR and SPR, (d) the Streamside Protection Act which had been repealed by the RAR, and (e) the Local Government Act provisions regarding the use of development permit areas for the protection of the environment. The March 7, 2005 Islands Trust "staff report" helped further inform us and supports my position that Salt Spring was deemed to already be legislatively in compliance with the RAR.

In order for Ms. Adams to claim to "know" what was in my and trustee Lineger's political heads at the time, she would have to ask us what we thought. She has not. In fact, she is willfully ignoring what we have clearly stated we did think at

the time. Why?

While Ms. Adams is free to provide advice to trustees on matters, she is not an elected representative, and does not have the authority to make any "decision" about whether elected representatives' "opinions" are legally "right" or "wrong." That is a job for a lawyer and/or the courts.

The "details" of

the RAR were

exceedingly clear

in March 2005.

ERIC BOOTH
Former trustee

Given this matter is about a proposed OCP amendment, winding its way through a public process, it is however Ms. Adams' duty to ensure the public is being properly and correctly informed and, if there is a logical and reasoned question of authority, or legality, of a proposed bylaw, she should defer to the Trust's legal counsel for advice, something I suggested in my submission.

The following quote is not from my website, but from the Ministry of Environment's: "Section 8 of the Riparian Areas Regulation provides that if a local government has bylaws or permits that establish streamside protection and enhancement areas in accordance with the direction in section 6 of the Streamside Protection Regulation, on or before March 31, 2005, then that local government is deemed to have met the requirements of the Riparian Areas Regulation." This is the basis of our position.

To paraphrase Ms. Adams, while the "Provincial roll-out of the RAR was a bit confusing" to her, trustee Lineger

and I were not at all confused on March 7, 2005, or at anytime thereafter, regarding our compliance with the RAR.

Our existing OCP and LUB, and our development permit process, gave, "in our opinion," "a comparable level of protection" to the SPR, and therefore complied with the RAR. In the words of the March 2005 staff report itself: "Assuming that the implementation of the regulation may proceed as scheduled, we (Trust staff) have considered our readiness should the regulation be implemented on March 31, 2005 ... There is little that local Trust committees need to do at this time to prepare for the regulation. Generally, local Trust committees' official community plans recognize fish-bearing streams as development permit areas and impose setbacks from streams for development proposals. With this in place, there is no need to amend planning documents." (e.g. OCPs or LUBs)."

Ms. Adams stated, "The Ministry of Environment and legal advice confirm further work is necessary to comply with provincial standards." I hereby request Ms. Adams to release that advice to the public, because I can guarantee it will not address the basis of my submission, but in fact will ignore the applicability of the transitional provisions of the RAR.

I also challenge Ms. Adams to correct her false statements, provide to the public a "legal opinion" or argument that contradicts the basis of my submission and cease making statements that appear to be designed to do nothing more than deflect from the real issue at hand — that the public is currently being misled.

The writer is a former islands trustee and a current realtor and developer.

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www.islandgov.org

MORE LETTERS

continued from 11

May difference

In watching the leadership debate on CBC, I couldn't help thinking, "Canada is a great country and we citizens certainly deserve better than this."

I was sorely disappointed, moreover, to see Elizabeth May deliberately excluded. This made me wonder, what was the media consortium so afraid of? The truth, clearly and honestly expressed, perhaps?

We need someone with her high standards of decorum and her fine intelligence to represent us in Parliament. Over time, we've seen that outstanding individuals can help change the course of events for the better. If elected, Elizabeth May will make a big difference, and we voters

in the Saanich-Gulf Islands riding have a unique opportunity to make this happen.

DOROTHY CUTTING,
PRICE ROAD

Contempt

In last Tuesday's leaders debate, Stephen Harper declared that the Speaker's decision that his government was in contempt of Parliament was not important.

Mr. Harper, when you are in contempt of Parliament, Canadians' Parliament, you are in contempt of all Canadians.

I fear that if Mr. Harper had to take the citizenship test he would most likely fail, since he does not appear to know how our Constitution works.

Well, Mr. Harper, you have earned my contempt.
PAT O'NEILL,
HOWELL LANE

OPINION



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

FASHION STATION: Cheri Wells is one of several models showing off clothing at the ever-popular annual IODE fashion show, held last Thursday at the Harbour House Hotel.

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Whose hospital is it, anyway?

BY RAY PHILLIPS

Based on a review of available facts, opposition to the restoration of general surgical services at Lady Minto takes on a surreal quality. Has the world gone completely mad? Imagine a total stranger visiting our island, picking up the Jan. 19, 2011 issue of the Driftwood and reading an open letter signed by 14 or 15 doctors endorsing the permanent closure of the operating room at Lady Minto Hospital. Would s/he conclude the island's doctors had taken leave of their senses; they very well might! In a Feb. 9, 2011 article, Dr. Shane Barclay, chief of medical staff at Lady Minto Hospital, stated that the doctors based their decision on the "artfully" prepared 2010 VIHA Salt Spring Island Health Review. A closer examination of some of the known facts should shed some light on the fallacy of the doctors' decision.

In 2009, a review was initiated by VIHA; a direct result of the SOS Committee's visit to MLA Murray Coell's office that was intended to silence the objections of SOS through justifying the closure of the OR. Under the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, SOS obtained an email sent by Bill Relph, administrator of Lady Minto Hospital, to a staffer Shannon Marshall, stating that he wished the SOS Committee would "just float" away because it was "not the direction we want to go in" with respect to reopening the surgery. That email was dated after the visit to Coell's office but before the review was even started. That document contained misstatements such as the former general surgeon resigning when the fact was he was forced to resign or be fired.

The review was based on a blatant misuse of statistics and

incorrect information, such as quoting the statistic that the number of OR procedures performed in a half year as though it was a full year; stating that VIHA could not find a replacement for the previous general surgeon — some surgeons expressed interest but soon withdrew as they learned VIHA was only offering two half days a week.

VIHA had the audacity to state under-utilization of the OR as a reason for its closure after the expenditure of almost \$3 million. The under-utilization was a direct result of VIHA's under-funding.

Now further information supporting restoring the surgery at LMH has come to light. On June 22-23, 2007, the Invitational Meeting on Rural Surgical Services was held in Vancouver recommending the sustaining of general surgical facilities in rural communities such as ours. One of the stakeholders identified was VIHA and one of the presenters was LMH administrator Bill Relph, supporting continuance of general surgeries in rural communities and commenting on the isolation issue by noting Salt Spring is "separated from tertiary care by a body of water not serviced by ferries after 2100h." Have Relph and the VIHA people since drunk from the waters of the Lethe, river of forgetfulness?

Why do some people or groups oppose reopening our surgery, particularly in view of recent tragic events in Japan? VIHA is obviously pursuing a policy of centralization in the big population centers to the detriment of rural communities like ours, which explains their opposition to reopening the OR. Perhaps some doctors signed that letter to avoid conflict. Most people will do almost anything to avoid

confrontation, particularly with those in authority. That conflict even involved placing "gag" orders on the nursing staff to not discuss that closing. If the reason for signing that letter is conflict avoidance, loss of our surgery is too high a price to pay for your peace of mind.

The LMH Foundation board opposes the reopening because they have chosen to align themselves with policies of VIHA. If the doctors feared that not signing that letter threatened the loss of hospital privileges, then I suggest that such fears are unfounded. VIHA would not dare to remove hospital privileges for 14 or 15 doctors. If their reason for supporting the permanent closure of the OR is, as Dr. Barclay states, based on that fictional document, the Salt Spring Island Health Review, all that is needed is to examine the facts for themselves, available on our website: www.sos-saltspring.ca. After informing themselves, if they still want to stay aboard the leaky vessel that is the review, I hope they are all wearing flotation gear.

Whose hospital is it, anyway? Lady Minto Hospital is not owned by the Ministry of Health, VIHA, Barclay, Relph, the foundation board or the doctors. It is owned by the residents of Salt Spring and the other Southern Gulf Islands.

Your SOS Committee speaks for the vast majority of the residents of Salt Spring. We demand that surgical services be restored as soon as is humanly possible. We assure our supporters that we will not abandon the cause no matter how long it takes.

Be informed. Visit our website at www.sossaltspring.ca.

The writer is a member of the SOS committee.

ate about the environment and democracy. Fin Donnelly swam the length of the Fraser River twice to bring attention to the plight of salmon. Nathan Cullen worked tirelessly to revive the Climate Accountability Act, which was passed in the House of Commons (but defeated in the Senate).

Linda Duncan, the only non-Conservative MP in Alberta, was praised by the Pembina Institute for her "Missing in Action" report on the tarsands.

This is just the beginning of a long list of hard-working MPS who have made the environment and climate change a priority.

The question is, can Elizabeth May rise above her dislike of socialism and work with other parliamentarians to address desperate environmental problems that we are all facing?

JAN HAVELAAR,
SALT SPRING

SEE MORE OPINION ONLINE AT
GULFISLANDSDRIFTWOOD.COM

LETTERS

continued from 11

NDP not enemy

On CBC on April 13 I was stunned to hear Elizabeth May criticizing the NDP for not addressing climate change. I think it needs to be pointed out that when it comes to environmental policy, the NDP is not the enemy.

There are many NDP and Liberal MPs that are passion-

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- ◆ Eliminate the deficit, by 2014-15, by controlling spending and cutting waste;
- ◆ Make our streets safe, through new laws to protect children and the elderly; and
- ◆ Stand on Guard for Canada, by cracking down on human smuggling and strengthening the Canadian Forces.





Gary Lunn Campaign Office
Unit D 2200 Keating Cross Road
Saanichton, BC V8M 2A6 (250) 479-1241
E-mail: info@garylunn.ca | www.garylunn.ca
Authorized by Official Agent for Gary Lunn

NOTICE OF EXCLUSION APPLICATION REGARDING LAND IN THE AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE

We, Michael and Noella Fraser, of 240 Atkins Road, Ganges, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2R5, intend on making an application pursuant to Section 30(1) of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* to exclude from the **Agricultural Land Reserve** the following property which is legally described as Lot 1, Section 2, Range 2 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan VIP86207, and located at the northwest corner of Atkins Road and Rainbow Road.

Any person wishing to express an interest in the application may do so by forwarding their comments in writing to Islands Trust, Salt Spring Office, 1 - 500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2N8 by 4 May 2011, 14 days from final publication on 20 April 2011.

NEWSBEAT

LECTURE

Bateman slideshow aids Wolf Kids

Program space available next fall

Salt Spring residents will have another opportunity to celebrate Earth Day early with a slideshow presentation by Robert Bateman on Thursday, April 21.

The talk will outline some of the early work and travel experiences that helped shape Bateman's world view as an artist and environmentalist, with material never before presented to an audience that promises a rare

glimpse into his life and his art.

A lifelong nature lover and conservationist, one of Bateman's recent missions has been to turn back the tide of "nature deficit disorder" in today's kids.

His philosophy makes for a perfect partnership with the island's Wilderness Our Learning Foundation (WOLF) program, where boys and girls learn in full immersion with the natural environment. The program takes into account both indigenous knowledge and scientific learning in hands-on outdoor

experiences.

Bateman's talk is a fundraiser to help raise money to finish a program shelter that is being built, and to raise awareness of the program. Space will be opening for new students in the fall with three WOLF kids moving on to high school.

The presentation takes place at Lions Hall at 103 Bonnet Ave. from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is \$15 at the door.

For more information on the WOLF program, visit www.wolfkids.org.

RANTS *and* Roses

Roses and many thanks to Matt Steffich for lending his expertise in hanging our amateur photography show at Auntie Pesto's. Love from Carmen

Sending a big bunch of colourful roses to Mike Boizard (Thrifty Foods manager) and to his wonderful employee Jessica. your kindness will always be appreciated! Thanks a million

Thanks to all you giving people. Marcie Berner Winston

Rainbow-coloured roses to everyone who helped make our spring Brownie camp a roaring success: Thrifty Foods and Country Grocer for their generosity; our marvellous Kitchen Owls Kirsty and Jenn for the wonderful meals; our honorary Owl Tammy for all the help; Chestnut, Barn and Snowy Owls for the weeks of planning and preparation; Mrs. Temmel for her advice and helpful hints; Mother Nature for cooperating until the very end; and to all the husbands who took care of things at home so we could go to camp. And finally to the amazing Brownies, who constantly inspire us with their enthusiasm and sense of adventure! Thank you all. MB

A bouquet of roses and thanks to the following businesses and individuals for their contributions and support for the IODE Luncheon and Fashion Show: Country Grocer, Driftwood, Gail's Hair, Imagine That Graphics, Judith Humphrys, Royal Canadian Legion, Mouat's Clothing Co., Rainbow Road Pool, Studio One. From IODE HMS Ganges Chapter

For Tony. From Marcie. Easter 2011. Happy 26th. Smiling down to me from up above/You seem to send to me/All your sweet love/I'm a heart and a rainbow/Your promise from the fluffy clouds/that you and I will be together again/May one day we sing like doves for each other, and other loves —/to kiss again/being lovers as well as true friends. Forever. Luv Marcie Berner Winston

Multiple wheelbarrows full of ever-blooming roses and my thanks to all of the following who have given so generously to the food bank in the previous couple of months: Baha'i community, Sea Change, Soya Nova, SS Bagels, SS Dairy, SS Coffee Company, West of the Moon, Elsa Drummond, Rita Dods, Our Lady of Grace Church, the United Church and their parishioners (who give so wholeheartedly and on such a regular basis), Jackie Michener and Mary for the delicious eggs, and last but certainly never least, Country Grocer and Thrifty's. All the dogs and cats

that have been fed would also like to thank Starbarks for not forgetting them. Our island is certainly a wondrous place to live and I count myself blessed to live amongst so many kind and generous people. GM

Traditional blooming beautiful roses to my Meals on Wheels volunteers in appreciation and with thanks during National Volunteer Week.

Sweet roses to the Bond family and Salt Spring Veterinary Services for all the kind care that they have given Gunner, from the time that he was born until the day he drew his last breath. Thank you so much for helping him leave us with the merciful and gentle hand that he so deserved, sadly missed but thankful he no longer suffers. Joshua, Tyler, Sabine and Jim

A sky full of roses to all the wonderful people who made Kim Hoban's memorial a huge success. Thanks to Thrifty Foods for the three beautiful bouquets of flowers; to Country Grocer's three generous platters of food; to our friends Laura lending her decor, Corrina, Sally, Nina for a constant vigil of making everything run smoothly and total cleanup; Peter and Judy diligently in the kitchen all through; our absolutely amazing SSI bagpipers; Krista, Bridgid, Ryfawn and Lind-e for sharing their wonderful memories of their mom and sister Kim, bringing us all to tears and laughter. A day we will never forget, a soul who will live on. Pat Coates, Lynn Dowhaniuk

A huge bouquet of roses and spring flowers to Dustin and Liz for taking excellent care of my cats and house while I was away. Thank you so much. It was a joy to come home. Caroline

A lovely bunch of roses to Dorothy Sloan, who donated a large amount of perennial flowering plants from her garden to the pathway on Lower Ganges Road. The pathway will now look more lovely. And more roses to volunteers Gary and Lynn for putting them into the ground! Thanks from Island Pathways

A bouquet of bright golden sunflowers to the 45 plus active hospice volunteers who quietly help others through personal challenges surrounding the end-of-life. With their companionship in the home, hospital and care facilities, caregivers, the dying and the bereaved have had their journey eased with their quiet caring. With Volunteer Week now over we pass on the many thanks we've received from our community to all of you over the past year.

Thank you to everyone at BC Ferries for everything you have done for me over the past year! My ship has sailed! Special thanks go out to my coworkers at Long Harbour — Natalie, Elaine, Sheri, Huy, Robert, Jacqui, Rob, Mia, Alice, Andy and Peter. Will miss you guys. Heather

Roses of gratitude for Country Grocer and Thrifty Foods for their donation of gift cards used to supply refreshments for last Saturday's Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream Symposium.

Locally grown roses for volunteers at the Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream Symposium: Daniel Ruane for graciously managing the reception and registrations, Michael Bushby for seamlessly and flawlessly managing the video and sound, Byron Brazier for organizing the kitchen and refreshments as well as the room lighting, Jean Gelwicks and Peter Lamb for hosting our off-island volunteer Michael Tacon of the Well Foundation, who gets a long-distance rose for coming all the way from Sooke, a day early to prepare for, and on the day of, to co-facilitate the conversations and exercises during the day of the event.

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This unique event will take place on Tuesday, May 3rd 2:00 and 6:00 (your choice) Harbour House Hotel 121 Upper Ganges Road.

This session is expected to last 60 minutes followed by a question & answer period for those wishing to stay longer.

Please confirm your attendance by calling Robin toll-free at 1-877-216-4334 or emailing

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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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People & Community

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

EARTH ACTIVITIES: Morgan Richards makes her own prayer flags as part of the 2011 Earth Day Festival, organized this year by the senior class of Salt Spring Centre School, at Centennial Park Sunday. Earth Day is on April 22.

CYCLING

Survey, brochure help cycling plans

Both released Saturday after Bicycle Parade

On Saturday, April 23, Island Pathways Bicycle Working Group is publishing the results of a survey taken last summer of cyclists on Salt Spring.

The group will also launch a "Share the Road" brochure for drivers and cyclists on Salt Spring. Mainroad South Island Contracting, which maintains Salt Spring's roads, has funded this initiative.

Survey costs were covered by the Salt Spring Transportation Commission.

The report can be perused and brochure copies picked up at the bandstand in Centennial Park anytime during the mid-day on Saturday.

There'll also be an Easter Bicycle Parade through town, leaving the skateboard park at 11 a.m. and arriving at the bandstand about noon.

Everyone is welcome to ride in decorated gear and costumes to celebrate the launch of these publications and the

beginning of this year's cycling season.

The Salt Spring Cycling Survey was conducted last summer, with 292 residents and 140 visitors taking part. It will help the transportation commission set cycling priorities on Salt Spring, so work can start on the bikeway that islanders have been calling for since 1985.

"The survey results help clarify where the route should be, what improvements are needed, how businesses can benefit, and much more," said Brenda Guiled of the Bicycle

Working Group.

Digital copies of the report will also be available online after April 23 at www.island-pathways.ca.

In the meantime, to make cycling safer on the island, Mainroad's "Share the Road" brochure instructs drivers and cyclists about their rights and duties. It will be available on all Salt Spring ferries and at the Visitor Info Centre, as well as online.

It's full of handy tips, a key one being that cyclists are entitled to ride on the pavement at all times.

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NOTICE OF POWER INTERRUPTION — NORTHWEST SALTSRING ISLAND

Time: 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
When: Thursday, April 21, 2011

We will be making electrical system improvements on Saltspring Island on April 21, 2011. To ensure the safety of our work crews, it will be necessary to interrupt electrical service for approximately 2 hours, from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. The affected area includes all of Vesuvius Bay Rd. (including all side streets off of Vesuvius Bay Rd.) up to the ferry terminal, and Sunset Rd. (including all side streets off of Sunset Rd.) up to and including Southey Point Rd.

Please protect all sensitive equipment. We recognize the inconvenience this may cause, and will restore service safely and as efficiently as possible.

Shorten restoration time during a power outage by switching lights and electrical equipment off. Wait one hour after power is restored before switching on multiple appliances to allow the system time to stabilize.

Prepare for outages and stay informed by visiting bchydro.com/outages or bchydro.com/mobile from your handheld device. Please call 1 888 POWERON (1 888 769 3766) if you experience any electrical difficulties or for more information.

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

ALIEN PLANT INVADERS

Broom is bad; gorse is worse

Time to eradicate plants ahead of May 14 drop-off day

The following is part of a series of articles on how to identify and manage some common invasive species on Salt Spring from the Salt Spring Conservancy's stewardship committee.

BY JEAN WILKINSON
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Spring is slowly arriving, with its longer days, new growth and warm sunshine, but unfortunately it also brings the bright yellow blooms of gorse, and later broom. For people interested in the health of local ecosystems, for those concerned about fire hazards, and for folks with allergies, this heralds a major headache!

Broom and gorse are covered under the Invasive Plants Regulation of the Forest and Range Practices Act, and gorse is also listed as a provincial noxious weed under the B.C. Weed Control Act. This legislation imposes a duty on all land occupiers to control designated noxious weeds, due to the very serious economic and ecological problems they pose.

Kudos to Mainroad South Island Contracting for making a special effort to mow the gorse along many Salt Spring roadways this spring before it set seed. This is a great start to a local "Get Rid of Gorse" campaign, and hopefully all property owners will do their part while it's still possible to eliminate this fast-spreading invader from our island.

With its sharp thorns and aggressive dense growth, gorse is a huge problem in some regions, but it is currently limited to fairly small areas of Salt Spring.

Unfortunately, Scotch broom is very widespread. Other species, such as Portuguese broom (*Cystus striatus*), Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*) and French broom (*Genista monspessulana*) are less common, but potentially invasive in this area. Please don't plant them! There are many lovely low-maintenance, non-invasive plants to choose instead.

The Salt Spring Conservancy, in co-operation with the Capital Regional District and Parks and Recreation Commission, is holding a free drop-off day for invasive plants on May 14. So start broom-busting and getting rid of gorse (and other invasives) in your neighbourhood now!

BROOM AND GORSE:

QUICK FACTS ABOUT THESE HORTICULTURAL BULLIES

Identification — *Cystus scoparius* and *Ulex europaeus* — vigorous perennial shrubs one to three metres tall with tap-root, woody photosynthetic stems, small evergreen leaves and bright yellow pea-like flowers. Hairy seed-pods ripen from green to dark brown or black. Mature gorse has distinctive long thick spines. Broom plants live 15 to 20 years, but gorse may live up to 45 years.

Impacts — Broom and gorse out-compete native species in sunny locations, and prevent the growth of nearby plants by releasing toxins into the soil, thus reducing plant biodiversity

VISITING SPEAKERS

Wisdom of Waitaha grandmothers in focus

Makeere Harawira at Child Honouring event

On Tuesday, April 26, a rare elder from the Waitaha nation will share the wisdom of the Waitaha grandmothers with a Salt Spring audience.

Makeere Harawira's Waitaha nation predates the Maori of New Zealand, and with a doctorate from the University of Auckland, Dr. Harawira has a passion for global transformation, preserva-

tion of the biosphere and indigenous wisdom.

"Harawira is an inspired emissary of all that's good and it promises to be a brilliant evening," states a press release from the Centre for Child Honouring, which is putting on the event as part of its speakers series.

"As I return from the deep green waters of Te Waipounamu to the light of the northern spring, I look forward to sharing the wisdom of the Waitaha grandmothers in this potent and transformational

moment in time," said Harawira.

The event starts at 7 p.m. upstairs at the Salt Spring United Church.

Admission is by suggested donation of \$15 at the door. People should come early since there is limited seating capacity at the church. The event is a fundraiser for the Centre for Child Honouring.

The next presenter in the series is Annie Leonard, creator of the Internet hit *The Story of Stuff*, who will be on Salt Spring on May 28.

Found — in grasslands, pasture and rangelands, roadsides, forest clearings, coastal bluffs and other open, disturbed areas.

Spreads — each mature plant produces thousands of seeds which can remain viable up to 50 years. Mature seed-pods split and expel broom seeds up to five metres, and gorse seeds at least a metre. Seeds are spread widely by ants, mammals, birds, water, people, vehicles and machinery. Gorse is reported to also spread by rhizomes.

Prevent — Infestations develop easily when soil is disturbed, so avoid this as much as possible. Plant competitive species in susceptible areas to provide shade and thus inhibit germination of broom and gorse seeds.

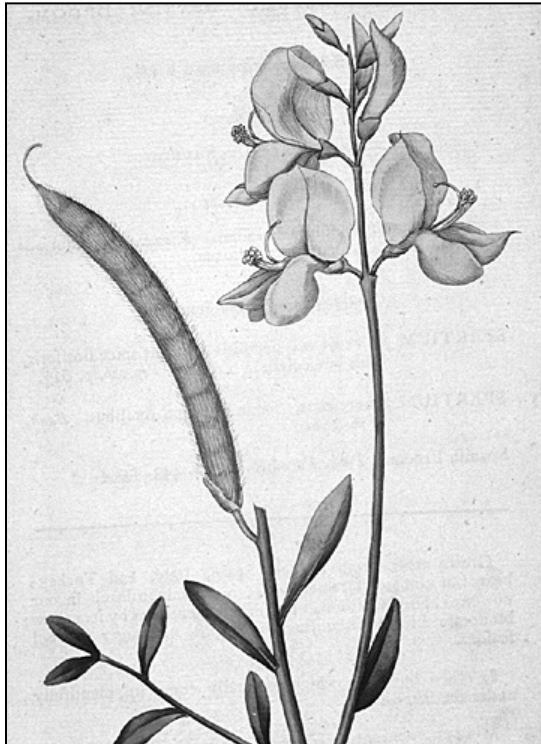
Control — Grazing by goats and chickens can be effective in reducing infestations. Stems thinner than a pencil can be pulled when the soil is wet. Avoid disturbing soil by placing feet beside plant while pulling, and tamping down afterwards. Larger plants and those growing on rock should be cut at or below ground surface with loppers or pruning saw.

To reduce re-growth, cut during bloom before seed-set, or during a drought. Promptly apply wood mulch and phosphorus-rich fertilizer, and re-vegetate with competitive grasses, alternative shrubs or red alder. Monitor area and repeat for three to five years. Fire is sometimes used to control gorse, but plants can re-sprout and seeds in the soil often germinate following a burn. Although not a preferred method, for persistent infestations herbicides can be applied to gorse stumps or new shoots, as part of an integrated approach.

Disposal — Cuttings are extremely flammable, and will leach toxins into the soil. Small amounts with no seeds can be scattered or piled in shady spots. Large amounts can be chipped or taken to the landfill. Avoid spreading seeds by putting cut or chipped material in strong garbage bags or on tarps in securely covered loads.

Alternatives — (Grows in * sun, + part shade, or # full shade, M = Moist soil, D = Dry soil, DT =Drought Tolerant) Nootka rose *+M; tall Oregon grape *+D,DT; salal *+M,DT; salmonberry *+M,DT; thimbleberry *+M,DT; mountain mahogany *D,DT; snowberry *+D, DT; red flowering currant *+D,DT; saskatoon *+D/M; golden currant *D,DT; mock orange *D,DT; California lilac *D,DT; forsythia *M,DT; winter jasmine *+M,DT; Japanese kerria *+M/D; hardy dwarf broom (*Genista lydia*) *D,DT; warminster broom (*Cystisus x praecox*) *D,DT; yellow/pontic azalea *+M; blue spirea *D/M; hebe *D.

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



Scotch broom.

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

DERBY

FUNDRAISER: Lisa McLachlan and Jodi Bamford are mobile signs on roller skates as they promote the local roller derby group's fundraising hot dog sale at Country Grocer.

FUNDRAISER

Card players support annual Krayenhoff memorial tourney

Options for Sexual Health clinic gets needed funds

Generous bridge players once again contributed time and effort to the Krayenhoff Memorial Bridge Tournament, ensuring the Options for Sexual Health clinic can serve the island for another year.

As co-organizer Jean Elder explains, the tournament is named after Wim Krayenhoff, a strong supporter of the group formerly known as Planned Parenthood.

"Wim served on our board and his wife Ima was an active volun-

teer. After Wim's death, Ima contributed very welcome financial assistance to help sustain our local clinic."

This year's committee, led by Betty Taylor with help from her two grandchildren, Leticia and Katherine, produced the usual lavish lunch at Fulford Hall for the 72 people arranged in groups of four to play bridge at the end of March.

First prize was two beautiful miniature orchids, won by Florence and George Laundry. Second place went to Kathy McDonald and Ruth Hopping and third was won by Zelly Taylor and Yantara Walker.

Elder gave special thanks to the large number of players, and par-

ticularly the members of the Gulf Islands Duplicate Bridge Club, who contribute their time and effort to the tournament each year.

The annual fundraiser sees more than \$18 of every \$20 contributed by the players for lunch and bridge go to the local clinic, which is open on the second floor of the Core Inn every non-holiday Monday between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.

"While the majority of our clients are young women with an average age of around 17 to 18, we also serve older women and men who wish information and help with issues relating to sexual health," said Elder.

BRIDGE TRICKS

Cards — still considered a devil's pastime

Reflecting on honour system

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Anyone remember Honour Tricks? (To value your hand you added up your Honour Tricks based on AK of the same suit = two Honour tricks, AQ in the same suit = 1/2 Honour Trick, A or KQ or KJ10 in the same suit = one Honour trick, Kx or QJx = 1/2 an Honour trick. You then added one "plus value" for any Queen not already counted and any Jack in a suit with a higher honour.

To open the bidding you needed two Honour tricks and at least two plus values and a six-card suit, or 2 1/2 Honour tricks and at least two plus values and a five-card rebiddable suit, or three Honour tricks with two suits.) They were basic in Ely Culbertson's system, back in the 1920s and 30s.

Culbertson was a great showman who became rich, was highly extravagant, and lost and gained fortunes several times over. He

was considered the foremost authority in America on contract bridge for many years, and he was credited with making the game of bridge very fashionable and socially accepted. According to the Bridge Guys www.bridgeguys.com), "The bridge player of today must realize that card playing was considered idle work and a pastime of the devil during that era."

And it's not now?

On March 28 five and a half tables were indeed bedevilled, but George Laundry and Ron Hall triumphed over Old Nick, emerging as Number One. Almost as successful were Gillian Mouat and Jennifer Quick, followed by Ian Thomas and Zelly Taylor, then Joanne Elizabeth and Jill Evans.

April 4 saw another battle with Lucifer, five full tables participating. This time the astute understanding of honour and tricks soundly defeated the devil plus all and sundry, making Isabelle Richardson and Paul Retallack the supreme victors with a 73 per cent score when the aver-

age was 54 per cent. Flo and George Laundry also scored high for second place, and again the Thomas/Taylor team were third. Fourth to defeat the bad guy and the rest of the contenders were Gisela Welsh and Blanche Poborsa.

There were four and a half tables on April 11 and the combination of George Laundry and Paul Retallack delivered a knockout blow with an average of 71.5 per cent to win handily. Backing them up were Ron Hall and Bob Morrisette, with Gillian Mouat and Jennifer Quick right behind. Then came the fourth pair to give the devil his due, namely Patricia Hewett and Jean Elder.

Wise words from Ely: "The bizarre world of cards is a world of pure power politics where rewards and punishments are meted out immediately." Poor Beelzebub never had a chance. Nor did those left in limbo to contemplate their bridge sins.

If you're tempted by this idle pastime and need info, please contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.

GARDENING

Climbing plants talk next for garden club

Robin Hopper presents at April 27 meeting

Robin Hopper will speak to the Salt Spring Garden Club about climbing plants at next Wednesday's club meeting at Community Gospel Chapel.

Gardening Above Your Head

— Viners, Twiners and Climbers begins at 7:30 p.m.

Hopper, from Metchosin, will speak about how to use climbing plants and what their needs might be to perform well over a 12-month period.

He will start with a look at the design and creative use of support systems for different

plants and will then look at the great variety of climbing plants through the seasons.

Hopper was snowed in for his planned February 23 visit, so the club is pleased he was able to reschedule for the April 27 event.

Non-club members are welcome to attend for a \$5 cost.

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

E-BOOKS

Bantock, iPad and a new app

Technology embedded in The Venetian

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

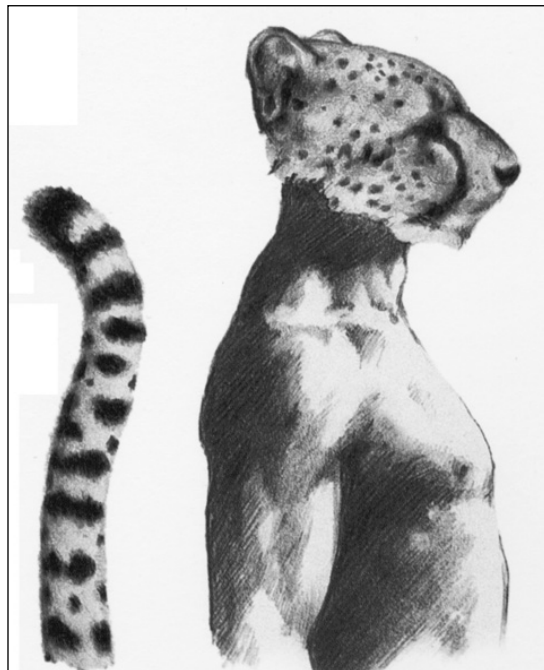
Island-based and internationally celebrated artist/author Nick Bantock is once

again at the forefront of a creative movement with a new iPad app called The Venetian.

Back in 1991, Bantock helped revolutionize storytelling and books when he created an enchanting tale through correspondence called Griffin and Sabine. Since then he has sold over five million books in 13 different languages, established collage as a credible art form and put together a massive solo show in Denver.

Although his work is largely informed by the sensory pleasures of paper products and he describes himself as “a bit of a Luddite,” Bantock is in many ways the natural heir to technological advances in publishing. The Griffin and Sabine trilogy received treatment as a groundbreaking CD-ROM in 1997. (It incorporated voice acting from Paul McGann, Isabella Rossellini and Ben Kingsley and received BAFTA awards for Best Moving Image and Best Sound.)

Published by SageTales, whose founders were part of the innovative company that brought out the Griffin and Sabine CD-ROM, The Venetian is just the first step in bringing Bantock’s work to the world of apps. Besides the fun little features that e-books include as a matter of course, he feels they are the way of



Marco, an image from The Venetian.

itself) are the kind you might very well want to follow. The narrative follows San Francisco art conservator Sara Wolfe, who receives mysterious messages directing her to locate some antique statues from India. The stranger sending the emails professes to be the ghost of Venetian merchant Niccolo Dei Conti (an actual historic person) who is literally trapped in the machine.

Bantock explained that part of the original inspiration behind the book was to tell the story of this little known merchant, who travelled to China and India and whose findings influenced the course of the Renaissance, but who disappeared off history’s map.

Combining Bantock’s signature blend of art and storytelling, The Venetian is the chance to discover an historic mystery and watch a romance unfold over centuries through 200 pages and 50 illustrations. It’s not so much interactive as enriched with added visual and sound bites, as the author points out.

“What we’ve tried to do is rather than fill the thing with novelty and gadgets, is just to add a few things to invoke a sense of magic.”

The Venetian is available for iPad users at the iTunes store for just \$4.99.

the future.

“I love books — I really, physically love books, but the churning out of modern paperbacks and hardcovers really shouldn’t be happening,” Bantock said, noting the huge waste in resources needed to produce objects that often just get turned back into piles of pulp.

“I decided to jump ahead and go directly to iPad, because the general consensus is this is the route publishing has to take [and] Apple’s iPad is so far ahead of everybody else.”

The Venetian’s Wife, the original form of the book, was one of the first ever novels to record email corre-

spondence when it was published in 1996. And by making The Venetian an iPad app, Bantock is taking the first steps in exploring the potential for storytelling to transcend its traditional format.

“A book is linear. So is a picture and even a movie,” Bantock said.

“The potential of storytelling in this medium has the ability to go off many tangents — if you like a character you could go into their background and then go back and re-enter the story, for example.”

The characters in The Venetian (which has been slightly updated to include the new technology within the story

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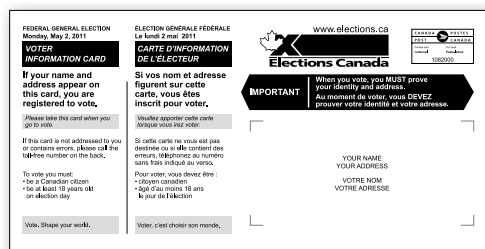
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Raj Kreisler at the Saturday market in Centennial Park — for 25 years.

PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Herbs and perennials man keeps it local

Raj Kreisler celebrates 25 years of market life

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Anyone who thinks getting involved with the Saturday market in Ganges might offer a great segue for a one-day work-week and the easy-going nature of island life had better speak with Raj Kreisler before lining up at Centennial Park.

“When many people think of me they usually think of the market, but there’s a lot more that goes on,” he said during a recent interview on land he and his wife Bonnie Curran lease from the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga.

Twenty-five years ago, the newly arrived American ex-pat signed up for his first market season as a local purveyor of fine herbs

and perennial plants.

With a university degree in horticulture, plenty of energy, the San Jose, Calif. native figured the market was the perfect venue for his budding green thumb and a do-it-yourself lifestyle.

Within a matter of years, however, Kreisler’s pursuit of island life had made him one of the largest suppliers of bedding plants in the southern Vancouver Island region.

His business, the young and low-key Salt Spring Island Nursery, became a household name among backyards from Victoria to Ladysmith.

At its zenith, Salt Spring Island Nursery featured up to as many as 300 different bedding plants.

Looking back on his first 25 years, Kreisler credits his success with an ability to adapt and wear multiple hats rather than follow-

At its zenith, Salt Spring Island Nursery featured up to as many as 300 different bedding plants.

ing through with any predefined business plan.

It’s a scenario that’s common to many who seek to make a life, raise a family and earn a living on the island, and Kreisler wouldn’t trade it for anything.

In Kreisler’s case, the journey began with an opportunity to lease some prime agricultural land on the Salt Spring Centre’s property.

Although he and his wife own a property on the island’s south end, he said, none of the couple’s success would have been possible without such a long-term commitment from the Salt Spring Centre.

In nearly three decades, Kreisler and Curran have increased the Centre’s gardens from half an acre to three acres. Most of the food produced on site goes to the centre’s kitchen and the island’s Copper Kettle group.

As if that wasn’t enough work, Kreisler extended his business year by offering up his passion for pruning fruit trees during the low-season months from September to April.

With a long list of satisfied clients, never-ending referrals and a steady supply of trees awaiting a trim, Kreisler said, he’s finally gotten to the point where he’s trying to cut back on his number of clients.

KREISLER continued on 20



Information or questions call Chris Dixon 250 537 2840

GREEN EDITION

WASTE REDUCTION

Moby's takes 'extreme green' route in waste reduction

Restaurant produces less than one grocery-size bag of garbage per week

For Moby's Oyster Bar + Marine Grill, a garbage reduction plan has produced astonishing results.

In less than a year the restaurant has moved from creating six cubic yards of waste per month to about three small grocery bags.

"The restaurant industry is notorious for the amount of waste it produces, from food scraps, plastic wrap, cardboard and plastic and other containers," states a press release

from Moby's. "Yet this industry leader, which serves an average of 30,000 meals each year, produces far less garbage than the average family household. How do they accomplish this?"

"Our entire staff is dedicated to recycling," Moby's owner Robert Steinbach said. "The first step is believing

that you can make a difference in what ends up in landfills across the nation."

"We have learned to identify all the different materials we handle and to have containers ready to receive the different types of recyclables we generate. Our kitchen is fairly small, but we utilize the space well to accommodate our recycling needs."

Moby's gradually implemented the recycling program over the course of slightly less than a year.

"We divide our waste into categories: organics,

cardboard, hard plastics, glass, metal and foil, soft plastics and 'garbage as a last resort,'" said Steinbach. "Cardboard is the easiest to separate and we've done that for a long time. Apart from the organics, this is the material that provides the greatest part of our waste stream. Glass, metal and hard plastics were next. This part was easy as we do not produce too much of this type of waste. The biggest step was learning about — and then separating — our organic waste. That caused the single biggest decline in

our garbage output."

About two months after beginning to recycle organics, Moby's service provider brought in some small bags of composted material, which were handed out to staff members at their regular weekly meeting.

"It was at this moment that the light really went on for us," Steinbach said. "We all realized that what we sent out of the restaurant was actually being returned to the land for productive use, closing the loop and making

the 'lifecycle of waste' come alive for us. That was a very exciting moment!"

After that, Moby's started to separate its soft plastics and is now almost garbage-free. "There are a few things we can't recycle yet, like broken plates, glasses and light bulbs. But we are all eager to see if we can become completely garbage free."

Steinbach said Moby's is working with its service partners, especially ReFuse Resource Recovery in Victoria, to see if there's more it can do.

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Kreiser no stranger to change

KREISLER

continued from 19

It may have been the long hard winter, the magnitude of a silver anniversary or a plain old desire for something new that's got Kreiser yearning for change.

And he's no stranger to change.

In the late 1980s, as the mass-produced bedding plant invasion from the Lower Mainland began crowding the market, demand for Kreiser's bedding plants shrank dramatically.

"The focus turned towards the packaging," he said. "Everybody

wanted big plants and fancy containers."

Faced with a decision to compromise on quality or keep up with his competition, Kreiser elected to keep it small and keep it local.

Apart from getting supplies from Victoria, Kreiser said, his business is entirely island based and island focused. At the same time, his wife had established a cut flower business that picked up as Kreiser's bedding plant business began to wane around late June.

While an emphasis on quality product with an increasing use of organic material allowed him

to produce a consistent product for the couple's local customers, a surge in organic methods and all things local finally seems to have caught up with them.

Since he's been encouraging local food production for nearly three decades, Kreiser is happy that the phenomenon has made strides towards the mainstream.

He said completion of the Salt Spring Island Area Farm Plan in 2008 and the move towards setting up more local food production, processing and storage infrastructure bodes well for what's to come in the next 25 years and beyond.

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SALT SPRING

GREEN EDITION

GREEN BUILDING

EcoNest educates island on natural building techniques

Workshops set for Salt Spring this summer

EcoNest's founders, Robert Laporte and Paula Baker-Laporte, are gearing up for their natural building workshops this summer on Salt Spring. Laporte is a master timber framer, an original board director for the Timber Framers' Guild, and pioneer of light clay construction in the USA. Baker-Laporte is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, a certified Bau-biologist and primary author of Prescriptions for a Healthy House. Together they have co-authored the book EcoNest and, in partnership with home owners and affiliate contractors, have built EcoNest homes in 17 states and four provinces. Oregon freelance writer Jenica Faye conducted the following Q&Q interview.

Q: Your summer headquarters for EcoNest workshops are on Salt Spring Island. What brought you here?

PBL: We've been drawn for some time to the Pacific North-west for the abun-

dance of its fertile natural environment. The progressive nature of Salt Spring has drawn us to kindred spirits here.

RL: There is a genuine interest in living in harmony with nature that exudes from this community.

Q: Tell me a little bit about the EcoNest Company.

RL: EcoNest's purpose is to help people understand and experience the joy of living in a natural home. Our goal is to make the benefits of personal health, comfort and planetary ecology accessible to as many people as possible.

Q: What is an EcoNest?

RL: An EcoNest is a living sanctuary of clay, straw and timber. Using these natural (nontoxic) materials we construct homes that are designed following the principles of building biology (building for optimum health and ecology). This fusion of philosophy and practice creates the nurturing and sustainable environment that is the EcoNest.

Q: What is the difference between this

type of building and cob or straw bale?

PBL: The difference is mainly in the combining of materials, rather than relying on them individually. An EcoNest is a marriage of the insulated properties of straw bale and the mass or heat retaining qualities of cob (clay).

Q: What are some of the benefits of building a home this way?

PBL: Health, beauty, comfort and ecology. Because of its hygroscopic nature, clay has the ability to intercept moisture and regulate it to improve the living climate inside the home. In concert with other local natural materials and healthy protocols, a highly nurturing indoor environment is created.

Q: You also mentioned the EcoNest's insulation qualities. Can you discuss this further?

RL: Because the walls are a controllable balance of mass and insulation, the EcoNest building system thrives in temperate four-season climates. Climatically responsive design is paramount and that is why we incorporate proper roof overhang,

outdoor living, passive solar features and roof water collection into our homes.

Q: Robert, when did you begin teaching these natural building workshops?

RL: In 1979 I started teaching log building and timber framing workshops in Canada.

As I began to realize the ecological and health consequences of the conventional materials I was using in these structures, I went to Europe to study its strongest and oldest buildings, which were built without the "benefits" of our post WWII petro-chemical revolution. In Europe, where this type of solid wall construction was historically used, it is more common to think of the age of a home in terms of centuries rather than decades. I took what I learned and developed it into an energy efficient natural building "envelope" for my handcrafted timber frame structures.

In 1990 I began to teach holistic workshops, employing a family of techniques that included the clay/straw natural wall system for timber frame homes.

Over the years I've

taught over 1,500 students this integrated system of technologies that include natural floors, natural plasters and more.

Q: What skills does a participant need to have?

PBL: Workshops are attended by novices and professional builders alike. All ages from teens to grandparents have participated.

Q: What can a workshop participant expect to experience?

PBL: A lot of experiential learning. In our seminars and workshops it has been rewarding to see that for some a workshop is a transformative experience with nature and with themselves; for some it is the first step to creating their own natural home, and for a few it is the awakening of the craftsmen

within and the start of a life long career.

RL: In my experience building one's own shelter is a rite of passage. When I built my first natural home I had a sense of belonging for the first time in my life. I was on my journey home. Earth as Mother made sense.

To learn more about EcoNest, or to register for a workshop, visit www.econest.com.

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GREEN EDITION

GREEN TRANSPORTATION: Maya Boucher leaves a small carbon footprint as she and Sweet Water Poppy make their way around Salt Spring.

PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY LUNDY



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July 25 - 29	Timber Framing
July 30	Home: Your Nesting Instinct
Aug 1-4	Clay-Fiber Walls
Aug 5-6	Natural Plasters
Aug 8-11	Roof Construction

Learn more about each workshop and register online at www.econest.com

Fifteen per cent by 2015

Ways to meet the Salt Spring climate action challenge

vulnerable. We depend on fossil fuels for transportation, including the ferries that bring us — and everything we need — here. We rely on imported food. We are vulnerable to severe weather events like wind storms and storm surges. Hotter, drier summers pose greater risks of devastating forest fires. Sea level rise will affect our shorelines and low-lying buildings.

Like every B.C. community, Salt Spring has targets for reducing greenhouse emissions in our official community plan. We're going for reductions, over 2007 levels, of at least 15 per cent by 2015; 40 per cent by 2020; and 85 per cent by 2050.

To help meet those targets, islanders working together under the umbrella of the Salt Spring Island Climate Action Council have drafted the Salt Spring Climate Action Plan. It is part of an ongoing, community-wide initiative to reduce Salt Spring's carbon footprint.

Meeting the goal

The Salt Spring Climate Action Plan shows that we can reach our

2015 target of at least 15 per cent reductions through small changes to our driving and grocery shopping habits, changes such as:

- Eliminating one trip in five
- Buying less junk food and processed food
- Giving someone a ride one trip in four
- Eating meat and dairy free one meal a week
- Driving smart, no idling
- Buying more local and regional organic food

Everyone is invited to adapt these suggestions to fit their own circumstances. Getting our carbon footprint under control depends on individuals and families, groups and organizations, businesses, institutions and local government getting the message and pitching in. Will you help meet the challenge?

Groups like Transition Salt Spring, the Transportation Commission and Island Pathways, the Salt Spring Island Agricultural Alliance and Island Natural Growers are already working on their own programs for greenhouse gas reduction and are increasing community resilience to climate change.

By coming together and supporting one another's efforts we can and will meet our responsibilities in the face of climate change. The Climate Action Council invites you to share your plans and successes. Climate Action Council members are available to discuss the Climate Action Plan with island groups and organizations.

The Climate Action Council includes representatives from:

Capital Regional District, Islands Trust, Institute for Sustainability Education and Action, Island Pathways, Salt Spring Agricultural Alliance, Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, Salt Spring Transportation Commission, Salt Spring Water Council, Salt Spring Conservancy, Transition Salt Spring and the Earth Festival Society.

To contact the Climate Action Council, email coordinator@climateactionsaltspring.ca or call 250-537-2616.

For more information, to read the Salt Spring Climate Action Plan, and to add comments, see www.climateactionsaltspring.ca.

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PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEERISM

Local finds joy among human trafficking survivors

School sponsorships and craft customers sought

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When Laura Roveda went to volunteer with women and girls rescued from human trafficking in India, along with her intention to help and a bag full of art supplies she took some expectations with her.

Finding overwhelming joy among the survivors was not one of them.

Roveda was in Kolkata (Calcutta) to work with two allied groups, Made by Survivors and the Women's Interlink Foundation. Girls and young women who have been rescued from human slavery, often from prostitution, live in two shelter homes where they receive education and learn practical employment skills.

"We didn't really know any of the girls' stories, and it was better that we didn't, in a way, because it's not about their past," Roveda said.

"They didn't need our pity or to be held in that space... They're moving forward."

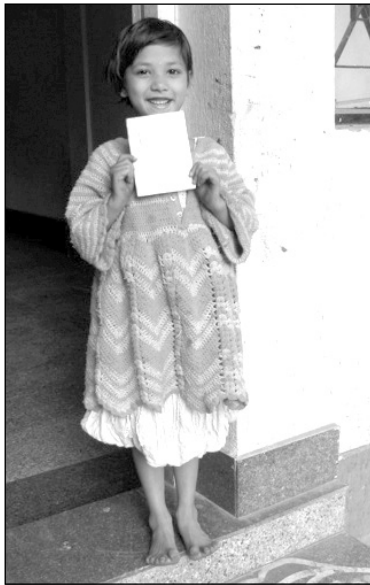


PHOTO BY LAURA ROVEDA

Girl with artwork at shelter home.

The young women in the shelter homes did not "choose" to become sex workers. They were sold by the men in their villages as having no other value.

"Many of them were trafficked initially, and then cast away, and this is the only means they have to earn

income," Roveda explained, noting those who are sold and later abandoned remain tainted by their history and are not accepted back into their home villages.

Children in the homes are as young as four or five years old, and may have been left behind by women who contracted HIV and AIDS. Others have been orphaned by other causes or separated from their parents during upheavals.

Roveda and a small group of volunteers visited two shelter homes called Nijaloy and Child Care Home. CCH houses the Made By Survivors jewellery program, where the residents learn to make products that are sold at fair trade prices to support the program.

Nijaloy has a tailoring program where the women do block printing (traditionally a male profession) on saris and other items like tablecloths, napkins and place mats.

"We spent most of the days at these two places," Roveda said. "We brought arts and crafts projects which we did with the girls, painted a mural there and hung out with them."

Despite having only a few key

phrases in Bengali, and not much English among the residents, the volunteers made strong connections with the women and children.

"They can be so poor, but they're so happy. They sang their way into our hearts, you know," Roveda said.

Roveda met one young woman whose disability caused her to lose use of one hand. It makes creating jewellery difficult and her hopes of getting married one day unlikely. Project coordinators have recently learned that for \$1,500 the woman can have surgery and physical therapy that will return 80 per cent use of the hand. They are currently looking for \$50 donations to help her out.

"It's 50 bucks — 50 bucks can change a life, completely, and make a huge difference," Roveda said.

The group also visited two after-school programs, one for children of mothers who are sex workers in the red light district and one for children living in slums. Some of the children are also sponsored by Made by Survivors to attend day school or boarding school programs.

"It would be fantastic to have all the children sponsored so that they can actually have a chance at a life

outside of where they are living," said Roveda, who is making that area her key focus now that she's returned. Kids can be sponsored for just \$30 per month for regular school, with 100 per cent of the donation going to their education.

Other projects the volunteers saw included a stained glass program in partnership between the WIF and MBS, the Destiny Program where girls sew items which are sold on the MBS website, and two tribal villages that are part of the Endogenous Rural Tourism project, which is supported by WIF and the local government for trafficking prevention.

Roveda has already decided to return to Kolkata next winter and intends to bring along "a lot more stickers," as well as introducing the saori loom as a craft production technique.

"I can't imagine not going again — after meeting them and connecting with them, to never see them again," she said.

For more information about the program, to buy MBS craft products or sponsor a student, visit www.madebysurvivors.com and www.womensinterlinkfoundation.org.

BIRDS

Birders set to give talk

Al and Jude Grass give woodpecker presentation

A presentation on woodpeckers is being offered next week by husband and wife naturalist team Al and Jude Grass.

Co-sponsored by the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club and the Salt Spring Conservancy, the presentation will take place on Friday, April 29 at 7 p.m. at Lions Hall. There will also be a Saturday morning field trip event.

"As members of the B.C. Field Ornithologists, B.C. Waterfowl Society, Federation of B.C. Naturalists, Bird Studies Canada, Wild Bird Trust of British Columbia and of the Vancouver Natural History Society, Burke Mountain Naturalists and Langley Field Naturalists, Al and Jude Grass are our West Coast 'birders' par excellence," states a press release.

The Grasses will offer their insights and share their experience with woodpeckers, from red-breasted sapsuckers to northern flickers, Lewis, pileated and hairy down.

A Saturday field excursion has also been planned. People can register with Nieke Visser at 250-537-5443 or niekevisser@shaw.ca. Since space is limited, people should sign up as soon as possible.

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THEATRE

Stagecoach kids: wizardry and hard work



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY
Catelyn Creswick plays a wicked and good witch in Stagecoach Theatre School's production of *The Wizard of Oz*, which runs next week at ArtSpring.

Wizard of Oz centres year-end production

This year Stagecoach Theatre School has gone down the yellow brick road of theatre classics for a presentation of *The Wizard of Oz* set for ArtSpring next weekend.

The youth performing arts school will present the popular musical at ArtSpring on Friday-Saturday, April 29-30 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, May 1 at 2 p.m.

To start off the evening, the junior theatre class will perform original work, which the school says "will delight, inspire and leave you giggling."

Then, the senior show choir will perform dazzling song and dance pieces, followed by the Oz production.

Accompanying the kids will be Stagesoach Theatre School's live band, comprised of musical director and keyboardist Karen Arney, bassist Andy Hick-

man and drummer Dave Milutinovic.

This year, guest dance instructors Robbyn Scott, Sue Newman and Amy Walker joined theatre and musical instructors Adina Hildebrandt, Maggie O'Scalleigh, Kate Maurice and Oona McOuat to help the kids hone their theatrical skills.

The show length is approximately two hours, including an intermission.

Tickets, which are avail-

able at ArtSpring, cost \$10 for kids 13 and under, and \$15 for adults. Tickets can also be purchased online at artspring.ca.

Stagecoach Theatre School provides first-class instruction in the dramatic arts, stressing the importance of cooperation, communication, creative thinking, teamwork, dependability, focus and responsibility in an imaginative journey that transforms ideas into positive collective experiences.

ARTS EVENTS

Forty fabulous spots for 5th Easter Art Tour

Mahon Hall exhibit and self-guided tour

Salt Spring comes to life this Easter weekend with the 5th Annual Easter Art Tour. Nearly 40 artist studios, galleries and special exhibits will be represented. This year, the feature exhibit at Mahon Hall is a group show of all participating artists as well as a selection of art from the participating

galleries. In all, a spectacular showcase of over 50 works of art under one roof.

"Having grown from modest beginnings five years ago, this program of the Salt Spring Arts Council has continued to blossom and grow, and now it is hard to imagine Easter without the tour," explains a press release. "The mix of artists changes each year, but when the map is printed this week, it will be peppered with

places to visit. While on the tour you can meet the artists, take a glimpse into the life of a working studio and maybe even walk away with a great piece of art."

People can start their tour at Mahon Hall by picking up a map. The art they see in the group show will then help guide their itinerary.

"In past years you were never really sure of what you would find when you arrived

at a studio, but this year, it is all laid out for you. The organizers hope that this will help tourists focus their visits to the studios that interest them the most."

The Easter Art Tour runs Friday, April 22 through Sunday, April 24 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, and there will be a vernissage — an art opening — on Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. with artists in attendance.

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- Driftwood

NIGHT LIFE

Politics aside for Party Band night

Top-notch island musicians play at Moby's Thursday

Islanders with "no party affiliation" other than a desire to have some fun are invited to an evening of just that at Moby's this Thursday.

That's when long-time Salt Spring resident musicians Dave Davies, Bill Henderson, Greg Pauker and Mike Stefancik — aka The Party Band — will be on hand dishing out rock and roll rhetoric.

According to Pauker, "they're all members of that secret sect of musicians who get together weekly and do nothing but play for fun."

"On this rare occasion out of the woodshed" they will be on stage at Moby's on Thursday, April 21.

A mixture of guitar-flavoured tunes from Stevie Ray to Bill Henderson originals are guaranteed to get people dancing.

The evening gets underway at 8 and goes until midnight.

"All 'party' members are definitely welcome," they say.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

EXHIBITION REVIEW

New blooms stem from deep roots

Jensen father-daughter show at Gallery 8 until May 1

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gallery 8's showcase exhibition on LeRoy Jensen and Gabrielle Jensen brings a fresh perspective on this continuing creative legacy with previously unreleased works by the father and a new direction for the daughter of the pair.

LeRoy, who passed away in 2005, left behind a considerable body of work and a contribution to British Columbia's art world that is still gaining prominence. An impressive example of his bold style — which combines bright colours with an unusual amount of black in expressionist movement — can be vividly seen in *La Reine*.

This figure (a play on the artist's own name?) is a fitting consort for his painting strengths. The view is framed so that the top of her head reaches the very top of the canvas and drops to just below the waist, while on the horizontal axis her wide bosom, arms and skirts manage to reach the side edges as well. Dressed in Marie Antoinette style, and having the familiar facial characteristics of many LeRoy females, she is magnificently regal and prepossessing.

LeRoy's gestural, impressionist style has a subtler power and energy in various works such as *Crossing the River Styx* and *Day's End* (both in pastel on paper) and in oil paintings *Coming of Age* and *A Gathering*.

In these works, human figures are present but defined with a few broad strokes of suggested outline. Their emergence is obscured by the prominent use of black — but with the background similarly indistinct, the seeming division between people and the world is eliminated. Each exists as a type of energy.

Seen at a distance, a series of new multimedia works by Gabrielle Jensen has similar and complementing aspects to the above works, with indistinct jewel-toned fragments obscured with heavy darkness. To approach closely, however, is to discover scenes of distinct images that emerge like ancient folk tales from the collective unconscious.



Salt Spring artist Wim Blom looks at portrait pieces by Gabrielle Jensen in the Father & Daughter Exhibition at Gallery 8.

Jensen's technique is to combine a textured build-up of material that helps create a seamless look. There are no defined edges or obvious placements of collected material, but the flowing narrative of a dream space that is emphasized by the images she's chosen. *The Guardian*, for example, combines the dominant image of a horse's head and neck in ornate bridle with tiny, naked forest children and bits of classical architecture.

What Lies Beneath finds an arched medieval bridge spanning the centre. Less distinct images just hinted at through the surrounding gloom include western-looking children on one side and elephants with mahouts on the other.

The Prophecy has a Biblical feel, with several images of robed figures holding glowing lights. The scene is made dynamic with the passage of sheep on a diagonal, rocky path and by a central swath of light turquoise. Other images include a crypt filled with skulls, stone archways and birds both dead and alive.

Some of Jensen's smaller versions at

6 by 6 inches have a Venetian sensibility of history as it decays, such as one of an older man with violin who crouches into a cliff-like background. *Rising Waters* has a dishevelled female figure grasping an edge of some sort that is obscured by the darkness ahead of her, while behind her are double doors and grilled windows in an ancient wall.

Also on display for the show are sculptures by Janis Woode, including several examples of the wound wire figures she is known for. She also has an art furniture piece called *Table for Cake* that is a functional and delightful example of industrial chic. The small, circular glass table top rests on a circular saw blade with an old-fashioned key rusted into it.

The supports are created from an old treadle-style sewing machine table. The cross support where the long pedal would be hosts a metalwork slice of cake on a plate, with an actual fork stabbed into the top of it.

The Father & Daughter Exhibition runs until May 1.


PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

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Church Schedules For Holy Week And Easter



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The New Commandment of Love and the Lord's Supper
7:00 p.m. All Saints'

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND
Proclamation and Meditation at the Cross of Christ
12 noon All Saints'

EASTER EVE, APRIL 23RD
Contemplation of Light, Our Ancient Stories, and Signs of Water, Bread and Wine
10:00 p.m. All Saints'

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 24TH
9:30 a.m. All Saints' BAS Festival Eucharist
11:30 a.m. St. Mark's BCP Festival Eucharist
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Easter Sunday April 24
St. Paul's - Fulford 8 a.m.
Our Lady of Grace – Ganges 10am

ISLAND WHEELS

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

NEW CAR REVIEW

2011 CHEVROLET SILVERADO

stands apart from the others

Bigger, better truck hits the streets

BY ROB BEINTEMA
METROLAND NEWSPAPERS
CARGUIDE MAGAZINE

Media Day at the auto show was in high gear, the tangled knot of press corps and public relations flacks pinballing from presentation to presentation.

Every once in a while you need to veer out of that orbit to patrol the outer reaches of the show, away from the circus, away from the flashing cameras, the microphones and the carefully choreographed speeches.

Out there, on the periphery, you can look at leisure, stroll and read the display boards, run your fingers along the body panel gaps, poke and prod the upholstery, or maybe just sit and absorb the intangibles of a car's interior ambience.

Or you could find yourself stopped short in front of something like the 2011 Chevrolet Silverado Heavy-Duty pickup truck. I'd probably been drawn to it because I'd just driven it, and it was sort of a last chance to check off some of my mental boxes of opin-



The 2011 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD 4WD Crew Cab in Sheer Silver Metallic, as tested, powered by a new 6.6-litre turbo diesel with 765 lb/ft torque.

ions and impressions.

The big pickup stood there on the outer edge of the show, awkward as a wallflower at the dance, a behemoth dwarfing lesser vehicles, somehow physically and philosophically removed from the newsy hullabaloo over hybrids, electric cars and future fantasy concepts.

Yet the Silverado HD is a story on its own, a bigger,

better truck for 2011 with significant changes, new technologies and with upgrades built in from the ground up.

This is the workhorse niche, a niche where need supplants desire, where substance tends to outweigh style and where men in workboots and denim would gather, far away from the media buzz, to pose questions coded in the terminology of towing.

SILVERADO continued on 28

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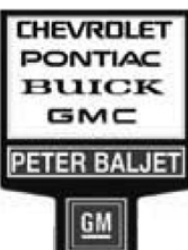
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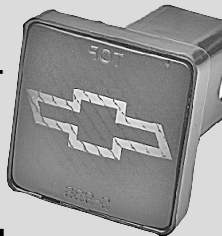
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ISLAND WHEELS

A new truck for 2011

SILVERADO
continued from 6

Asking about things like gross vehicle weight ratings, tow/haul modes, exhaust braking, tow ratings, fifth-wheel availability and payload capacities. It may seem a narrow niche at first, but it offers a myriad of model choices from 2500 to 3500 weight classes, with Regular Cab, Extended Cab or Crew Cab configurations, 2WD or 4X4 drive options, 6'6" or 8' pickup boxes, diesel- or gasoline-powered engines and three trim levels expanded by option packages. Yeah, lots of choices.

I stepped over the frame rail of an open chassis display, stood there in the skeletal centre of the truck's steel grid platform and marvelled again at just how damned big the thing was, with a body length that would stretch to 6581mm at its longest, or about 21.5 feet.

That chassis, the start of all good things, now features a more rigid, fully-boxed frame, pre-drilled for fifth-wheel application with a reinforced rear suspension, stronger front independent suspension, bigger ABS disk brakes, and mounting a slew of dynamic technologies that include Hill Start Assist, StabiliTrak with trailer sway control, auto grade braking and integrated trailer brake control.

Up front, it offers a choice of two very different V8 engines. The standard and venerable Vortec 6.0-litre gasoline-powered V-8 makes 360 hp at 5400 rpm and 380 lb/ft of torque at 4200 rpm and is hooked up to a strengthened Hydra-Matic 6L90 six-speed automatic transmission.

My 2500HD tester harnessed the optional new Duramax 6.6-litre turbo diesel-powered V8 (\$9,670) rated at 397 hp at 3000 rpm with an astonishing 765 lb/ft of torque available at a low 1600 rpm. The six-speed Allison automatic transmission is not far removed from medium-duty com-

mercial truck applications and features a tow/haul mode and exhaust braking shift pattern.

Heavy-duty trucks don't normally come with fuel economy ratings. Most of the emphasis is on hauling power and towing abilities. But I expect truck drivers feel the fuel pump pinch as much as the rest of us, especially at a nickel to a dime more per litre for diesel, so I came up with my own set of numbers.

Chevy engineers boast an 11 per cent fuel efficiency improvement and estimate a range of up to 1090 km per 136-litre tank, which means their best-case scenario is an optimistic 12.5L/100km.

On my first test, driving a reserved 50/50 city/hwy split, I averaged 15.5L/100km. Then I refilled and put some hard city miles on the truck, driving it like I'd stolen it, which left a lot of sports car owners stunned at the stoplight line, courtesy of the diesel's massive 765 lb/ft of torque. I got about 20L/100km playing the bad boy, not bad enough compared to pickups of the past.

Finally, my wife and I topped up with takeout coffee and diesel fuel and took to the highway. Keeping in mind that the only thing we were hauling was us, the engine spun at a sedate 1500 rpm at 100 kph, and we used 39 litres over 330 km for a very user-friendly 11.8L/100km, better than GM's prediction.

So how do we sum up this truck? GM Canada refers to it simply as "the even heavier-duty 2011 Chevrolet Silverado HD". It's still more about function than form in this category. And with a long list of technological and performance improvements, with strengths and capabilities that rival, and in most cases, beat the competition, the Silverado HD stands apart on its own merit and may well be the new benchmark in the heavy-duty pickup class.

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ISLAND WHEELS



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

EARTH CAR: Vince Argiro drew lots of attention parked near Centennial Park on Earth Day with his sporty-looking all-electric Tesla.

VEHICLE SAFETY

Perils of potholes are upon us

Keep a watchful eye

As the ravages of winter subside and temperatures rise, there is probably a pothole out there with your name on it.

Drivers know immediately when they hit a pothole. The heart-stopping, teeth-jarring noise is hard to mistake. However, it's not always immediately clear if hitting the pothole caused damage to the vehicle, and to what extent.

Hitting a pothole can damage tires, wheels, steering and suspension, wheel alignment and more. Be Car Care Aware Canada recommends that motorists who experience any of the following warning signs after hitting a pothole should have a professional technician at their local repair shop inspect the vehicle:

- Loss of control, swaying when making routine turns, bottoming-out on city streets or bouncing excessively on rough roads. These are indicators that the steering and

suspension may have been damaged. The steering and suspension are key safety-related systems. Together, they largely determine a car's ride and handling. Key components are shocks and/or struts, the steering knuckle, ball joints, the steering rack/box, bearings, seals and hub units and tie rod ends.

- Pulling in one direction, instead of maintaining a straight path, and uneven tire wear. These symptoms mean there's an alignment problem. Proper wheel alignment is important for the lifespan of tires and helps ensure safe handling.

- Low tire pressure, bulges or blisters on the sidewalls, or dents in the rim. These problems will be visible and should be checked out as soon as possible as tires are the critical connection between your car and the road in all sorts of driving conditions.

Here are some tips to help protect vehicles against a pothole encounter:

- Maintain full air pressure in all

tires to provide as much cushion as possible between the pothole and the rim of the tire.

- Watch for potholes by leaving plenty of space between your vehicle and the one in front of you.

- Before swerving around a pothole, be sure to check surrounding traffic.

- If you can't avoid a pothole — at least slow down! Hitting a pothole at high speed increases the chance of damage to tires, wheels, shocks, struts or springs.

- When driving over a pothole-filled road, hold the steering wheel firmly to avoid losing control.

- Do not brake when directly over a pothole. Applying the brakes causes the car's weight to shift to the front of the wheel and can increase damage from the impact.

- A broken shock or strut from a pothole encounter could alter the steering and handling of a vehicle; components should be repaired immediately.

Source: Be Car Care Aware Canada

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

HANDS ON: Three of four Maya Hoffman Memorial Scholarship winners meet with Paul Large of Country Grocer, whose company's support in part made the grants possible. Pictured winners are Frieda MacQueen-Denz, Ella MacQueen-Denz and Amy Horth. Missing is Gabriel Puhky. Misha Meagly also earned a scholarship from ArtSpring's new Arts Exploration Fund.

FINE ART

Work by Ireland native displayed at SS Fine Art

Opening event on Saturday

Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art welcomes guest artist Dorothy Tinman for a one-week show beginning Saturday, April 23.

A native of Ireland, but now a resident of Salt Spring Island, Tinman's work features Irish landscapes and seascapes, often of the dramatic west coast of Ireland.

"Her style is modern, semi-abstract," states a gallery press release. "She uses thick impasto oils, often contrasted with areas of transparent glazes, to capture the dramatic light and atmosphere of her scenes. Each painting has a tactile surface that seems to bring the elements of the countryside closer."

Tinman has exhibited widely throughout the British Isles, the U.S.A. and Canada. Her work has been on display at Bocados Bistro in the last few months.

Tinman's exhibition begins Saturday with an artist's reception from 1 to 3 p.m., which is a good time to come and meet Tinman in person.

The show ends Friday, April 29.

The gallery is now open seven days a week, including Easter Sunday. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Klemm picks up award

International award for Italian Journey images

Salt Spring-based photographer Eric Klemm has earned a first-place award at the Worldwide 2010 Annual Pollux Awards.

The awarded photographs in the Landscape-Portfolio category are from Klemm's recent book project called Italian Journey, inspired by German poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's trip to Italy in 1786.

As explained in press material, for Italian Journey Klemm made precisely the same trip, visiting the same stations on exactly the same day as did the poet — only 223 years later. The coffee table book of the same name should be published this year by distinguished German printing and publishing house Steidl.

Klemm's work is in international collections and museums such as the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, the Portland Art Museum, The National Portrait Gallery in London and the Saarland Museum Saarbruecken, Germany.

Klemm is represented by the Pegasus Gallery of Canadian Art on Salt Spring, Kipton Art in New York and, from May 2011 onwards, by LUMAS Galleries in Berlin, Paris, Zurich, London, Wien, New York.

For more information on Klemm's work visit www.ericcklemm.com.

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Gamelan Gita Amsara

with Balinese Artists

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Ni Putu Widiatini (dance director)

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and additional guest dancers Shoko Yamamuro and Keiko Ninomiya



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With thanks for the support of the UBC Dean of Arts' Andrew Fellowship and UBC School of Music

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FUNDRAISER

Japan relief focus at Shake it for the Quake v2.0

Community dance on April 23

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The coordinator of a highly successful fundraiser for victims of the

Haiti earthquake in 2010 is back at it this year with Shake it for the Quake v2.0: Japan.

Mya Hardman, the organizer of the upcoming dance and entertainment set for Saturday, April 23 at

Beaver Point Hall, said her past experience proves that individual action can mean a lot when it's put together as a collective effort.

"The inspiration is just to keep from feeling too helpless," Hardman

said. "We can't afford to give a lot on our own, but as a community it isn't too hard to bring people together."

"By doing that, you can save hundreds or thousands of people — and it worked really well last time," she observed.

"It was just a really good vibe all around." The evening begins at 6 p.m. with live music on stage until 9, in a line-up featuring Sweet Water Revolver, Dano Hammer, The Barefoot Thieves and the AMAZING Coalition.

The electronic component takes over after that point with music

"We can't afford to give a lot on our own, but as a community it isn't too hard to bring people together."

MYA HARDMAN
Event organizer

by DJs Dan Snakehead, Andrew from Interchill and Timothy Wisdom. The Salt Spring Fire Performers will be spinning their magic throughout the night and Hardman promised a "tasteful" performance by Cream Burlesque.

Hardman said the event has been planned to be thoroughly fam-

ily friendly with well-lit areas and plenty to see and do for the little ones.

In store for the evening is authentic Japanese food prepared by local families, a kids' space with activities and sleeping room, and a raffle of items donated by local businesses. A healing tent outside

will be the place to find bodywork, reiki and other services, payable by donation.

"There's been a lot of community effort toward helping me and I'm really appreciative of that," Hardman said. "I hope it will be just as successful as last time, if not more."

Tickets will be available in advance at 133 Hereford Ave. and at the door for a sliding scale of \$15 to \$25.

All profits will go to the charity humanitarian-coalition.ca.

Hardman strongly encourages people to organize safe ride shares for the event.

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MAY DAY

Lantern procession celebrates May Day

Wild Wood Walk on May 1

Islanders can celebrate the beginning of the natural year with the Wild Wood Walk on May Day — Sunday, May 1.

A community-building project loosely based on the idea of

common land and who owns the land, it celebrates themes that are traditional to this time of year, as well as relevant to life on present-day Salt Spring.

Led by the famed Samba du Soleil, participants will move from site to site where various entertainments will be presented.

The event begins from the Mouat Park meadow on Seaview Avenue at 8 p.m.

Public lantern-making workshops will be held prior to the event.

For more information or to participate, contact organizer Wendi Gilson at wendigilson@yahoo.ca.

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WEDNESDAY 9:00am - 10:30am
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY
Maggie Argiro poses with her pastel on paper Alexandra in Aricie, as the Salt Spring Painters' Guild holds its annual spring show at ArtSpring. The exhibit runs until April 26.

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ART EXHIBITS

Coast Salish artist at Starfish

Paintings melds tradition with modernity

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A modern interpretation of First Nations heritage is the focus at the Starfish Gallery this month with an exhibition by Coast Salish artist Darlene Gait on now through May 12.

Gait, who lives and hosts a gallery of her work at the Esquimalt First Nations reserve, has a unique method of bringing together traditional motifs and imagery with a contemporary edge.

Her work has reached viewers as far away as the museums of New York City, in addition to winning support closer to home, and has been part of numerous collections and publications.

Combining realist imagery of wildlife and west coast scenes with First Peoples symbolism, Gait's art positions her heritage as part of an evolving, albeit ancient, culture.

Eerily precise in her ability to reproduce animals and nature's forms, stylistic elements such as vivid colours and a foreshortening of perspective remind the viewer that Gait's view is mythic, rather than strictly representational.

The Land That Owns Me, for example, is a panoramic view

that contains a familiar scene of ocean, islands and arbutus. But although Gait's treatment references the gently receding mist, she uses bright colours and more sharply defined elements, including an eagle on the wing that fills the immediate foreground.

Modern in feeling, the heritage which subtly influences Gait's work is found here in the traditional figures racing in two canoes, and the traces of stylized imagery worked directly into the landscape of a distant islet.

Spirit of the West Coast is a mountain view seen on a sweet midsummer evening.

Chickadees and wild blossoms are in the foreground, which recedes to a flower-filled meadow framed by firs and then to densely treed hills and higher peaks. Stars twinkle in the azure sky where a Salish motif moon is rising.

According to her website, Gait's paintings are "often inspired by her vivid dreams, which she believes must be captured by her brush and poetry and then shared." But her depictions of wildlife are often as she has observed them in reality, and demonstrate a scientific eye for detail and proportion.

When Ravens Dream (which appeared as one of several covers Gait has done for the magazine Indian Gaming) captures the quirky character of those

birds in an unusual composition.

Gait contrasts a vividly blue sky and mountain backdrop with a tight framing of the ravens amongst fiery autumn maple branches. Hanging from one branch is a small dreamcatcher.

Where Stones Talk contains some west coast mystery in a view of an owl flying over a tumbled forest stream. Candy-coloured river stones take up much of the scene from the fore- to centre ground, while the soft tangle of the rain forest is the backdrop.

The show also features an exhibition of Nicola Wheston's landscapes, which tend to focus on the trees of that artist's acquaintance.

With a strong interest in figurative work, Wheston explains that for her "trees are like people" and she works to capture the individual characteristics of each one.

Her skill can be seen in a giant cedar found at Malcolm Island, as well as the venerable twin oaks at Burgoyne Bay, among other strong examples.

Also in the show is a rare view of Mount Maxwell, seen rising behind a gorgeous field of spiky lavender plants in bloom.

Gait and Wheston will be on hand for an artists' reception taking place at Starfish Gallery this Friday, April 22 from 6 to 8 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC

Balinese group set to enchant

Gamelan Gita Asmara at ArtSpring on April 23

The ArtSpring stage is set to host one of its most "exotic" groups ever when the Gamelan Gita Asmara performs on Saturday night.

Hailing from Indonesia, a gamelan is an ensemble of various drums, gongs, xylophones, bamboo flutes and plucked and bowed strings which together play a very characteristic music typical to Bali and Java.

"Although to Westerners a first encounter with gamelan music sometimes sounds harsh or clangy and somewhat chaotic, travellers to Bali will tell you that it very quickly grows on the ear and displays great beauty and compelling energy," states an

ArtSpring press release.

Gamelan Gita Asmara was formed in 2001 by Vancouver ethnomusicologist Michael Tenzer, first as part of the UBC music department but now an independent musical society. Most members of the group are either current or former UBC music students who work regularly with some of the best musicians, composers and dancers in Bali.

Dance is a key component of performances by Gamelan Gita Asmara, and their ArtSpring performance will include several dancers visiting from Bali under the direction of Ni Putu Widiani, a graduate of the ISI Balinese Arts Institute who has been teaching in Vancouver since 2005.

What will the audience see on April 23? An orchestra of approximately 25 musicians and four

dancers all performing in Balinese costume playing both traditional repertoire, as well as new compositions, since gamelan music is a living contemporary art form in Indonesia.

"I could not resist seizing the opportunity to present this unusual and exotic performance on Salt Spring, even though our regular concert season is now over," said ArtSpring executive director George Sipos. "The arts, after all, are about new experiences and about opening new worlds of imagination for our ears and eyes."

The show begins at 8 p.m.

Tickets (\$23 for adults, \$5 for youth) for the performance are available from the ArtSpring Ticket Centre at 250-537-2102 or online at www.tickets.artspring.ca.

Capital Regional District



Invitation to Tender: Contract 11-1689 Salt Spring Island Public Library Building - Construction

This project is partially funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia through the Building Canada Fund.

Sealed Tenders, plainly marked on the envelope "Tender for Salt Spring Island Public Library Building - Construction, Contract 11-1689" will be received by the General Manager, Environmental Sustainability of the CRD at their offices at 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC up to 2 pm local time on Thursday, May 12, 2011, at which time they will be opened in public.

The works to be constructed under this Contract generally include the following:

Construction of a new 12,000 square foot library building located at 125 and 129 McPhillips Ave., Salt Spring Island, BC, including all building, civil, structural, mechanical, electrical and landscaping.

Specifications, Drawings, Contract Documents, and Tender Form may be seen at the offices of the Vancouver Regional Construction Association, 3636 East 4th Ave., Vancouver, BC; the Southern Vancouver Island Construction Association, 1075 Alston St., Victoria, BC; and the CRD, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC on or after April 18, 2011.

The CRD is making available the tender package with the drawings and specifications on a CD at a cost of \$25 (HST included). Hard copies may also be obtained from the CRD, Environmental Sustainability department, on payment of \$200 (HST included) for each copy requested, the sum of which is non-refundable. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

A mandatory pre-tender site meeting will be held at 108 Jackson Ave., Salt Spring Island at 2 pm on April 27, 2011.


For information and/or enquiries related to the Contract please contact Joshua Frederick at 250.360.3097 and for technical enquiries on the project please contact Ladi Holovsky at 250.656.8823.

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What's On This Week

www.gulfislandstourism.com/calendar.htm



Wed. April 20

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Music from the Mediterranean. Classical concert of young violinists from Europe with piano and Island Strings accompaniment. All Saints. 7 p.m.
Simply Organic. Visions of Eternal Life concert with Don Conley at All Saints. 10:10 a.m. Free music followed by coffee and muffins.
Oldtimers Cafe. Musical open stage for all ages at the OAP room at Fulford Hall. 7 to 11 p.m.
Open Stage. Wednesdays with Stephanie Rhodes at Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Scott Point Waterworks District Annual Meeting. In the pavilion of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, 241 Scott Pt. Rd. 7 p.m.
Natural Painting Workshops. With Lisa Lipssett at 600 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 1 to 3 p.m. Info/register: 250-537-9785 or email lisa@creativebynature.org.

Thurs. April 21

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Party Band. Featuring Dave Davies, Bill Henderson, Greg Pauker and Mike Stefancsik. Live at Moby's. 8 p.m.
Daryl Chonka. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Open Mic. Thursdays at The Local pub. 6 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

All-Candidates Debate. For the federal election. At GISS gymnasium. 1:30 to 4 p.m.
Easter Art Tour Opening Reception. See Exhibitions, below.
Bingo. At Meaden Hall. 7 p.m., with early bird games at 6:30 p.m.
Robert Bateman Earth Day Talk. A WOLF program event at Lions Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.
Renee Hetherington Meet & Greet. SS United Church. 10:30 a.m. to noon.
Meet Elizabeth May. At Barb's Bakery & Bistro. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fri. April 22

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Shine: Sound Healer and Didjeridu Master. Concert at sacred yurt temple. 8 p.m. Call Erinanne at 250-653-4031 for tickets and info.
Tom & Matt. Classics live at Moby's.
Daniel Howlett. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Daring Hearts (Big Al and Tubob). Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Earth Day Celebration of Dances of Universal Peace. Ganges Yoga Studio. 7:30 to 9 p.m.
Starfish Gallery Opening Reception & Exhibition. For artists Darlene Gait and Nicola Wheston. See Exhibitions, below.
Easter Art Tour. See Exhibitions, below.
Tango Practica. At the Core Inn, 8 to 10 p.m. Info: Laura, 250-537-4077.

Sat. April 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Shake It For The Quake. V2 Japan: a charity relief event. Live bands and electronic artists include Timothy Wisdom, Interchill Andrew, The Barefoot Thieves, Dan Snakehead, The Coalition and many more. Healing tent, fire spinning, Japanese catering. Beaver Point Hall. 6 p.m. to midnight.
Mendelssohn's Elijah. Performed by Bach on the Rock choir & orchestra at SS United Church. 7 p.m.
Gamelan Gita Amsara. Music & dance with Balinese artists. ArtSpring. 8 p.m.
Locals Day. Specials all day at The Local bar, with live music by Cowboy Ted from 5 to 9 p.m.
Lloyd English. Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Lane 31. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Run for Cover. Rock and dance band at Moby's Pub.

ACTIVITIES

Easter Bicycle Parade. Gather with decorated helmets & bicycles at the Skate Park at 10:30 a.m. Parade is from 11 a.m. to noon, finishing up at the Centennial Park bandstand. Info: Brenda, 250-653-4722.

Sat. April 23

ACTIVITIES

Easter Art Tour. See Exhibitions, below.
Shine: Sound Healer and Didjeridu Master. Small group healing sessions from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-registration required with Erinanne at 250-653-4031.

Sun. April 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Ray Newman Easter Jazz Brunch. Annual fundraiser for school music programs. Moby's. 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Mendelssohn's Elijah. Performed by Bach on the Rock choir & orchestra at SS United Church. 2 p.m.
The Barley Bros. Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Easter at the Cheese Farm. Easter Sunday open house with egg hunt, Easter Bunny and baby animals at Salt Spring Cheese on Reynolds Road. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Easter Art Tour. See Exhibitions, below.

Mon. April 25

ACTIVITIES

No events scheduled at this time.

Tues. April 26

ACTIVITIES

Indigenous Women's Wisdom: Enriching our Lives. Presentation by Makere Harawira. SS United Church, upstairs. 7 p.m.
A Centre for Child Honouring Speakers Series event.
Arts Centre/School Community Conversation. Tourism and Regulatory Conversation related to SS Arts Council proposed project. Mahon Hall. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Info: Pravin, 250-538-8898.
Parks and Recreation Commission. Monthly public meeting at the Portlock Park portable. 7 p.m.
Green Drinks. At the Harbour House. 5 to 7 p.m. Sponsored by Transition Salt Spring and I-SEA.

Wed. April 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Oldtimers Cafe. Musical open stage for all ages at the OAP room at Fulford Hall. Every Wednesday from 7 to 11 p.m.
Open Stage. Wednesdays with Stephanie Rhodes at Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Autism Spectrum Disorder. Gathering for parents to view new resources provided by the Canuck Autism Network. Fulford Elementary School. Noon to 2 p.m.
SS Seniors Society AGM. SS Seniors building. 2 p.m. Info: Vivian Dawson, 250-537-9869.
SS Golf & Country Club AGM. At the clubhouse. 5:30 p.m.
Arts Centre/School Community Conversation. Arts Administrators and Educators Conversation related to SS Arts Council proposed project. Mahon Hall. 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
SS Stingrays Swim Team. Registration Day at Rainbow Road Pool. 6 to 7:30 p.m.

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Mars Needs Moms: Starring Seth Green and Joan Cusack. Take out the trash, eat your broccoli — who needs moms, anyway? Nine-year-old Milo finds out just how much he needs his mom when she's nabbed by Martians.

EXHIBITIONS

- **The Fifth Annual Easter Art Tour** runs Fri., April 22 through Sun., April 24 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Exhibition of work by 50-plus artists at Mahon Hall, plus self-guided tour of 35 to 40 studios and galleries. Pick up the map at Mahon Hall. Opening event at Mahon Hall on Thurs., April 21 from 5 to 8 p.m. with artists in attendance.
- Show of work by Irish painter **Dorothy Tinman** at **SS Gallery of Fine Art** on McPhillips Ave. Opening reception with the artist on Sat., April 23, 1 to 3 p.m. Show runs daily to Fri., April 29.
- **Thea Chapman & Seth Berkowitz** present a mostly photographic exhibition and exploration called **Who Am I & Why Am I Doing This?** At **Nicola Wheston's studio** in Merchants Mews, 315 Upper Ganges Rd. Friday, April 22 through Monday, April 25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Part of the Easter Art Tour.)
- West Coast Salish artist **Darlene Gait** and Salt Spring artist **Nicola Wheston** show work at the **Starfish Gallery** beginning Fri., April 22 with an opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Show runs to May 12.
- **Gallery 8** presents **The Father Daughter Exhibition** of work by **Gabrielle Jensen**, newly released works from the estate of **LeRoy Jensen**, with guest artist **Janis Woode**, metal sculptor. Runs through May 1.
- **Salt Spring Painters' Guild** presents **Spring Fever 104** at **ArtSpring** daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Tues., April 26.
- **Jonathan Yardley** holds a show of west coast watercolours at the **Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art** until Thursday, April 21.
- **The Point Gallery** features **Circumstance** — sculpture and early prints by **George Wallace**, **Doke Ostle's Collateral Damage**, featuring portraits, installations and performance, and a terra cotta installation by **Deborah Gainer**. Runs through Mon., April 25.
- **Photography** show at **Auntie Pesto's Cafe** with work by **Carmen Profitt**, **Kate Metzger**, **Angelo Sciaia**, **Stephen Lockhart**, **Doug Rhodes**, **Katie Burke**, **Elehna de Sousa**, **Lisa Gardner** and **Mary Lankester**.
- **The Mardi Mob** has portraits of island people and Green Party leader Elizabeth May hanging in the **ArtSpring** lobby through April.
- **Roger Donnelly** shows his paintings at **Island Savings Credit Union**.
- See **Lyman Whitaker's** wind sculptures at **Grace Point Square**.
- **Wood sculpting** by **Michael Aronoff** is in the display case at **ArtSpring** through April and May and he will be changing the pieces every few weeks.

Easter Art Tour

5th Annual Salt Spring Arts Council Event

Studio and gallery highlights, plus exhibition at Mahon Hall

Friday, April 22nd to Sunday, April 24th

THRIFTY FOODS

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Driftwood WEEKENDER

Published FRIDAYS

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Wednesday 10 am

Word ad deadline:

Wednesday 4 pm



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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

Community Gospel Chapel

147 Vesuvius Bay Rd

Easter Service
10am
Sunday
April 24



communitygospelchapel.com

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

CALL FOR ENTRIES

9TH ANNUAL

Kitty Coleman Woodland

Art & Bloom Festival.

Fine Art and Quality Crafts

Juried Show.

Presented in a spectacular

outdoor setting

May 21, 22, 23

Applications for Artisans

are available at

woodlandgardens.ca or

phone 250-338-6901

DEATHS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

BINGO

MEADEN HALL

Royal Canadian Legion

7PM THURSDAY

April 21, 2011

Early Bird, 6:30 pm

Sponsored by

Ladies Auxiliary

Royal Canadian Legion

Br. 92

Everyone Welcome

All proceeds to bursaries
for Salt Spring Students

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

Your gift to the Heart
and Stroke Foundation
will help support life
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education in heart
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To donate In Memory
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Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9



INFORMATION

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

THE MAX ABLEY PASSION FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

will be awarding a
scholarship at the
Gulf Islands
Secondary School 2011
Graduation ceremony.

Your donation will help
future grads achieve
their goals. The value
of each scholarship is
\$250.

Application details are
available at
www.gulfislandssecondary.ca/scholarship

or
you may contact
Melva Geldreich at
250-537-2683 or by mail
at 383 Stark's Road,
Salt Spring Island, BC
V8K 1M4

INFORMATION

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

The Mind of Bateman
an illustrated talk
April 21st, 7-9 pm
Lion's Hall
Fundraiser for WOLF Kids
\$15 at the door

GRIEF RECOVERY PROGRAM



For people dealing with the death of a loved one. Receive support for your journey through grief. Connect with others experiencing loss.

Tuesday, May 3 - June 7
from 7-9p.m.

Info: Barbara 250-653-4945,
Noreen 250-537-2654

JOAN BUCKLEY



1924 - 2011

A Memorial Tea will be held
at Meadon Hall
(Basement of the Legion)

Saturday, April 23rd • 1:00 - 4:00

CARDS OF THANKS

CARDS OF THANKS

Thank You Salt Spring

for the Blossom Festival fundraiser for Japan Earthquake Relief and the Japanese Garden Society

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Alders Plantation Vacation Rental | Moonstruck Organic Cheese |
| Apple Luscious Organic Orchard | Mouat's Home Hardware |
| Arthur Black | Murakami Auto |
| Artspring - Painter's Guild | Osman Philips |
| Auntie Pesto's | Plant Farm |
| Ted & Sonja Baker | Point Gallery |
| Barb's Bakery and Bistro | Raffi |
| Bruce's Kitchen | Ravenstreet Café |
| Café Talia | Rawsome Living Foods |
| Country Grocer | Rock Salt Restaurant |
| Don Conley | Salt Spring Air |
| elehna de sousa | Salt Spring Cheese |
| Falconshead Grill | Salt Spring Island Florist |
| Figs and Honey Beauty | Salt Spring Winery |
| Foxglove Farm & Garden Supply | SeaChange Savouries |
| Fusion Massage | Shannon Wardropper |
| Fraser Thimble Farms | Spiers' Private Garden |
| Garry Oaks Winery | Sweetwater Revolver |
| Harbour House | T J Beans |
| Hastings House | Takeo Yamashiro |
| Island Escapades | Terri Bibby |
| Japan Earthquake relief group | The Driftwood |
| Jean-Paul Maurice | Thrifty's |
| Li Read | Tim and John: Island Star Video |
| Market Place Café | Toshimasa Ito |
| Mike Hardy/Allan Bruce | Tranquility Studios |
| Mistaken Identity Vineyards | |

and especially, thanks to the volunteers who worked so tirelessly on this project, and the people who came to enjoy and support the festival.

Japanese Garden Society of Salt Spring Island
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FRIDAY, APRIL 29. Multi media presentation on woodpeckers by naturalists Jude and Al Grass. Co-sponsored by SS Trail and Nature and SSI Conservancy. Lion's Hall 7 pm.

Knotty Threads

Join us for the

Fine Art Tour

Krave Easter

Chocolates

111 Morningside Dr

in Fulford

April 22, 23, 24 & 25

Fri, Sat, Sun & Mon

10-6pm

250-653-4137
for more info

Salt Spring Island
Garden Club
including
Seeds for Malawi

Spring Plant Sale

also
Bamboo Ranch
Master Gardeners

Saturday April 30

1pm sharp

Farmers Institute

351 Rainbow Road

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP
Guest Speaker Dennis Luca-
relli Part Two of "Awakening
the Dreamer". Sunday April
24, 11 a.m. at S.S. Seniors'
Centre
www.saltspringunitarian.com

Notice of Annual General Meeting



Salt Spring Island Golf & Country Club
Wednesday, April 27th • 5:30 p.m.
At the Clubhouse

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

SS Painter's Guild
Spring Show & Sale
April 18-26 • 10-4

Spring Fever

Enjoy stress free
viewing and purchase
original art.

ArtSpring Gallery
100 Jackson Ave., Ganges



Salt Spring Island Garden Club's
Fabulous Spring Sale
SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH
starting @ 1:00 pm

at Farmers' Institute, 351 Rainbow Rd.
COME EARLY FOR THE VERY BEST DEALS!

Also Featuring: Seeds for Malawi, Bamboo Ranch
Master Gardeners Bureau - Free Advice

Shake it For the Quake

v.2 Japan:

A Charity Relief Event -- 7+ hours of music --
April 23rd @ Beaver Point Hall 6pm till late

Live bands and electronic artists include Timothy Wisdom,
Interchill Andrew, The Barefoot Thieves, Dan Snakehead, The
coalition and many more. Healing tent, fire spinning, Japanese
catering and much more await your attendance. 100%
proceeds go to the Cause so come dance for a chance!



The COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHAPEL
is celebrating its 50th anniversary
Saturday, April 30th with a reunion/
open house from 7:00-9:00pm, and
Sunday, May 1st with guest speaker
Greta Shepherd at the 10:00am service.
Lunch to follow. 147 Vesuvius Bay Rd.
Visit our website for more info and pictures.
www.communitygospelchapel.com
or call 537-2622.
Everyone is welcome!

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

FOUND: PRAWN traps adrift off Pender - owner must identify. Call 250-653-4365

INFORMATION

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GETAWAYS

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

BUSINESS AND administration trainees needed! Large & small firms seeking certified admin staff now. No experience? Need training? Career training & job placement available. 1-888-512-7116.

CONCRETE FINISHERS. Edmonton-based company seeks experienced concrete finishers for work in Edmonton and Northern Alberta. Subsistence and accommodations provided for out of town work; John@RaiderConcrete.com. Cell 780-660-8130. Fax 780-444-7103.

DAILY VISITOR or live in companion wanted for older gentleman. Duties include light housework and general companionship. Beautiful waterfront property close to Ganges. Please reply to Box #5, c/o Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2V3.

DEPENDABLE AND experienced person needed for regular yard/garden maintenance for Salt Spring Island vacation home with extensive landscaped grounds. We will negotiate weekly or hourly rates depending on the scope of work. References required. Call Bob Harrison at 877-206-7148 (toll free) or email to robert.harrison@ucsf.edu

ELECTRICIAN JOURNEYMAN position, Port Hardy. Residential, commercial, industrial installations & maintenance. Require valid driver's licence, electrician trade certificate & BCTQ. Fax or email resume: 250-949-9230 or: kkelec@cablerocket.com.

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HELP WANTED

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LEMARE GROUP FORESTRY OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

The Lemare Group is currently seeking a Forestry Operations Coordinator for their Port McNeill Office, which is located on Northern Vancouver Island. Lemare has approximately 250+ employees currently working and is a significant forestry services company, tenure holder and log marketing group. The candidate should possess strong communication skills, attention to detail and the ability to troubleshoot and to manage and meet tight deadlines in addition, the ability to work with minimal supervision.

Responsibilities:
•Coordination of Marine Barging: Equipment, Fuel & Supplies
•Human Resources
•Purchasing
•Daily organization of Field Managers (5-7)
•Maintaining customer's relationships
•Conflict Resolutions (Union/Employees)
Qualifications:
•Post Secondary Education an asset
•Forestry experience an asset
•Previous executive/administrative experience
•Excellent oral & written skills
•Strong decision making skills
•Microsoft Office fluency is mandatory

This position is a full time permanent position with a competitive compensation package based on experience. Lemare will accept resumes by email or fax. Please email your response to Jennifer Ouellette at jouellette@lemare.ca or fax 250-956-4888.

SUMMER LIBRARY Assistant needed. Full time 10-week position for high school or university student. For more information and to apply, see the Government of Canada Young Canada Works website: <http://www.pch.gc.ca/special/jc-t-y-cw/info-ppts/101eng.cfm#3> Please note that women, persons with disabilities, visible minorities, and Aboriginal peoples are encouraged to apply. For more information: email librarian@saltspringlibrary.com Deadline April 30.



THE LEMARE Group is currently seeking a full time highway low bed driver. Fax resume to 250-956-4888 or email: office@lemare.ca.

WHITECAP MGMT requires a driver for store delivery of V. Sun, Province, and Nat. Post on SSI. Reliable and economical vehicle req'd. Approx 2 hrs/day Sun - Fri and 5 hrs on Sat. Send short personal resume to whitecapmanagement@shaw.ca

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HELP WANTED

LEMARE GROUP HUMAN RESOURCE/OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Lemare Group is currently seeking a HR/OH & S Administrative Assistant for their Port McNeill Office, which is located on Northern Vancouver Island. Lemare has approximately 250+ employees currently working and is a significant forestry services company, tenure holder and log marketing group.

Responsibilities:
•Human Resources
•Placement of ads, screening & short listing of applicants
•Process correspondence, reports & other documents
•Maintain confidential records & office files
•Ensure adherence to all company policies, standards & procedures
•Assist operational department in the creation of occupational materials (ie block journals, emergency cards, bucking specs, etc)
Qualifications:
•Forestry experience an asset
•Previous executive/administrative experience
•Excellent oral & written skills
•Strong decision making skills
•Balance priorities & work flow
•Ability to work both independently & collaboratively
•Microsoft Office fluency is mandatory

This position is a full time permanent position with a competitive compensation package based on experience. Lemare will accept resumes by email or fax. Please email your response to Jennifer Ouellette at jouellette@lemare.ca or fax 250-956-4888.

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TRADES, TECHNICAL

Heavy Duty / Commercial Mechanic P & R Western Star & Freightliner Trucks requires qualified full time Heavy Duty / Commercial Mechanic for our Duncan location. Possession of an Authorized Motor Vehicle Inspection ticket would be an asset.
Excellent Wage and Benefit Package.
Please e-mail resume: michele@prvstar.com or fax: (1)-250-746-8064

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CARON CARPENTRY Serving Salt Spring Island for 26 years. Construction, renovations, property maintenance. John Caron. 250-537-9397, jcaron@telus.net

CARPENTER/CONTRACTOR
Journeyman available for additions, renovations, sunrooms, decks, concrete, etc. Electrical, plumbing, repairs, installations & finishing work.
Jim Anderson
250-537-0779

WHAT'S ON PAGE 34

FITNESS & TRAINING

WORK WANTED

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References

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LAWYER REFERRAL Service matches people with legal concerns to a lawyer in their area. Participating lawyers offer a 30 minute consultation for \$25 plus tax. Regular fees follow once both parties agree to proceed with services. 604-687-3221 (Lower Mainland) or 1-800-663-1919 (Outside LM).

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Faith's Cleaning Service has Tuesday and Wednesday available (4 to 6 hrs). Please call 250-537-2930 after 1pm or leave message with contact number.

50% DISCOUNT

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

Notice of Annual General Meeting
Salt Spring Recreational Holdings Ltd.
Wednesday, April 27th • 1:00 p.m.
The Annexe Portable,
Parks and Recreation Offices,
145 Vesuvius Bay Road

Grants to Individuals or Groups
Available for projects of cultural benefit to the community. Preference to be given to the SSAC members and to events that make use of Mahon Hall. Projects of an innovative nature are encouraged. Professional development grants are also offered.
Information & Grant forms at: www.ssartscouncil.com or call Mahon Hall: 537-0899
Deadline April 30, 2011
proudly sponsored by the salt spring arts council

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF BUSINESS MEETING
The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will be meeting to consider various matters of general business, such as applications received, bylaw reviews and meeting notes.
DATE: Thursday, May 5, 2011
TIME: 10:30 am
PLACE: Lions Club, 100 Bonnet Avenue
Starting at noon, up to 45 minutes will be available for the public to discuss local land use matters with the Local Trust Committee. Those who wish to present a more formal petition, or make a delegation to the Committee as an Agenda item, must make a request to Islands Trust staff at least 14 days in advance of the meeting. For information about the Agenda, please call the Islands Trust at 250.537.9144.

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 only) classified ad will run in our next 3 insertions • If you need to modify the ad or run it again, just call us and we'll run it again for another 3 insertions • Extra lines at \$0.92 • Please, no more than 3 items, call to remove an item.

Post your comments on-line @ gulfislandsdriftwood.com

ARTSPRING Island Arts Centre Society
Ticket Centre Manager and Co-ordinator of Volunteers
ArtSpring is looking to hire an individual to manage the operations of our Ticket Centre as well as to co-ordinate an important corps of volunteers. The successful applicant will have:
- strong computer skills and an excellent ability to learn complex ticketing software and to explain it to others
- an ability to work both with the public and with other staff with tact, charm and good humour
- a desire to continually improve training and communication within a team environment
The position offers 20 hours of work per week with competitive, though not princely, remuneration.
Resumes and expressions of interest should be submitted to George Sipos, Executive Director no later than April 29 either by mail (100 Jackson Ave V8K 2V8) or e-mail (george@artspring.ca).

PARK INTERPRETER/PARK NATURALIST
Location: Ruckle Provincial Park, Salt Spring Island
Length of Position: Weekends of July, August & Sept. (24 hrs. per week)
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5

SPORTS & RECREATION

SOCCER

Young island soccer star makes Whitecaps cut

Hamish Walde to join residency program in Lower Mainland

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It wasn't until a few moments after he read an email he received late last week that 14-year-old Hamish Walde began to feel reality sinking in.

"It was kind of exciting, but kind of a different feeling," Walde said during his lunch break at the Salt Spring Island Middle School on Monday.

For weeks, the Grade 8 student had looked forward to the prospect of joining the Vancouver Whitecaps Residency program with



HAMISH WALDE

unwavering excitement, even if the move meant attending a new school far away from family and friends.

When he realized he was among 12 successful applicants selected from roughly 75 of the best young soccer players from across Western

Canada, things took on a whole new light. As part of the program, Walde will move in with a host family just before the start of the 2011-2012 school year.

Not only will he start out his first year of high school in a new city, he'll spend at least

four days a week practising with the Whitecaps' youth squad.

Walde said he still hopes to come back to Salt Spring once every few weeks after he is more comfortable with his big city lifestyle.

Given that Walde has been accepted into the National Training Centre West and B.C.'s provincial team within the past six months, one might think he'd have gotten used to making the cut.

According to Walde, however, the Whitecaps announcement is more exciting than the previous two accomplishments combined.

He'll be under the guidance of Canada's top coaches and playing alongside and

against many who will go to play at the pro level.

Making the cut required that Walde undergo an invitation-only four-day tryout on the grounds of Burnaby's Simon Fraser University. The gruelling interview process involved a series of two-hour training sessions, interviews with coaches and short scrimmages.

After a bad night's sleep on his third night left him unable to complete the final day of tryouts, Walde said his hopes of making the team reached a low point.

"I was sure I wouldn't make it," he said. "What I think got me in was I didn't let the strikers turn me around and I talked enthusiastically."

GISS SOCCER

Seniors wrap up UVic tourney

Scorpions eye mid-island soccer prize

The Gulf Islands Secondary School girls soccer team got another high-level tournament under its belt after competing at the 24-team Umbro tourney at the University of Victoria over the weekend.

The Scorpions tied triple-A squad Stelly's of Victoria 0-0, lost a 4-3 decision to a triple-A team from Salmon Arm, tied AA Westsyde Secondary from Kamloops and dropped its final match in a close 2-1 decision against

triple-A Reynolds from Victoria. Many of the Salt Spring girls continued to raise their level of play in the face of stiff competition throughout the weekend, said coach Doug Pearson.

Ashley Swinton earned the team MVP award, while Grade 10 twins Elise and Hannah Pearson also made a good impression during the tournament.

Coach Pearson said the team will train its focus on wrapping up first place in its mid-island league with an off-island game next Tuesday against Ladysmith.

TENNIS

Salt Spring and community coach pick up Tennis Canada awards

Marianne Banman's hard work pays off

Marianne Banman has put Salt Spring Island on the tennis "map" for Canada.

Out of 47 "Building Tennis Communities" from across the country last year, Tennis Canada has chosen Salt Spring as the winner of the Tennis Friendly Community of the Year 2010 award.

In addition, Tennis BC named

Banman the 2010 Tennis BC Community Coach of the Year for 2010.

"This is due to the ongoing hard work and deep commitment displayed by Marianne and her team in fostering and growing the game of tennis among new junior and adult participants in our community," said Erica Ross of the Salt Spring Tennis Association.

"The SSTA is very lucky to have her as a dedicated member and is pleased to continue

its support and encouragement of Marianne and the tennis development programs scheduled each season."

But Banman said the awards are due to support from partners such as the SSTA, the Parks and Recreation Commission and program participants.

As winner of the Tennis Friendly Community of the Year Award, Tennis Canada will send Banman to the USTA tennis conference in the southern U.S. in February of 2012.

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Sports & Recreation

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GOLF

Golfers scramble in wet spring

AGM with tennis facility question on April 27

BY SUSAN RUSSELL
 DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Lady golfers had trouble maintaining a fashionable golf look last week, as the first regular play of the season got underway.

There had been so much rain and water on the course that maintaining footing and remaining mud free was a challenge. A few foursomes braved the very cold weather, and Karen Davies brought home the KP.

The amount of rain this season has been a record. There has been "the most amount of constant rainfall I have ever seen in my 26 years on the course," said Steve Marleau, general manager and golf pro.

He said "the biggest problem is that the golf course is not getting a break to drain off the tees, greens and fairways."

We do live in a very wet climate, and Steve and his assistants have learned to deal with the problem over the years.



DON NEMETH

This season there is a new man in the pro shop. Don Nemeth, the new assistant manager, is the former owner of the celebrated Dagwood's restaurant, the establishment of the great breakfasts. Don's history with the club goes back 26 years when he worked on the greens crew.

He is a former head coach of the 1985 Women's World Curling team and loves to golf. He has a great sense of humour and is the proud father of two children, Rose and Will.

All of the ladies golf groups have begun meeting.

The Monday Night Ladies, who play a casual nine holes and usually stay to have dinner afterwards, are busy planning the annual GGG (girls golf get-away), ably organized by Dora Reynolds.

The nine-hole ladies, a Thursday morning group, are growing in number of members, and

have a new captain in Janet Butler.

New members are most welcome to join any of the ladies groups, including the 18 Hole Ladies, who meet on Tuesday mornings. Information on any of these groups is available in the pro shop.

The golfing ladies annual charitable event, Golf Fore the Cure, is presently being organized by an energetic committee.

This year this nine-hole scramble to raise money for breast cancer research is on Tuesday, July 26. There will be lots of prizes and raffles, and a great deal of money will again be raised.

Tickets will shortly be available in the pro shop.

All members have been invited to attend the upcoming annual general meeting of the club, to take place Wednesday, April 27, 5:30 p.m. in the clubhouse.

The board of directors will place a special resolution in front of the membership regarding a proposal to have an indoor tennis facility at the club.



PHOTOS BY DERRICK LUNDY

WINNERS:

Taylor Akerman sports a gold medal for a first place win in floor and a seventh-place overall ribbon (in a field of 45) at the recent provincial gymnastics championships. Taylor trains with the Duncan Dynamics team.



Salt Spring Gymnastics Club members Alexandra Murphy-Macdonald, left, with a silver medal for floor and 5th-all-round ribbon (among 45 competitors), and Darby McIntyre with her gold medal (beam) and 10th-place overall ribbon (from a field of 48) earned at the provincial championships in Langley.

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SPORTS & RECREATION

RUNNING

Islanders spend weekend on the run

Haigh completes sensational season

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Andrew Haigh's second-place finish at the 2011 Vancouver Island Race Series' final race of the year on Sunday capped an exciting and competitive season for the Salt Spring Sneakers.

Haigh finished the Sooke River 10-kilometre event in 38:38, fast enough to place second in his 55-59 age category and 30th out of the event's 360 competitors.

Strong finishes in the six VIRS races

Haigh has run since January left him with a season point total of 704.2, only a sliver behind age-group champion Wayne Crow's 704.8 points.

Haigh overcame flu-like symptoms, which struck at the series' midpoint, to stay in contention for a second spot finish.

Lynn Thompson, a fellow Sneaker who competes in the men's 70-74 age group, finished the series by placing fourth out of the 10 competitors in his age category with a time of 54:08.

The Sneakers ended the year in 22nd spot among the VIRS' 90 teams. Haigh was responsible for 116 of the team's 199 overall points.

Haigh said the strong showing in

the Sneakers' inaugural VIRS season bodes well for the club's prospects.

In other running news, three islanders were among the nearly 50,000 runners who competed in Canada's most popular 10-kilometre race on Sunday morning.

Eric, Julie and Marion van Soeren completed the Vancouver Sun Run in 46:45, 1:02:28 and 57:04 respectively. Each of the racers placed within the top 10 per cent of finishers in their respective age groups.

"It was a perfect day for running," said Eric van Soeren in a post race email. "A bit chilly but no rain or wind. I think we were all happy with our times, though, especially given the

huge crowds you have to fight."

Battling the masses as the race course meandered through the streets of Vancouver's west end proved frustrating for runners seeking to maintain a steady pace, he said.

"Sometimes the rest seemed nice, but mostly it was just frustrating," he said. "Fartleck training should be done before the race, not during."

Although the VIRS season has wrapped up, the Sneakers continue to meet regularly for group runs and to train for future events.

More information about the club can be found by doing an internet search for Salt Spring Sneakers and following the links.

SWIM CLUB

Sign-up now for new Stingrays season

In-the-water fun begins in May

The summer swim season is about to begin, and it's time for prospective team members to register.

Families are welcome to check out the Salt Spring Stingrays swim team on Friday mornings at 8:30 a.m. at Rainbow Road Pool with registration taking place this month. Registration day is next Wednesday, April 27 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the pool, or people can phone 250-537-0881 or contact Sylvia Andress at the Sears store (250-537-5596) throughout April.

A competitive youth swim club, Stingrays membership provides the opportunity for kids to develop important, lifelong swimming skills, make new friends from across Vancouver Island, build self-confidence, learn mentoring skills and achieve a high level of fitness. It also provides super cross training for winter sports participation.

"If you have heard that swim team is a big commitment, it's true, if you want it to be," states a press release from the club. "After all, it is a competitive swim club. But you get to choose how competitive."

The season runs from May through August.

This year the team is pleased to welcome back Rachael Gardner from Carleton University as head coach. Gardner has coached developing athletes at various swim clubs including Goulbourn Aquatic Club, Ravens of Carleton Swimming and Carleton University Varsity. Last year she led nearly half of the Stingrays swimmers to the provincial championships in Kamloops.

New assistant coach is Hannah Swabey from Nanaimo. She swam with the Nanaimo White Rapids for 10 years and has spent the last three years coaching.

More information is available at ssi.stingrays@gmail.com.



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