



# Driftwood

Wednesday, January 26, 2011 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 51ST YEAR — ISSUE 4 **\$1.25** (incl. HST)

**PARKS AND REC**

## No ice rink for Salt Spring

Budget-conscious PARC wades into 2011

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission will focus on maintaining and improving facilities it already has instead of spending money on big-ticket projects like ice rinks and leisure pools.

Commissioners meeting on Friday afternoon voted unanimously against any further studies on real or synthetic ice surfaces for the island based on high costs and lukewarm public enthusiasm for such a facility.

Not only would Salt Spring's "Mediterranean-like" climate mean higher-than-average refrigeration costs, but the island's relative isolation means that "little or no rentals can be expected from adjacent communities" to help offset costs.

Operation of an ice rink in Armstrong, B.C. resulted in a loss of nearly \$275,000 to that community in 2009.

Constructing an outdoor ice rink, which requires average temperatures of -4 C to maintain, would be even more of a challenge.

"To develop such an outdoor facility on Salt Spring Island would be rather expensive since a large refrigeration tonnage is required and a full-time engineer would have to be on staff," notes Kees Ruurs, PARC's operations manager. "An outdoor skating season on Salt Spring Island would be rather short."

PARC continued on 2



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**A SCOTTISH TRADITION:** The birthday of famous Scottish bard Robbie Burns' gave island Scots and their friends a chance to celebrate last weekend. Seen here, at a Scottish Country Dancers event, are Rob and Randy Burns, carving up some dinner.

**FAME**

## SSI is one of 10 best places to live

Growing ability is winning attribute

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island is one of the 10 best places to live in the West, according to a recent article published in Sunset Magazine.

The unranked list names the communities that will make people the happiest to live in, each with a unique attribute that is celebrated. Salt Spring is the only Canadian location to make the cut, based on residents' ability to "grow your own everything."

Island gardeners betrayed no surprise at the news. The early location of market gardens that once fed much of British Columbia's settler population, the area is still famed today for its oft-mentioned "Mediterranean-like" climate.

Dan Jason, a founder of the Seed and Plant Sanctuary for Canada and owner of Salt Spring Seeds, explained: "Gardening has always been one of Canada's most popular hobbies, but many people are switching now from growing flowers to growing food."

"There's amazing stuff happening in all parts of the country," Jason continued. "People are growing gardens like never before."

"If people can put in a greenhouse or a shelter to protect certain plants, they can pretty much grow everything year round," added Belinda Schroeder, a member of the Salt Spring Garden Club and the co-host of the CFSI Grow ONE OF THE BEST continued on 7

**AGRICULTURE**

## Ag Alliance group harvests windfall

Grant will assist Area Farm Plan

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island Agricultural Alliance members are celebrating a major boost to local farming thanks to a \$50,000 grant from the Vancity

Credit Union announced late last week.

The money will be used to revitalize and promote local food production on the island, according to Anne Macey, chair of the Agricultural Alliance.

"While the obvious advantages are tastier fruit and vegetables and increased economic viability

of small family farms, a local, sustainable food system offers many additional benefits to our community," she said.

Funding, provided as part of Vancity's enviroFund, will go towards work on the island's mobile abattoir, a produce-processing facility **GRANT** continued on 2

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**INDEX**

Arts.....	13	Letters.....	9
Classifieds.....	24	Sports.....	22
Editorial.....	8	What's On.....	16
Ferry Schedule.....	22		

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FRIDAY: Sunset mag accolades for SSI  
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Uptown Pizza

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Vesuvius Ferry

Terminal

NEWSBEAT

Money will aid local farming initiatives

GRANT  
continued from 1

and distribution centre, as well as a central community-composting facility. Since funding cannot be allocated to capital expenses, Macey said, fundraising efforts for an island abattoir continue. She said the Vancity funding may go towards staffing costs or program development. As of earlier this week, the Agricultural Alliance had collected more than \$70,000 for the project. Approximately \$54,000 is needed before off-island agencies will step up to match funds and help complete the project. If all goes according to plan and fundraising continues at its current pace, Macey said, the abattoir will be up and running by the end of the year. "Plans for the fruit and vegetable processing, distribution and storage centre are just starting to be developed in consultation with potential users of the facility," she said.

"The project will strengthen our local economy and make our island community more resilient."

ANNE MACEY  
Chair, SSI Agricultural Alliance

Islanders can expect more announcements within a few months, she added. The Agricultural Alliance comprises representatives from the Farmers' Institute, Island Natural Growers, Salt Springers for Safe Food, the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce and the Earth Festival Society. The group is tasked to follow through with recommendations to strengthen the island's farming community and infrastructure as stipulated in the Salt Spring Area Farm Plan. "Produce picked in peak condition opti-

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mizes both taste and nutrition. Increased local food production, much of it organically grown, helps us meet our greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. It makes Salt Spring more self-reliant and less dependent on food imports. "A local abattoir will reduce travel stress for the livestock and make it more viable for farmers to raise poultry and lamb. Community-scale composting recycles green and wood waste materials into valuable farm input and reduces air pollution from burning," Macey notes in a press release. "The project will strengthen our local economy and make our island community more resilient." The Agricultural Alliance is always looking for more community volunteers and financial support for a more food-secure island, and healthy and economically diverse community. Anyone interested in joining the group is asked to contact Macey at annemacey@shaw.ca. For more information, visit www.plantofarm.org.

PARC aims to concentrate on backlog projects

PARC  
continued from 1

Likewise, appetite for a covered synthetic ice surface complete with facilities like changing rooms, showers, heating and cooling systems, boards and lighting waned with the prospect of a \$4.2-million price tag. A PARC-commissioned public opinion survey conducted in 2009 noted that 48 per cent of islanders were opposed or strongly opposed to construction of an ice rink on the island. Commissioners

requested that Ruurs gather information about ice rinks or synthetic ice-like surfaces in September, based on results of a 2010 survey that showed a sharp increase in ice rink supporters. Commission members were equally unenthusiastic about taking the plunge towards a leisure pool extension at the Rainbow Road Pool. "There will definitely be no leisure pool referendum in the coming year," Ruurs said. Commissioners agreed that the tab for

"There will definitely be no leisure pool referendum in the coming year."

KEES RUURS  
Operations manager, PARC

initial construction and operating cost reports, estimated at nearly \$13,000, should be covered by Ssplash,

the indoor pool society, not PARC. "The principle reason for holding back on funding a proposed leisure pool and an ice rink is the lack of resources that the commission has for such projects," said Garth Hendren, Salt Spring's Capital Regional District director. "Neither of these projects are listed as high priorities in the capital and strategic plan." Ruurs recommends PARC spend the next two or three years catching up with maintenance of existing facilities like trails, beach access points, benches, tennis courts and playing field surfaces and playgrounds. He said maintenance of various island facilities has fallen behind in recent years due to the strong focus of attention and financial

resources on the pool. "We will concentrate on the backlog," he said. "We've done a lot in the last year and the commission has expressed the desire to stay on the course and spend another year at least on these projects." A staff report indicates that maintenance projects can be largely conducted and completed within the next three years. "Upon completion of this maintenance backlog by the end of 2013, new major projects could be considered," Ruurs said. The Parks and Recreation Commission's next regular meeting is at the Portlock Park portable on Monday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m.

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# Newsbeat

## Heads up!

**Yellow Submarine Open House**  
Wednesday, FEBRUARY 2  
Community Services building, 2 to 4 p.m.

BUSINESS

# Island-style financing gives new face to lending

Galiano microloan fund makes it personal

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A community lending initiative on Galiano Island is redefining the way locals lend and borrow money in a friendlier and more personal light.

Less than six months after the Galiano Community Loan Fund began accepting its first applications, the initiative has already supported one island project, collected approximately \$116,500 in deposits, begun informal talks with about a half dozen more potential borrowers and become a powerful economic force for the roughly 1,100 people who call Galiano home.

“My approach to a lot of things is ‘How hard can it be?’ and, with the help of our community, we’re doing it,” said Anita Braha, one of the loan fund’s founding board members. “I don’t think we are doing anything new. The appetite has been there for quite some time and it only needed folks to just do it.”

Braha, a human rights lawyer who’s had a residence on Galiano since 1998, began pursuing the idea of an island-based community loan fund about a year and a half ago.

What began as a casual meeting among islanders over tea in one member’s front yard has since developed into a strategy to help islanders create long-term meaningful employment, access decent housing and foster a stronger island community.

As talk about the loan fund generated interest at community meetings and events, through the local media and at its biweekly meetings, a core group of board members with a wide range of backgrounds emerged.

Braha handles the legalities, a graphic designer takes care of the website and publicity, and the CEO of a local company is responsible for keeping the books.

Today, the non-profit society’s seven-member board also includes a geologist,



a math professor, a former instructor and union activist, a retired teacher, community organizer and scientist.

“It’s been one of the most wonderful experiences working with this board,” Braha said.

“Everyone has brought their skills, everyone has brought their experience and expertise to bear.”

Three-year deposits to the fund start at \$1,000 per household and can earn interest of up to 1.5 per cent. Interest can be collected by depositors or reinvested into the program to help cover administration costs.

Contributions are deposited with the CCEC Credit Union in Vancouver and used as guarantees for loans. To ensure loans have sufficient backing and that depositors can access their funds on short notice, the group’s bylaws ensure no more than 80 per cent of the loan fund’s total deposits can be lent out.

The board considers loans of between \$500 and \$10,000 for island residents with local references who can present a “financially sound proposal or business plan that

demonstrates their ability to repay, and shows a personal commitment to their project in the form of time, money, equipment, tools and/or materials.”

Braha notes that the CCEC was a natural partner for the loan fund given the peace of mind offered by its nearly 40-year history and an enticing prime-plus-one interest rate.

The loan fund’s board can consider third-party advice offered by CCEC loan adjudicators about potential risks associated with any of the applications.

Unlike borrowing from more traditional lenders, Braha said, the Galiano Community Loan Fund isn’t confined to reams of restrictions related to credit and employment history criteria.

Instead, Braha said, applicants are judged by their role, commitment and history on the island.

“I think knowing each other is a helpful thing,” she said. “The fact I don’t have a credit history doesn’t matter because people know me from my years in the community.”

For an island economy dominated by a

seasonal tourism sector, the opportunity to see funds reinvested into innovative entrepreneurial projects is something many from the island’s business community are eager to see succeed.

“It’s nice to see something that can lead to a little more diversity,” said Jesse Keefer, president of the Galiano Island Chamber of Commerce.

Keefer said the loan fund offers an opportunity for the island’s wealthier residents to lend a financial boost to the less affluent without resorting to handouts.

From a mainstream investing perspective, the loan fund’s drawbacks may be a little less security and interest that barely matches the rate of inflation.

But, Braha said, lenders who deposit \$1,000, \$5,000 or \$10,000 with the fund aren’t seeking double-digit returns.

They look for much more.

“Ask yourself, ‘What have you done with your money and what have you got to show for it,’” Braha said. “This is about really trying to work with our community.”

For more information about the community loan fund, visit [www.galianofund.ca](http://www.galianofund.ca).

## News briefs

### For the record

- An important part of the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club was left out of a Jan. 19 brief about local Trust committee approval of a bylaw that would allow an indoor tennis facility to be built at the golf course. The club’s membership must also approve of the project.

- In a court story last week, auxiliary Const. JP Krause was incorrectly identified as a police witness.

### Market fees on the rise

Market vendors who wish

to participate in the 2011 Saturday Market in the Park can expect to pay a bit more when they set out their wares this spring.

The Parks and Recreation Commission gave final approval to registration-fee increases that range between five and nine per cent for farmers and day vendors.

Daily fees for six feet of vending space go from \$6.30 to \$7.50 for farmers and from \$13.45 to \$14.50 for day vendors.

The fare increase was suggested by the Market Advisory Group in early December. Additional reve-

nue will be directed towards providing visitors with new garbage and recycling stations.

PARC members also approved the MAG proposal to increase the market coordinator’s wage by five per cent for the coming year.

### PARC gets new chair

Commissioners meeting on Friday, Jan. 21 voted unanimously to elect Gregg Dow as chair and Jon Suk as vice-chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the upcoming year. Dow takes over the position from

Gayle Baker, who left the commission in December to pursue other interests.

Stanley Shapiro held on to his role as treasurer.

### Speeders busted

Police officers from Vancouver Island who visited Salt Spring last week had more than a little rest and recreation on their minds.

Officers issued no fewer than 30 speeding tickets, two seatbelt violations, one ticket to a driver with no insurance and 12 “other” tickets while on the island.

In other RCMP news,

Salt Spring officers issued a \$230 fine to an uncooperative drinker in Centennial Park while on a routine foot patrol Wednesday afternoon. The 47-year-old man refused to empty his beer and declined officers’ requests that he pick up empty beer cans in his area at approximately 3:30.

The man tried to evade police and was later ticketed at a nearby liquor store.

Salt Spring RCMP remind visitors and residents that Centennial Park is a public playground, not a beer garden. Police say they continue to have zero tolerance for consumption of alcohol in public.

### SAR flares light up sky

Officers from the Cowichan Valley detachment spent Saturday evening extracting a downed paraglider from the slopes below Mount Prevost.

Police called for the assistance of Search and Rescue personnel from 19 Wing Comox, who dropped six parachute flares over the scene. The flares were visible from many parts of Salt Spring. Cowichan Valley RCMP extracted the man by 8 p.m. The man fractured his leg in the incident.



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## NEWSBEAT

### AIR TRAVEL

# Seaplane operators move forward with alternative terminal proposal

Meetings with port, city mayors yield positive results

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A network of seaplane operators is moving forward with its bid for a cooperative, nonprofit terminal in Vancouver after a slate of successful meetings with other stakeholders over the past week.

Eight companies acting together as the Vancouver Commercial Seaplane Operators' Association (VCSOA) met with the mayors of Vancouver, Victoria and Nanaimo and with Port Metro Vancouver to oppose a \$22-million private facility and raise support for their alternative non-profit model.

Salt Spring Air representative Philip Reece said

the series of mayoral meetings had produced positive results.

Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson proved willing to entertain the idea of an air transportation hub that would connect with public transit through Waterfront Station.

The mayors of Victoria and Nanaimo voiced concern about the cost to passengers if a new private terminal — being built by the Clarke Group of Companies and the Ledcor Group of Companies — proceeds. It is projected to add \$24 to the cost of a round-trip floatplane ticket, with no end date attached.

Harbour Air spokesperson Randy Wright said after meeting with Victoria Mayor Dean Fortin last Friday that jurisdictions outside of Vancouver are realizing the possible effects of the plan.

Wright said Fortin expressed

concern that the price increase could cause a significant loss to the tourist industry, as many tour groups book packages by volume.

Government workers and corporate officers also frequently use floatplanes to travel between Vancouver and Vancouver Island.

"We are very concerned in the floatplane business that if the [planned development] goes through, the \$24 surcharge will have a big impact on customers."

VCSOA addressed a different set of issues at a meeting with Port Metro Vancouver on Monday.

The government body responsible for the port said it had safety concerns about the VCSOA proposal due to the amount of traffic already existing in the group's preferred location to the east of the Seabus terminal.

Reece said his group discussed some of those issues with port officials, who allowed an application process to be started.

"Overall we were happy to get the process started and it filled us with confidence that there is a process to get through. It wasn't just a 'yes' or 'no.'"

One of the steps that VCSOA proposed is to have an independent third body conduct a safety review of the area.

Reece is confident the results will be satisfactory, however, since the Seabus operators have said they do not have an issue with floatplanes crossing their route.

Reece could not say how long the entire process might take, but confirmed Port Metro Vancouver would start immediately by sending a letter outlining its requirements.

### EMPLOYMENT

# Labour market survey responses urgently needed

Jan. 31 deadline looms with more input needed

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

People with an interest in Salt Spring's economy and employment market have just a few days left to help improve those areas by participating in a survey.

Salt Spring Literacy's special project researching the island's labour market requires data from at least 400 respondents by Jan. 31, but project coordinator Gordon Handford said so far less than a quarter of that number have participated.

"I think there is real potential for making significant changes around the island, but we can't go further without getting the information," Handford said.

The aim of the project, which is being funded through a \$28,000 federal-provincial grant, is to produce better-trained employees with programs

established by Salt Spring Literacy.

The group is actively seeking information about what employers are looking for, what skills workers should be developing and what island conditions may be obstacles to finding gainful employment.

"We need more confirmation from the community of 'We need more of this or more of that,'" Handford said.

"We can't recommend things out of a hat. We have to recommend out of an actual needs assessment survey.

"We would love to help, but we need other people's help to do that."

The survey is available in paper format or online and can be completed in as little as 10 minutes.

Handford said the project coordinators have made a concerted effort to get the views of the unemployed. Now they are seeking more input from managers and employers.

Seniors who may think of themselves as retired are nevertheless an important demographic, Handford noted.

"Retired people are often employers of dog walkers, housecleaners . . . they may have had their home built by a local contractor. They are a huge economic driver on the island."

Forms are available online at [www.saltspringliteracy.org/survey.html](http://www.saltspringliteracy.org/survey.html), by calling or emailing Handford (250-653-0038 or [agordonhandford@gmail.com](mailto:agordonhandford@gmail.com)) or from the Salt Spring Literacy office on Hereford Avenue behind Café Talia.

Surveys are completely anonymous. Participants have the opportunity to win one of six draws of \$25 after completing the survey by leaving contact information with the literacy centre or with Handford.

The deadline for completion is Monday, Jan. 31.

Community partners include the Chamber of Commerce, the Copper Kettle, Salt Spring Community Services, the Islands Trust and the CRD.

The project is supported through the Canada-British Columbia Labour Market Development Agreement.

### MENTAL HEALTH

# Spiffed-up Yellow Submarine opens hatch for open house

Next Wednesday at Community Services

The Yellow Submarine Mental Health Drop-in space has been renovated and the community is invited to see the results next Wednesday.

Located in the lower level of the Community Services building at 268 Fulford-Ganges Road, the Yellow Submarine Drop-in provides a safe, supportive and low-stress

environment for people with a mental illness.

The Feb. 2 open house will run from 2 to 4 p.m.

The Yellow Submarine has several functions, including:

- Providing an opportunity for participants to establish their own rehabilitation goals
- Providing therapeutic structure so that the participant can collaborate in steps towards achieving their rehabilitation goals

- Providing education and support to participants and information to their families
- Providing support and leisure services to people with mental illness and/or addiction issues in a manner which promotes dignity, respect, empowerment and confidentiality

- Facilitating peer support and life-skills development.
- The Yellow Submarine service is available to residents

of the Gulf Islands over 19 years of age who have a serious and persistent mental illness and/or addiction issues.

The drop-in program runs Mondays through Thursdays from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Anyone who would like to attend can begin the process by picking up an intake package from Jamie Alexander, the Community Services community support and family counsellor.

### Salt Spring Island Community Services

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- \* **Food Bank:** Open Tuesday, 11am - 4pm
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- \* **Recycle Depot:** Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 250-537-1200.
- \* **Seniors Wellness Programs:** Call Sharon Glover at 250-537-4607.
- \* **Emergency Mental Health Services:** Available 4 pm to midnight at Lady Minto Hospital. Call 250-538-4840
- \* **24-hr. Crisis Line:** Toll free: 1-866-386-6323. Caller is connected with the Need Crisis Centre in Victoria.

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## Who reads us?

88% of Islanders read the Driftwood each week.

-Combase survey

NEWSBEAT

ISLANDS TRUST  
Trust  
eyes  
4.4%  
tax hike  
Public response  
requested

The Islands Trust is proposing a 4.4 per cent tax increase for its 2011-12 budget and wants to know how the public feels about its plans. Islands Trust Council will make a final decision about the budget at its March 8 to 10 meeting on Galiano Island. Council's financial planning committee is recommending a budget of \$6.9 million, representing an increase in expenditures of \$470,000 over last year, but offset by increased non-tax revenues of \$212,000. For the owner of a property assessed at \$450,000, the proposal would mean a property tax increase of about \$12.60 above last year's \$287 total for the Trust.

The extra funds will help pay for higher rates of remuneration for trustees elected in the November 2011 local elections, expansion of the Natural Areas Protection Tax Exemption Program, funding of a part-time grants administrator position and supporting projects ranging from a farm plan on Denman Island to affordable housing, climate change mitigation and conservation on Salt Spring "with enhanced levels of community engagement." Islands Trust taxes account for between 10 and 20 per cent of the total property tax bill for property owners in the Islands Trust area, depending on other property taxes charged on each island. Budget details are available from the Islands Trust website or directly from Islands Trust offices. The Islands Trust welcomes submissions from the public on the proposed budget. All written input provided by the public, and received by noon Friday, March 4, will be considered by Trust Council before it adopts a final budget for fiscal year 2011-2012. If people wish to have their feedback considered by the financial planning committee before it finalizes its budget recommendation to Trust Council, written submissions should be sent by noon on Friday, Feb. 11. Comments can be sent to: Islands Trust Council, Attention: Treasurer at #200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8; by fax to 250-405-5155 or by e-mail to: budget2011@islandstrust.bc.ca.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**SYRUP TASTING:** Kai Stenstrom anticipates a spoonful of syrup during the Maple Syrup Boil at the Harbour House on Sunday.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation group  
elects new chairman

Motion also passed for  
traffic-calming input

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The January meeting of the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission produced a new chair and two important resolutions for community input. An election at the start of the meeting, held Tuesday, Jan. 18, brought in commission member Donald McLennan as the new chair with Jean Taylor moving to vice chair. McLennan is a former Canadian diplomat whose service took him to Hong Kong, Yugoslavia, Nigeria, Switzerland and London as an economics/trade specialist. He spent the latter part of his career by serving as Canada's ambassador in Iran, Poland, Belarus, Serbia and Montenegro and Macedonia. McLennan said during a recent interview with the Driftwood that although his experience in transportation matters is minimal, his government career, leadership abilities and enthusiasm for the local community will hopefully make up for it. One of McLennan's priorities as chair is to encourage more dialogue between the commission and the community. He hopes the group's work will become more transparent and that community members will in turn supply more input as to their needs and desires. "Everyone on the commission is very enthusiastic about improving transportation infrastructure and transit to improve the quality of life for people on Salt Spring," McLennan said. With 2010 being a "banner year" for the commission — milestones include a successful tax increase authorized through an alternate approval process, continued growth in bus ridership and the establish-

ment of the Bicycle Working Group — McLennan said the commission is looking forward to moving ahead with its plans in 2011. Of particular interest is the North Ganges Village Transportation Management Plan. With the commission's first capital budget passed by the CRD last fall and the tax requisition now in place, the group can make steps toward implementing the plan when the final version is produced by consultants J. E. Anderson. The commission is seeking more community input about its capital projects in two specific areas. A motion passed during last week's meeting will see the commission launch a public outreach campaign regarding traffic-calming measures. McLennan said so far community transportation plans have focused on safety and traffic flow. Traffic-calming methods that could be considered for Ganges include curb extensions at key intersections and crosswalks; a raised and landscaped median island; a gateway or island as a visual cue to drivers entering the village; traffic circles at intersections; and a reduced speed limit. A second motion calls for the commission to take a leadership role in working with citizens' groups, the CRD and the Islands Trust to develop criteria on how island sidewalks should be designed. McLennan explained the idea is not to create a mandatory standard but rather a flexible guideline that takes into account the island's rural character. Also during last week's meeting, the commission voted to recommend \$15,000 in funding to Partners Creating Pathways for 2011 projects. McLennan noted the group has so far been extremely successful at leveraging seed money supplied by the commission to gain funds from other organizations.

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Are you ‘average’? Definitely not!

Here’s one dictionary definition of average: Lacking any extraordinary, untypical, or exceptional characteristic. Does that describe you? Of course not – you are unique. Yet, many Canadians will hear the word average a lot as they go about their retirement planning.

They’ll hear things like, “If you are now 30 years old (or 40, or 50) you will need to average \$X amount in savings and investments for your retirement.” “As you get closer to the average age for retirement, you will need to move all of your investments into safe, but lower-returning, investments.”

The essential flaw in statements like these is that there is no such thing as an average retirement. You are an individual. Your family situation and financial circumstances are unique to you. Your retirement will be as personal as your fingerprint – different than anyone else’s. So don’t be taken in by the ‘flaw’ of averages – be sure your financial plan is precisely tailored for you alone according to your needs and goals.

But don’t throw away every average because some can be effective as planning tools. Take the average life expectancy, for example: Statistics are clear that, on average, Canadians are living longer. That means you can reasonably expect to live through many years of retirement – so the prudent and practical thing to do is design a financial plan that will deliver the income you need to ensure you will have the retirement lifestyle of your dreams for all your years.

The key is to know exactly what that lifestyle will be – what you want to do in retirement. Then you’ll know how much it will cost and you can begin working on the important financial details that will support that – like organizing sufficient retirement income, tax planning, and your insurance needs in retirement.

Be prepared for change, though. Your life will take directions you can’t see right now – so a flexible plan that is frequently updated is also necessary to reach and retain retirement success.

Sound like a lot of work? Here’s how to make it easier: The Investors Group Retirement Readiness Quiz – at [www.investorsgroup.com](http://www.investorsgroup.com) it is designed to give you a head start on your retirement planning. Your professional advisor is also a great resource for developing a plan that ensures your savings and investing levels will match your retirement dreams. And there will be nothing average about it.

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NEWSBEAT

ENVIRONMENT

Water Act update —  
new, rare opportunity

UVIC speaker calls  
for new ‘hydro-  
citizenship’

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A 60-minute lecture offered to members of the island’s Water Preservation Society can be summed up with four simple statements.

Use less, use what we take more productively, learn to share and leave enough in the system.

“That’s it, four points that we need to put into law,” said Oliver Brandes, the associate director of the University of Victoria’s POLIS project and this year’s guest speaker at the WPS’ Friday evening AGM at the Harbour House.

The advice may appear straightforward enough yet, Brandes said, water-use statistics across the country indicate that Canadians aren’t getting the message.

Canadian households and industries consistently rank among the highest per-capita water users in the world.

Canada’s per-capita water consumption is 65 per cent more than average consumption rates of the 29-nation Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development; only the United States uses more.

Brandes was invited to Salt Spring to let islanders know what they can do to help reverse the trend and

instill what he calls a sense of “hydro-citizenship.”

With the province ready to launch another round of public comment on its modernization of the Water Act, Brandes said, residents have a rare opportunity to delve into the complexities of resource allocation, water licences and conservation efforts.

As it is currently written, understood and interpreted, Brandes said, the province’s Water Act is based on attitudes and population models that prevailed in the early 20th century.

Much of the present “water muddle” the country and the province find themselves in is based on a lack of effective and enforceable regulation of groundwater pollution and conservation, and a lack of coordination between federal, provincial and local governments and community based groups.

Citizen-led initiatives like Salt Spring’s Water Preservation Society, he said, are integral in promoting the shift that’s needed to reverse the way most Canadians relate to water.

Brandes said that in the coming decades, communities around the world and across the country can expect more water crises as a result of growing demand, persistent pollution, over-allocation, disruption of natural flows and bulk water imports.

“When you have a system that is as complicated as nature, it isn’t about tweaking one or two things and hoping everything will work out,” he said. “It’s about instilling a model of ecological governance. Water is not an add-on but fundamental.”

The POLIS project on ecological governance is a university-based think tank designed to conduct research while promoting community action on issues relating to ecological governance and the long-term sustainability of resources.

In other Water Preservation Society news, members re-elected Ron Hall as president for the coming year. Hall said a top priority for 2011 will be planning to preserve and protect the water quality of Maxwell Lake.

Incorporating findings of the Cusheon Lake and St. Mary Lake watershed management plans into the ongoing Water Act discussion and following the Islands Trust’s efforts to incorporate the province’s Riparian Areas Regulation into the island’s development permit areas also rank high on the group’s to-do list.

More information about water-related matters facing islanders will be available at Friday’s meeting of the Salt Spring Water Council at the Lions Hall from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

HEALTH

Blood donor deterred by process

Options limited  
for non-central  
communities

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A committed Salt Spring blood donor has been frustrated in his attempts to give to the cause of his choice by time and financial obligations that go beyond the call of duty.

Derek Capitaine first donated blood 25 years ago during a high school blood drive. Since then he has given regularly and was about to reach the 150-unit level when he was deferred for low iron at his last visit to a Victoria blood clinic. With the voluntary trip off-island taking up to seven hours to complete, Capitaine has finally reached the point where he’s had enough.

“I’ve been lucky that wherever I’ve lived in Canada there’s been facilities nearby that are centrally located,” Capitaine said.

“But here, on a good day it’s five hours minimum [to get to Victoria and back]. On a bad day it’s seven. I think that’s a huge disincentive, let alone the money on top of that for the ferry, gas, et cetera.”

Blood is a highly valued resource in Canada and

elsewhere. According to Canadian Blood Services, approximately one person in Canada needs blood every minute of every day. One person’s donation can save up to three lives.

Capitaine points out that despite its high value, donating blood is one of the easiest ways to help other people, which is one of the reasons he’s contributed so regularly.

“It just seems like the right thing to do. You’ve got blood in you — you can give it freely, it’s no harm to you and it’s needed.”

To make the process more attractive to would-be donors on Salt Spring, Capitaine has suggested Blood Services bring a mobile clinic to the island, believing the island population large enough to supply enough donors.

“It’s too much to ask people from Salt Spring to go traipsing over to Victoria to donate,” he said, especially noting the environmental impact of making that trip.

The problem with the idea, according to Blood Services, is that it’s not cost effective to bring trained nurses and equipment from one of its metro centres to Salt Spring.

“Most likely it’s not going to be an option for us in the near future,” said Angela

Poon, the organization’s media contact for B.C. and the Yukon. “There’s actually many parts of the province that we’re not able to visit.”

Those areas include the Gulf Islands, the Sunshine Coast, Northern B.C. and the Kootenays.

Specially trained Blood Services nurses are required to take blood donations and they are located only in Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo, Kelowna and Prince George. Poon said to travel outside those centres is far too expensive for an organization funded entirely through tax dollars.

“It’s our job to collect the right amount of blood with the money we’ve got — that’s why we have to be quite strict about the way we operate to be the most efficient,” Poon said.

Poon further explained in email response to Capitaine that “it’s not just the cost of sending staff members and supplies to remote areas, but also the cost and time of getting the blood back to our processing centre in Vancouver in the 24-hour time period, as regulated by Health Canada.”

Capitaine said he understands those concerns, but is still thinking about a way to make donating blood easier for island residents.

NEWSBEAT

FIRE PROTECTION

Fulford fire training back on track

Board wants input on revised plan

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue has revised plans to build a training facility at the Fulford fire hall site and is asking for public input about the proposal.

Previous plans to build a training facility behind the Fulford fire hall ground to a halt when the Agricultural Land Commission declined to extend the permit it granted to use the rear section of the property.

But fire trustees did not give up on the goal to provide a safe local training facility for island firefighters to improve their skills on a weekly basis.

“Improved permanent training capability has been our highest priority for five years,” said fire trustee Mary Gillies.

While the fire district is not able to use the rear section of

the Fulford fire hall for training, it can use the front 200 feet of the property, said fire trustee and firefighter Bruce Patterson.

“It’s essential for training purposes that we secure and develop a dedicated area,” Patterson said.

The new plan will make for a more cramped facility that would be less hidden from public sight than the previous proposal, he noted.

Relocation of the Ganges fire hall, which has been suggested as an alternative training site to Fulford, is still years from completion in a best-case scenario, say fire trustees, so firefighters will need to make do with the only current option available.

Funds available from the 2010 budget which were set aside for the former project on the rear of the property will be applied to this revised project.

Long-term goals of the

project are to provide improved service for islanders and safety for their firefighters.

According to a press release, prospective firefighter recruits commit to a 400-hour program to become fully qualified on Salt Spring.

“Once trained, the education doesn’t end. Salt Spring firefighters must complete a minimum of 100 hours of training annually during weekly sessions to maintain their skills. The current training challenge is finding suitable locations for instruction. The cramped Ganges fire hall contains one 30-seat classroom (inadequate for some 55 students). The fire district has no location where firefighters can actually spray water, use tools or extinguish fires.”

Consequently, the department has been limited to teaching many skills by theory and simulation.

The department says local firefighters historically attend off-island facilities with burn props only once in their career (even though industry-standard safety guidelines dictate an annual review of these skills) and many components of fire-service skills are only learned when local firefighters respond to real emergencies. But this practice is dangerous and ineffective, noted SSIFR training officer Capt. Jamie Holmes.

“Hopefully it won’t take a fatality or serious injury among one of our firefighters before islanders recognize the severity of this issue,” said Holmes.

For more information about the proposed training facility in Fulford, people can attend the regular Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District meeting at the Ganges fire hall at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 21.

COURT

Domestic cases move to Duncan court

Available time and resources are factors

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Cases of domestic violence on Salt Spring are now being heard in a designated Duncan court house since a change of proceedings initiated just after Christmas last year.

The island’s senior police officer, Cpl. Martin Beardsmore, said the change was brought at the request of one of the Duncan-based judges, who visits Ganges on a rotating schedule.

“We were approached last fall and asked whether we would be able to make referrals to Duncan. We have no opposition to it and it seems like the right thing to do,” Beardsmore said.

Beardsmore said the move will be beneficial for resolving matters quickly, which is especially

important in cases where intimate relationships and violence are involved.

“It certainly helps because with two court dates per month that the court sits [in Duncan], things don’t get adjourned for a month, so they tend to roll over more quickly there,” Beardsmore said.

“These cases need to be addressed in a timely matter, and that is much more likely if that is the specific function of that court. Things can go south very quickly in these situations,” he added.

Beardsmore said larger communities often have separate courts for different kinds of offences.

Duncan has had a dedicated court for criminal domestic violence for just over a year, which is normally presided by Judge Josiah Wood. According to the Canadian Bar Association, the specialty court was established as a pilot project to help reduce domestic violence recidivism and “to pro-

vide support for families that have experienced violence but wish to stay intact.”

Beardsmore said one of the advantages to having one court dealing just with cases of domestic violence is that access to counselling and other resources is directly arranged on site.

There is also the likelihood that the same judge will follow the case through different appearances and will therefore have a better idea of the cases involved, as well as of the overall issue.

Taking domestic violence cases out of the Ganges court roster should also make local criminal proceedings flow more easily, Beardsmore said.

“Anything that takes things off the plate here and can be dealt with in a better way is desirable. If there is one kind of offence that deserves to be given every benefit of the court’s resources, it is to my mind domestic violence.”

Good place to ‘grow your own anything’

ONE OF THE BEST  
continued from 1

Your Own radio show.

Schroeder has noticed that varieties that were considered exotic just a few years ago are now being planted and even flourishing on the island, with everything from kiwis to goji berries found in local gardens.

“Tons of people have put in olive trees and almond trees and are already getting production out of them now,” she said.

Schroeder also noted a new interest in local resources such as syrup from big leaf maples and gourmet sea salt harvested on Vancouver Island.

Master gardener Linda Gilkeson, who has written several books and teaches regular workshops on the subject, herself grows dwarf lemon trees in pots and has a tea bush out in the open. Other warm weather crops include artichokes and yams, but to Gilkeson’s mind it’s the simple pleasures of fruit that really show off the climate’s power.

Grape and strawberry varieties that last the entire summer are some of the local bounty she enjoys, as well as perfectly ripe figs dropping off the tree.

“People have been known to lose their footing and fall down my stairs after a taste,” she observed.

The staggering variety of local food crops is one of the considerations Sunset Magazine reports, noting more than 350 types of apple and 47 vegetable varieties. But an even more interesting point not mentioned in the write-up is the growing number of people who are turning to food production at home.

Gilkeson said the shift has been strongly felt in the gardening industry, with seed sales rising dramatically along with requests for information. A local instruction series she is teaching for Transition Salt Spring took in 100 participants when she was expecting less than 50 — and more people had to be turned away for lack of space.

The reasons for the upsurge are multiple, Gilkeson suspects. Among them are concerns about food security, people realizing how manageable gardening is and how good the results taste, environmental concerns about how far most food travels and the desire to control what goes on and in food (or what stays out of it).

For his part, Jason said he’s getting calls and emails every day from people concerned about

food security in the near future.

“I don’t think I can exaggerate the change in consciousness. There’s a big shakedown coming up — people really feel the economy, the climate and politics will put us in a place where we’ll have to rely on ourselves.”

As both Jason and Gilkeson point out, being able to grow food depends not just on knowing gardening basics but on having seeds to plant. Keeping seeds in the public domain is part of the mandate for Seedy Saturday, an annual sale and educational event.

This year community interest has warranted extending the event to an entire weekend, taking place at the Farmers’ Institute from Feb. 11 to 13. A movie night on Friday kicks things off, followed by the regular seed and plant bazaar, information booths and educational workshops on Saturday.

An all-new Seedy Sunday will be devoted to workshops that specifically address saving seeds and growing more food on Salt Spring. The free classes are a collaborative project of Island Natural Growers, Salt Spring Seed Sanctuary, Transition Salt Spring and the Salt Spring Permaculture Collective.

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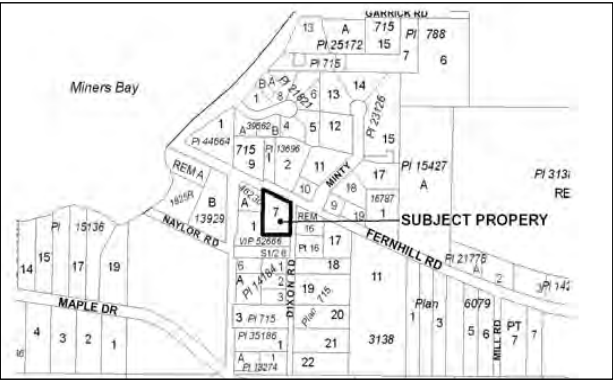
**Islands Trust**

**NOTICE**  
**MAYNE ISLAND**  
**LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE**  
**MA-TUP-2010.2**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the Mayne Island Local Trust Committee will be considering a resolution allowing for the issuance of a Temporary Industrial Use Permit pursuant to Section 921 of the *Local Government Act*. The proposed permit would apply to Lot 7, Section 12, Mayne Island, Cowichan District, Plan 715.

The purpose of this temporary use permit would be to permit an additional use, the “transfer, storage, and shipping of discarded goods and materials”, on a portion of the property located at 424 Fernhill Road on Mayne Island. The proposal is for disposal and storage of garbage in a wheeled structure that can be moved as required for shipping or at the end of the term of the TUP. The stated purpose of the facility is to provide Mayne Island residents and garbage collection contractors a site to discard and store solid waste materials prior to transfer off island. The permit would be issued for two years and the owner may apply to the Mayne Island Local Trust Committee to have it renewed once for an additional two years.

The general location of the subject property is shown in the following sketch:



A copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding Statutory Holidays, commencing, January 24, 2011 and up to and including February 3, 2011.

Enquiries or comments should be directed to Planner Alison Fox at (250) 405-5194, for Toll Free Access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867; or by fax (250) 405-5155; or by email to: [information@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:information@islandstrust.bc.ca), before 4:30 p.m. February 3, 2011. The Mayne Island Local Trust Committee may consider a resolution allowing for the issuance of the permit during a Local Trust Committee Business Meeting starting at 1:00 p.m., Monday, February 7, 2011 at the Mayne Island Agricultural Hall, 430 Fernhill Road, Mayne Island.

All applications are available for review by the public. Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

**Kathy Jones**  
Deputy Secretary

# Opinion



Gold - Best Special Publication - "AQUA - Gulf Islands Living"  
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 Service - "Residents Card Program"  
**2010 Canadian Community Newspaper Association Awards**



EDITORIAL

## Needs vs. wants

Salt Spring's taxpayers got a bit of a break this past week as Parks and Recreation Commissioners voted unanimously to steer away from any new big-ticket projects and, instead, catch up with some long-overdue maintenance and repairs.

Patching up the cracked tennis courts and fixing up some island trails may not grab headlines like construction of a new ice rink, expansion of the Rainbow Road Pool or creation of a 50-acre multi-sport recreational facility, but that's exactly how commissioners have decided to proceed.

For once in a long while, local officials have heeded the tried-and-true budgeting adage to separate one's needs from one's wants.

THE ISSUE:

PARC pulls back

WE SAY:

Commission exhibits fiscal responsibility

It isn't that commissioners lacked the enthusiasm for any of the big-league projects — some have actively campaigned for the ice rink and leisure pool — it's just that they realized most people in the community are in no mood for additional tax increases and public spending.

More than a few islanders have been forced to cut back, postpone, reallocate and retreat as below normal 2010 tourism numbers and the ever-increasing cost of living leave them unable to shake off the economic doldrums.

Finally, a government body appears to be following suit.

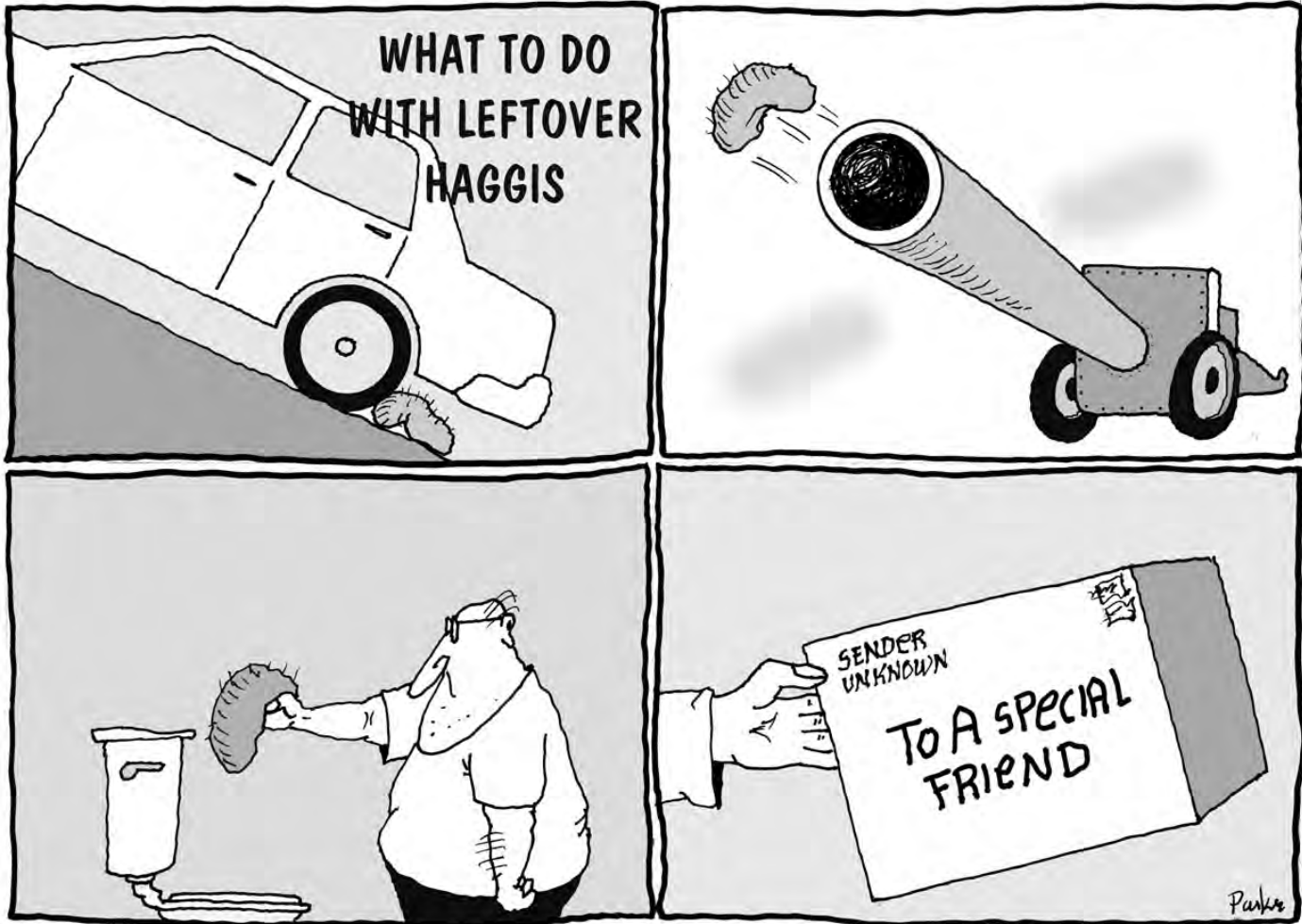
But don't expect that cheque in the mail quite yet because PARC members noted that annual tax increases will still be a few percentage points over and above the inflation rate until 2013.

Similarly, the Islands Trust announced a proposal to increase its property tax requisition by 4.4 per cent, another pretty good deal when compared to some previous years.

Based on budget info from other local government agencies operating on and off the island, however, that's probably as good as things are going to get. In some cases, such as the Beddis and Highland and Fernwood water service areas or the island's fire protection district, increases are anticipated to be far above Canada's 2010 inflation rate of 1.75 per cent.

PARC's commissioners ought to be congratulated on their decision to hang up the skates for the foreseeable future.

Let's just hope other government taxing authorities are taking notes.



## Operating room goal not feasible

BY DON GAINOR

I believe that a number of relevant but crucial facts have been neglected in the current controversy about surgeries at Lady Minto Hospital.

This problem began back in 2008 when Dr. Roy Preshaw resigned from the medical staff of LMH. Like other doctors who have privileges at the hospital, Dr. Preshaw proved to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of B.C. that he had the training, expertise and qualifications, including specialized qualifications, to practise medicine. The college supplied the Vancouver Island Health Authority with the relevant information about Dr. Preshaw's qualifications and the VIHA board granted him privileges at LMH for a surgical practice. Then in 2008, Dr. Preshaw was forced to resign those privileges.

It is interesting to note that not long after he resigned, Dr. Preshaw told the Driftwood in an Oct. 29, 2008 article that the operating room in LMH was "a mistake" that is not needed.

Why wasn't a replacement surgeon given privileges at LMH? VIHA and individuals, including myself, tried to find a replacement for Dr. Preshaw — in vain. Some physicians were interested and did consider moving to Salt Spring. Two doctors I contacted in Alberta could not move because of the fall in stock prices starting in 2008. With the reduced value of their stocks, they could not afford to be semi-retired on Salt Spring, especially since real estate prices on the island have remained high. Other surgeons who contacted VIHA about practising on Salt Spring eventually decided against making the move. Dr. Preshaw's comments mentioned above and the statement in the Jan. 19 Driftwood from 15 island physicians and psychiatrists disassociating themselves from the campaign of the Save Our Surgery committee are likely factors adding to the difficulty of attracting a new surgeon to Salt Spring.

So what is happening now in 2011 at the LMH operating room? It is being used to perform diagnostic tests using instruments such as gastroscopes, sigmoidoscopes and endoscopes. The OR is not being dismantled, as one Driftwood contributor

### VIEWPOINT

has claimed. Many people ask what happened to all the equipment that was acquired for that operating room. The answer is that it is all on Salt Spring Island. The main operating room table was loaned to the hospital in Port Alberni for five months. But once Port Alberni's new equipment arrived, the table was returned to LMH, where it is today.

And what about the \$780,000 that the LMH Foundation raised for the hospital, an amount of money that is often claimed to have gone exclusively to the OR? That money was used for several purposes at LMH, including the following:

- building and equipping a new operating room;
- building a palliative care suite;
- building a staff shower and washroom;
- building a storage room; and
- earthquake-proofing a large portion of the hospital.

All the money raised by the foundation, along with the additional funds supplied by VIHA and the Capital Regional District, is in full use today, contrary to what most people are led to believe.

If Dr. Preshaw says there is no need for a new surgeon at LMH, searches by VIHA and others to find that surgeon have failed and the local doctors who control where island patients go to get their medical care say that the operating room at LMH is not a priority for them, then the chances of getting a new surgeon to set up practice on Salt Spring are very remote.

If Phyllis Bolton, her friends at SOS and others with political agendas of their own cannot be diverted from their desire for a surgeon, the best of luck to them. But it is time for health care providers and governments to concentrate on providing better health care to the people of this island, rather than pursuing a goal that is clearly not feasible or sustainable.

*The writer is a Salt Spring resident and was a VIHA board member from 2002 to 2006.*

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Would you be more likely to donate blood to a local clinic?

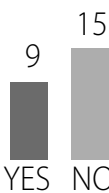
☐ Yes ☐ No

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

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Will you be contributing to an RRSP this year?



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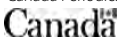
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# IslandVoices

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**  
“An outdoor skating season on Salt Spring Island would be rather short.”

KEES RUJURS - PARC OPERATIONS MANAGER

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:** What do you do to keep active during the winter?



**EDY FOLLIET**

*I walk in my neighbourhood for about half an hour every morning.*



**TAMI BENOIT**

*I play women's soccer every Sunday.*



**HEIDI COWAN**

*I do a lot of hiking because I like to be outside and in nature.*



**REGINALD TAYLOR**

*I have a dog so I have to walk every day for 30 minutes. That's why I got it.*



**COREY MILES**

*I split firewood and go to the gym.*

## Letters to the editor

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

### Energy plan

Noah Clinch asks why not make a more complete energy budget for the whole island? (“Wood burner: let’s do the math,” Jan. 19.)

We already have one. The Earth Festival Society has tracked Salt Spring’s annual energy and emissions data since 2002 as part of the Community Energy Strategy.

Salt Spring’s climate change initiatives have been recognized with two provincial awards. The 2005 Salt Spring Community Energy Strategy, along with the baseline report and updates, are at <http://www.saltspringenergystrategy.org>.

Last year the provincial government required all B.C. communities to set greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. Based on emis-

sions data and input from a public workshop held last February, the Salt Spring Climate Action Council is now working on a draft climate action plan to meet the island’s 2015 and 2020 greenhouse gas reduction targets.

On the subject of firewood, heating with wood is considered carbon neutral, although it contributes to local air pollution. Fireplaces waste far more energy than they provide over the course of a heating season. Low-emissions woodstoves are much more efficient, but still require dry wood and a hot fire to burn clean. The old-timers in Eastern Canada used to season split firewood under cover for at least a full year, and they figured two years was better.

**ELIZABETH WHITE,**  
VESUVIUS BAY ROAD

### Offer reasons

Over the years I’ve seen some awful letters in the Driftwood but the one signed by a group of local physicians in last week’s paper was a real “jaw dropper.”

Doctors stated they didn’t agree with Save Our Surgery’s mandate to “reinstate surgical services at Lady Minto Hospital.” They are certainly entitled to their views, but it appears they are trying to undermine the work of SOS while not offering one single reason why they agree with the operating room closure.

I am greatly mystified that a brand new multi-million dollar operating room and sterilizing facility on Salt Spring stands idle when there are regional waiting lists for surgical procedures. We could have an enclave of semi-retired sur-

geons, nursing staff, an anaesthetist, a surgical technologist, housekeepers — good paying jobs. Instead, Salt Spring residents must travel off island for surgical procedures and the community is missing an opportunity to become a hub for patients requiring surgery from other communities.

So doctors . . . if you don’t think VIHA should fund the local operating room, then present the community with supporting arguments, suggest what can be done with the current facility and equipment and then tell us where you think the funding should be directed.

**CLAIRE HEFFERNAN,**  
SALT SPRING

### Viable surgery

Re “Doctors’ opinion” letter, Jan. 19 Driftwood.

There is a current issue on

Salt Spring and the other Gulf Islands that is of great importance to many, if not all, of our residents. That is, whether we have a viable surgery at Lady Minto Hospital or not. Surely there can’t be any current issue that is more important.

The letters to the editor in the Driftwood have an expected personal bias that everyone understands when reading them. So I question using this forum to present a “we the undersigned” letter by a group of doctors. Are we to be led blindly to the conclusion that a doctor always knows best?

Most importantly, the lead doctors, in fact all who agreed to sign their name, should recognize that the SOS committee and other interested parties represent and support the needs of the residents of Salt Spring Island and not the desires of the doctors.

It is also interesting to note a number of the signatories are recent additions to the Salt Spring medical community, working in the newly built medical clinic on Kings Lane.

I then discovered their website ([www.kingslanemedical.com](http://www.kingslanemedical.com)), finding that colonoscopy and gastroscopy procedures are advertised there.

Talking to a neighbour who very recently underwent a gastroscopy, I asked him where it occurred.

“Well, in the new surgery suite at Lady Minto, of course, by Dr. Morse, and it was painless,” he told me.

I guess there is a viable surgery at Lady Minto after all.

**WILLIAM YEO,**  
VESUVIUS

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 10

## Listening to the roar of the RAR discussion

I can’t blame you for not dragging yourself out on a dreary Thursday afternoon for the privilege of occupying a hard chair under the cold fluorescent lights somewhere in the back eddies of the Baptist Church.

And I can’t blame you if your eyes begin to glaze over at the mere mention of “riparian rights.” But for those with the slightest interest in individual property rights, or for those harbouring a near narcotic addiction to local politics, you missed a good one last week.

To be fair, the meeting was not on my radar at all, until a couple of mass emails appeared in my inbox imploring one and all to bear witness to this Environment Advisory Committee/local Trust committee discussion of riparian rights. I went for the fireworks, but stayed for what turned out to be a serious, consequential back and forth.

At this point, you may be asking yourself (as I did), what’s a riparian and does it bite? The short answer is no, it doesn’t bite. It means a river bank. For the purposes of the Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR), it can be any land that is slightly moist, meaning lakes, ponds, creeks, even the ditch alongside the road. If a fish can swim in it and it has a bank, it’s riparian.

In 2006, the B.C. Liberals (please note: not the NDP, not the Greens, but the Liberals under Gordon Campbell) decided that any land within 30 metres of one of these bodies of water is now in a “riparian assessment area” and requires special provincial dispensation and the nod from the local government — in our case, the Islands Trust — in order for development to occur in such an area. The Liberals then left it up to local

governments to draft their own iteration of the process that either meets or beats the provincial guidelines. Are you still following? More importantly, should you care?

This is where it gets interesting. What happens if your property has drainage ditches or a network of streams? How about if you want to take down a willow tree that is playing havoc with your drain tiles, but is within the 30-metre “no-fly zone?” How about a cart path over a creek? These annoying little questions are to be addressed by a hired bureaucratic gun and the local Trust committee, with help from a stalwart group of volunteers known as the Environment Advisory Committee.

Advisory committees have been the subject of some pretty nasty letters over the past couple of years, with accusations that the members are cherry picked by our local trustees to be in the same philosophical choir. I can’t speak for the other committees struck in the name of the Trust, but these committee members were anything but trustee lackeys. The questions were sharpish, the comments barbed, aimed at either trustee George Ehring or at the paid planning consultant, Kris Nichols, who at times appeared ill prepared to take on the committee grilling. Welcome to Salt Spring Island, Mr. Nichols.

Thorny dilemma number one is what should be included in Salt Spring’s development permit area for riparian assessment areas? Much of Salt Spring’s water grid is not



**Peter Vincent**

### HEAD TO HEAD

a little for good measure, and call that the Salt Spring RAR development permit area.

Great. So that would mean that over 60 per cent of Salt Spring would be subject to riparian scrutiny. Under the provincial decree, that would mean a homeowner would have to hire a “qualified environmental professional” at some ghastly expense to stomp around your property and hopefully endorse your hopes and dreams. Would Salt Springers stand for this? Would Salt Spring have a chance to respond, to make suggestions, to see a map of the proposal?

Innocently, the chair of the committee opened the meeting up to comments and questions from the peanut gallery, liberally seeded with well-known Trust critics. Bitter experience has taught many in the audience to be skeptical, deeply suspicious and cynical. Some brought recording devices.

Distrust lay just under the surface. Some demanded the names of the committee members. Some were sure the trustees had something up their sleeve, a hidden agenda. When the Trust was told to “meet or beat” the provincial guidelines, would this, they asked, give them free reign? Will they throw all watershed areas into the map, thus put-

adequately mapped, and the cost of hiring an actual cartographer would stop your heart. The closest to an actual boots-on-the-ground survey comes via Kathy Reimer and the Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society. The feeling in the room was to take those maps, add

ting virtually the entire Salt Spring land mass in the permit zone?

Would the Trust use this as another tool in their “preserve and protect” tool belt? Let’s just say hypothetically that there was a coffee company that wanted to build a green roasting plant, and let’s pretend that the trustees had no rational reason to reject such a plant, could said trustees reject the application by playing the newly enacted RAR card? Are the trustees trying to jam as many unpopular edicts through before the November election, before a possible shift to a more . . . accommodating . . . council? Is this riparian business just another expensive layer by a nanny state intent on discouraging development? Questions like that filled the room, loud and shrill.

One effect of some of the more controversial Trust decisions over the past four years has been to produce a smart, vocal, well-organized opposition. One that sends out emails. One that conducts strategy meetings late at night behind closed doors. They use the local radio, internet and pen letters to this paper. They demand transcripts, names, they insist on recording meetings. They advertise vacation rentals. They take people to court. They throw coffee bags into the harbour in front of the national press. They invite guest speakers to extol the benefits of incorporation. They buy big chunks of newspaper space to let their voices be heard. In short, they are mad as hell and they are not going to take it anymore. This should be an election year for the books.

[republicofsaltspring@mac.com](mailto:republicofsaltspring@mac.com)

OPINION

Hospital services

With the greatest respect for the doctors who signed the letter published on page A13 in the Jan. 19 Driftwood, it is important to note that some of our longest tenured and most respected doctors did not sign the letter. As well, three of the doctors who did sign the letter are specialists who are not directly involved with surgical services.

Some of the doctors who signed the letter are new to Salt Spring Island and were not in practice here when the operating room was

successfully running at full capacity. Perhaps they do not perceive the difficulty islanders experience when, without a surgical facility at home, they are forced to go off-island and must deal with the trauma, cost and inconvenience that is entailed with repeated trips to Vancouver Island.

The basic ingredients of a hospital are doctors, nurses, acute care beds and operating rooms. If you take one of these things away you no longer have a hospital. You have a lesser facility. When you take away the operating rooms you don't just take away the ability to do surgery; you

downgrade other services including laboratory, radiology and emergency services and completely lose services like anaesthetic and visiting specialist services.

Anaesthetists are required in emergencies to save the lives of patients suffering an acute crisis, e.g. acute asthmatic attack, emphysema, choking, a newborn with respiratory insufficiency, severe allergic reaction or any other situation that involves difficulty with the airway.

The visiting gynecologist and urologist no longer come to the island. Their practice was to see patients who

had been referred to them for consultation and examination. If a surgical procedure was indicated they booked the OR to do the procedure on their next visit to the island. Without operating room and anaesthetic services they are unable to do their work. These patients now have to go over to Vancouver Island for the consult and wait in line for the already overcrowded hospitals there to do the surgical procedure.

The islanders, many of whom donated to the construction of the new operating room, deserve better. They deserve to have the state-of-the-art oper-

ating theatre restored as a fully functioning facility to serve their surgical needs. This situation is beginning to look more and more as though it's not just "save our surgery," it's "save our hospital."

**PHYLLIS BOLTON,**  
CHAIR, AD HOC SAVE OUR SURGERY COMMITTEE

Missing the point

Regarding the unaffordable Norton Road development and Ross King's Jan. 19 response to my letter, I'm glad he agrees with most of my sentiments but regret that he has totally missed its main point.

Ironically, at the same time he has illustrated the blinkered, "for-profit" thinking so perfectly. He asks why Mr. Elliot should follow my suggestion and "take a loss" and proposes that I should, therefore, also make "a substantial contribution."

I merely pointed out the incongruity between Mr. Elliot claiming to "give something back to the community" while at the same time taking a profit out of that community. As for making personal contributions, I already do contribute to several island organizations as much as my resources permit. Those resources, no doubt thought by some as being a fat, gold-plated federal pension, are actually insufficient to qualify me for a mortgage to buy one of Mr. Elliot's so-called affordable houses.

According to Mr. King, my cardinal sin was to suggest that someone "take a loss," forgetting that it is the "free" marketplace that is directly responsible for unaffordable housing. Yet he calls those who do correctly identify the

cause as "handwringers." He brushes aside "pure philanthropy" despite that it has successfully created truly affordable housing on the island. His thinking and ideas lie within the same narrow box as Mr. Elliot's.

Now profit has its place; without it Mr. Elliot would not be in a position to undertake such projects, but not all projects need to continue to be profitable. This issue is one such place where a cooperative venture involving business tempered by philanthropy and a practical resolution of bureaucratic hurdles might move things ahead.

That would certainly reduce Mr. Elliot's frustrations.

If Mr. King would bend his fine mind to respectful resolution of the many problems instead of labouring at yet another condescending polysyllabic pomposity for the Driftwood, we might actually see some progress.

**ANDREW OKULITCH,**  
LITTLE MOUNTAIN ROAD

Wide life experience

Aside from Jamaican dancehall music, call and response routines are usually of no interest to me.

However, I do have a problem with my many years of work, family and volunteering within this community sullied in a simplistic, sardonic manner by Peter Vincent in his Jan. 12 Head-to-Head column.

Over our 28 years on Salt Spring Island, I, and many others, have helped to make the Gulf Islands Driftwood an interesting and award-winning newspaper by writing letters that reflect the diverse opinions and experiences of the people who live their lives here. On the other hand, a columnist's job is to think up original topics and follow them through to a conclusion, but not to cherry pick and bully respected islanders who are brave enough to write intelligently on sometimes controversial topics.

The 15 years before moving to Salt Spring in 1983, I spent working at sea as a deck officer on a wide variety of ships, docking in over 60 countries and was shipmates with dozens of nationalities. The adventure and beauty of the sea life shaped

me but so did seeing African women begging for an empty paint can and a terrified man murdered by a Guatemalan death squad in 1982. I began to make the connections between environmental and human degradation and our industrial society and since that time have refused to live in denial.

We have raised sons through the school system, I have been a building contractor for 20 years, I initiated, designed and built the existing recycling depot in the late '80s and have always volunteered extensively throughout the community. My opinions at times have been pointed but have depth and compassion and reflect my wide life experience and knowledge of Salt Spring Island and the West Coast.

I now own a vehicle spring and suspension business in Ladysmith with our son, Niko, and have no intention of running for the Islands Trust. As someone who has contracted or been self employed for 40 years, part of my opposition to a municipality is financial acumen and common sense. The Town of Ladysmith has a slightly smaller population and less than half the roads as Salt Spring, as well as a constant stream of highway traffic and two mills to help pay taxes. They have 87 unionized municipal employees with an average wage of \$50,800 each and, believe me, their snow removal pales in comparison to Mainroad on Salt Spring.

**RICK LAING,**  
WILKIE WAY

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Canada has a Charter of Rights which embraces freedom of speech.

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**MATAJI ISHAYA,**  
SALT SPRING

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**We'll take it from there!**

 **Lions Publications**

The Board of Directors of Islanders for Self-Government has accepted Ken Marr's resignation from the board so that he can devote more time to his family and business. Ken's wise counsel, cheerful demeanor and tireless dedication will be missed. ISG would not be where it is today without his leadership. The continuing Board will work hard to maintain his legacy by striving to educate Islanders on the benefits of incorporating as an Island Municipality within the Islands Trust. Thank you does not quite seem adequate Ken! We wish you good luck with all of your future endeavours!!!

 **islanders** for  
self-government [www.islandgov.org](http://www.islandgov.org)

OPINION

Actions louder than words

BY RAY PHILLIPS

This is a response to the Jan. 19 "Doctors' opinion" letter from medical staff president Dr. Manya Sadouski and 14 colleagues.

The Save Our Surgery committee has noted the letter with interest and wants to correct and clarify points made in the letter.

The SOS committee has never claimed to represent the opinions of the doctors on our island. We are a group working in the interests of the community at large to uncover the facts around the closure of the operating room. If the signatories to the letter do not feel a responsibility to the community of Salt Spring and the other Gulf Islands, that is their prerogative.

On its face, the doctors' letter makes no sense in light of the history that led to the planning, financing and construction of our state-of-the-art surgical suite, which opened in November of 2004.

A closer examination of the facts leading to the current situation will clarify the situation.

In 2001 the process of assessing the needs

INRESPONSE

for building a new surgery began, culminating in the decision to construct the new OR.

The medical community supported that decision.

The Vancouver Island Health Authority spearheaded the campaign for financing with a \$1-million contribution toward the cost and solicited and received \$1,100,000 from the Capital Regional Hospital District with the \$780,000 balance being provided from Salt Spring residents collected by the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation.

Sometime before the OR opening, VIHA adopted, as with other health authorities throughout the province, a policy of centralization in the large population centres at the expense of the delivery of medical services to rural communities.

To evaluate the truth of the statement regarding VIHA's policy change, the old maxim that "actions speak louder than

words" and a review of VIHA's actions are appropriate.

When the OR opened, after spending almost \$3,000,000, it was only funded for two days a week and then further limited to two half days a week. It would have clearly been an outrage if VIHA hadn't opened the facility.

No surprise either that applicants for the surgeon's position passed on working under such restraints.

Despite recent statements in the press and on television opposing the re-opening of the OR, Dr. Shane Barclay signed a memo, along with other doctors, in 2008 supporting the continuation of surgical services. (A copy of that document can be found on the SOS website.)

It bears repeating that a memo in 2009 between Bill Relph, manager of patient care, southern Gulf Islands, and a VIHA staffer stated that reopening of the surgery was not the direction that they wanted to go in and he wished that the SOS committee would "float away."

The memo was dated before the so-

With regard to  
the need for, and  
the viability of a  
surgical service  
on Salt Spring  
Island and for  
all the Gulf  
Islands, what has  
changed?

called VIHA needs assessment (Salt Spring Island Health Review, May 2010) was even initiated.

The CEO of VIHA, Howard Waldner, as recently as 2009, assured in a letter that the OR at Lady Minto would remain open.

With regard to the need for, and the viability of a surgical service on Salt Spring Island and for all the Gulf Islands, what has changed?

*The writer is a member of the Save Our Surgery committee.*

RANTS and Roses

Roses

Bunches and bunches of snow-covered roses to Andrew Bond. On the snowy morning of Jan. 12 he was ploughing LePage Road and saw me struggling to shovel the snow from the entrance to my driveway. He came and ploughed the huge pile from the end of the driveway and then ploughed the whole driveway. Thank you so much! I am very grateful! Each year when it snows Malcolm Bond and his family plough LePage Road for the neighbours. Your kindness is very much appreciated. Judy Burch

Dozens of long-

stemmed roses to the home support workers who went the extra mile during the January snowstorm. You are very much appreciated!

A bouquet of flowers to Eric of Beddis Road Garage for making the road a lot safer by parking the extra cars he works on well off the road. It will save someone's life by doing this. Thanks again, Eric.

Many bunches of beautiful roses to Ken at the Tree House Cafe for creating such beautiful ethnic dishes (Indian, Thai, Caribbean, and Moroccan) on Wednesday nights! Anna

A big bunch of bright red roses to the very thoughtful gentleman who alerted me to an almost flat tire on my Smart car at the 9 a.m. ferry at Vesuvius on Wednesday, Jan. 19. Thank you, you saved me a huge amount of potential trouble and missed appointments, as I was able to fill it and then make it to Victoria where I had to replace the tire. Because of your thoughtfulness we did not end up helpless at the side of the road. A very simple act of kindness. Katha-

rine Harris

A huge heart full of roses to Edie's new family. The big dog had been abandoned and left to starve at nine years old. On the ferry we overheard how this woman always adopts older dogs and tries to make the last part of their lives the best. She is an inspiration of compassion to us all.

Dozens of gorgeous yellow roses to all who helped me during my recent stay at Lady Minto Hospital and sent me cards and flowers or phoned. To the doctors and nurses, ambulance staff, Sharyl for staying with the kids, all the people at the Legion who stepped in for Newfie New Year's (especially Pat and Melissa), Dee and Bruce for all the Dagwood's coffee, Community Gospel congregation for donations of food and money, and anyone else I've forgotten. Your care and compassion makes you who you are. MLH

A vessel full of dark pink roses for Mark, the BC Ferries worker who went way beyond the call of duty to help me last Thursday night at the Long Harbour terminal. Mark not only

stayed with me waiting for road assistance from the BCAA but even drove me home well past midnight and considerably out of his way. All the friends to whom I told this story were most impressed. Thanks to the Driftwood, the word will be spread even further. Hélène Narayana, Beaver Point Road

Doggie treats to all the fine folk who helped us look for Quinty. A special big dog bone for Juliet who saw her, captured her, carried her and transported her back home to us. You are an angel, Juliet. Treats too to Pat who called us to say Q was picnicking on the beach! Soggy doggy kisses from Quinty to all our old and new friends who rallied around us for those four dreadful days while she was on her walk-about. Thank you, H&A&Q

Roses and roses to all the kind, caring support people who looked after Bob over these past few months. I never knew your last names so I cannot list all of you, but please know that your compassion and understanding were immensely appreciated. Sincerely, Rita

# Arts& Entertainment



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**FIDDLE FEST:** Janette Polson plays a riveting fiddle as dancers take to the floor at the Scottish Country Dancers’ Robbie Burns Night last Saturday.

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## FOLK CLUB April Verch Band set to electrify

Members known as consummate performers

The Salt Spring Folk Club is upping the voltage with its next concert on Monday, Jan. 31.

April Verch, a virtuosic fiddler and step-dancer, brings her trio called the April Verch Band to Fulford Hall for the show that begins at 7 p.m.

Verch is known for mesmerizing audiences while delivering richly textured phrasing on traditional roots tunes, bluegrass and newgrass melodies, jazz-influenced compositions and country-tinged selections.

“In recent years April has also become a soulful songstress,”

says press material. “The addition of her sweet soprano vocals has given even more interest and depth to her live performances.”

“The April Verch Band entrances audiences by switching from the lyrical to the lightning swift in a heartbeat, creating exhilarating cadences that end in a rousing, jubilant celebration . . . They have established a reputation as consummate performers, winning over audiences not only with sheer virtuosity on their respective instruments, but also with charm, humour and boundless energy on stage.”

Verch has released seven recordings to date and her 2001 Rounder Records release earned a Juno nomination for Best Roots/Traditional Album.

Kelly Burk of Salt Spring is the opening act for Monday’s show. Burk’s early music career began in Alberta where he was a drummer and singer in both rock and country bands for more than 20 years.

Since moving to Salt Spring, Burk has focused on the guitar and his songwriting. He’s produced five CDs, including the most recent one, *Hard Rode*, released last summer.

Andy Hickman will play bass with Burk at the folk club gig.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for season’s ticket holders and 6:15 for everyone else, with dinners, soup and desserts available for purchase from Fiddlehead Catering.

Concert tickets are \$20 and available in advance at Stuff ‘n’ Nonsense, Salt Spring Books and Acoustic Planet.

## DANCE & QIGONG Full palette of Naomi Jason classes offered

From ballet to hip hop to medical qigong and Dance Temple

Dedicated to the quest for deeper knowledge of the body and its true expression, Naomi Jason has explored movement forms from rhythmic gymnastics to hip hop dance and from yoga to clowning.

Born and raised on Salt Spring, she went out into the world to fill her tool kit and open her eyes, and is now back to share from a fuller palette of experience.

After training at LADMMI, a three-year professional contemporary dance program in Montreal, she went on to dance professionally and found qigong as a complementary balance to her daily life. More recently, she dis-

covered medical qigong therapy, a branch of Chinese medicine, and is now a certified medical qigong practitioner and working on her therapist level of training with the Empty Mountain Institute based in Berkeley, California.

Through teaching dance and qigong as well as holding weekly community dance events, Jason strives to share the simplicity, strength, sensitivity and creative potential of physical forms. She currently teaches qigong, ballet and hip hop and is involved in the creation of an ongoing, weekly ecstatic dance event called Dance Temple.

People can visit <http://naomijason.com> for updates, schedules and information about medical qigong therapy and appointments.

Jason’s class schedule is as follows:

Dance Temple: Mondays, 7 to 9 p.m., at the Gatehouse at Stowell Lake Farm

Qigong: Tuesdays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Still Point Studio

Adult ballet: barre class - Thursdays, 4 to 5 p.m.; full class - Tuesdays, 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. at Ganges Yoga Studio

Hip hop for adults: Wednesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Mahon Hall.

Advanced ballet/technique class for teens: Sundays, 2 to 4 p.m.

Contact Jason at 653-9498 for more information.

For information about hip hop for kids, register through the Salt Spring Art Academy — [www.saltspringartsacademy.ca](http://www.saltspringartsacademy.ca) or 250-537-4294.



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Sat Jan 29 Ramesh Meyers

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**Wednesday-Saturday 8am-8:30pm**

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**APRIL VERCH BAND**



Opening Act: **Kelly Burk**

Soups, Suppers & Sweets by **Fiddlehead Catering**

**Monday January 31**

**Fulford Hall**

Door opens 6:15 (Pass holders 6:00)

Show starts 7:00

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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

**IMPROVISATION:** Salt Spring Island Middle School's improv team performs while the rest of the team and the Gulf Islands Secondary School improv juniors watch in the background. The event took place during GISS Improv's "Home Sweet Home" show at ArtSpring last Friday.

## CONCERT PREVIEW

# Salt Spring Chamber Players return with core musical trio

Matthew Stubbs' piano solo program is major focus of evening

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Chamber Players return to the stage of their 2008 debut with a single concert at ArtSpring, set for Thursday, Jan. 27 at 8 p.m.

The concert will feature the intimate setting of the group's core members, Jim, Laurie and Matthew Stubbs, with the majority of the program devoted to Matthew's solo repertoire on piano.

The evening begins the trio playing together on Three Pieces from Max Bruch's Eight Pieces and ends with the players reuniting for the Poulenc Trio, a delightful window into Parisian café culture that was traditionally accompanied by a glass of Pernod.

The musical experience promises to build on the existing family relationship to strengthen the bonds already nurtured in the chamber setting.

The arrangement is one that suits the elder Stubbs, who both had serious careers playing with orchestras in New York until they decided to make a life on Salt Spring.

Laurie Stubbs explained that she and her husband had always wanted to do more chamber music in New York, but didn't have the time. Now that they do, they are enjoying the small group's democratic process: with no conductor, no "boss," the players choose their own pieces and work out between themselves how they should be played.

"It's like a relationship. There's a lot of hours exchanging dialogue," Laurie said.

"What's interesting about being in a trio is . . . there's a lot that's interwoven, with ideas bouncing off each other," added Jim.

The democratic nature of the group extends to the Stubbs' 15-year-old son Matthew, whose considerable experience and skill have given him the right to have his voice in the process.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

From left, Matthew, Laurie and Jim Stubbs will perform at ArtSpring on Thursday, Jan. 27.

"When it comes to music we're colleagues — we're not just his parents," Laurie said.

Matthew has been studying with world-renowned performer and teacher David Oei since he was seven. Since moving to Salt Spring the lessons have been mainly conducted over the phone, although Matthew had daily sessions with Oei when the youth appeared as a featured participant of the Chamber Music Conference of the East at Bennington College, Vermont last summer.

Matthew has previously appeared as soloist with the Westchester Philharmonic Youth Concert Series in New York State and on Salt Spring with the Salt Spring Concert Band.

He performed the Poulenc Concerto for Piano and Orchestra with the Cowichan Consort in April 2010 and the Beethoven Trio, Opus 1, No. 3, and the Dvorak Dumky Trio at Bennington.

For the upcoming concert, Matthew has enjoyed a high level of input into the program.

"It's great for me because I was actually able to choose my composers for my solo repertoire," he said, noting that Rachmaninov and Chopin are on his list of favourites.

"Some of them are very exciting pieces that I chose for their unpredictability, others for their harmoniousness — they are very beautiful in their own way."

Matthew is particularly excited to present Impressoes Seresteiras by Heitor Villa-Lobos,

a "gem out of nowhere" that he discovered recently in an old Villa-Lobos book, and which he believes will be new to most audience members.

"I think it will be a very special program," he said. "It mixes together in an interesting way."

Matthew is grateful for the many opportunities to play he's already enjoyed on Salt Spring, including the mentoring support of Dawn Hage and the Salt Spring Concert Band.

Unfortunately the island audience — and Matthew's parents — have only a couple more years to enjoy his playing before the Grade 10 student finishes high school and goes off to university.

Recent experiences with the Music Conference of the East and the Salt Spring Chamber Players have made a strong impression on Matthew's musical career, with a likely future in chamber, rather than orchestral music, ahead of him.

As his mother Laurie notes, that direction will suit him well even if his strong interests in sports and geo-science take his main career elsewhere.

"You can play anywhere and anytime as a chamber player," she pointed out. "Like in Mozart's time, they just pushed back the chairs to start playing music."

Tickets to the Salt Spring Chamber Players concert (\$16 adults, \$10 students) are available at the ArtSpring ticket centre — 250-537-2102.

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# What's On This Week

www.gulfislandstourism.com/calendar.htm



## Wed. January 26

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Open Stage.** Wednesdays with Stephanie Rhodes at Moby's. 8 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Screening of Inside Job.** SS Film Fest committee shows Academy award-nominated film by director Charles Ferguson, about the global financial meltdown. The Fritz. 7 p.m.  
**Parent-Child Mother Goose.** Singing, snack and playtime for parents with toddlers & preschool children at Fernwood Elementary School. 10 a.m. to noon.

## Thurs. January 27

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Salt Spring Chamber Players.** Featuring Matthew Stubbs, piano. ArtSpring. 8 p.m.  
**Open Mic.** Thursdays at The Local pub. 6 to 10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Healthy Pregnancy, Healthy Birth, Happy Baby.** Six-week holistic prenatal education and wellness series begins. At Family Place on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon through March 4. Free, but pre-registration required at 250-537-9176.  
**4-H Community Club Registration.** At Portlock Park portable, 6:30 p.m. Bring parents, BC medical card and birth certificate.  
**SS Weavers' Guild.** With Jane MacKenzie speaking on inspiration. ArtSpring. 10:30 a.m.  
**SSI Trail & Nature Club AGM.** With John Neville. Community Gospel Chapel. Doors at 11:45 a.m. Business meeting at 12:30 p.m.

## Fri. January 28

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Richard Cross and Special Guest.** Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
**DJ Hotness.** At Moby's Pub.  
**Sweetwater & Co.** Live at the Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Insects in Action.** Presentation by Linda Gilkeson and Elizabeth Cronin at Community Gospel Chapel hall. 7 p.m. A SS Conservancy event.  
**Library StoryTime: Stories & Fun.** With Marilyn. For children in early grades and preschoolers. 1 p.m. at the library.  
**Salt Spring Water Council.** Meets at Lions Hall, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**Rollerblading.** Fridays at Fulford Hall. 7:30 to 9 p.m.  
**Tango Practica.** Core Inn. 8 to 10 p.m. Info: Laura, 250-537-4077

## Sat. January 29

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Sunyata.** Dance to live band at Moby's Pub.  
**Ramesh Meyers.** At the Tree House Cafe. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
**Jazz With Lloyd English and Friends.** At the Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**CFUW Monthly Meeting.** Canadian Federation of University Women guest speaker is Lynda Turner on volunteering in Kenya. Harbour House Crofton Room. 10 a.m.  
**Creating Intuitively: Embracing the Artist Within.** Gillian McConnell leads workshop sponsored by the Salt Spring Arts Council. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info/register: www.ssartscouncil.com or 250-537-0899.  
**Ganges - Future Direction.** Air your views about the unique character of Ganges village on the boardwalk across from Island Escapades. 12 noon.

## Sat. January 29

### ACTIVITIES

**Salvestrols Vs. Cancer.** Free seminar by Foster Health Inc. at ArtSpring. 1 p.m. Register at savemyseat.ca.  
**Vision Board Workshop.** Led by Emma-Louise Elsey at Ganges Yoga Studio. 2 to 4 p.m. Register at 250-537-2444 or www.gangesyogastudio.com

## Sun. January 30

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**The Barley Bros.** Harbour House. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Music Society in 19th-Century Europe.** A new course in music appreciated conducted by George Ehring. ArtSpring. Sundays to March 6. 1:30 to 4 p.m. Register through ArtSpring, 250-537-2102.

## Mon. January 31

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**April Verch Band.** Salt Spring Folk Club presentation at Fulford Hall. Opening act Kelly Burk. 7 p.m., with doors open at 6 p.m. for season's pass holders, 6:15 for others. Light dinners and desserts available.

### ACTIVITIES

**Seniors Information Forum.** Topics ranging from financial planning to mobility aids. At ArtSpring, 2 to 4 p.m. Doors open at 1:30 with refreshments provided. Pre-register at 250-537-8340 or office@heritageplace.info  
**GISS Basketball.** Junior girls home game at the GISS gym. 4:30 p.m.  
**Toastmasters.** Meet Mondays at the Harbour House Hotel Crofton Room. 7 p.m.  
**Mobile Abattoir Update.** Farmers Institute. 7 p.m.

## Tues. February 1

### ACTIVITIES

**GISS Basketball.** Senior girls home game at the GISS gym. 4:30 p.m.

## Wed. February 2

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

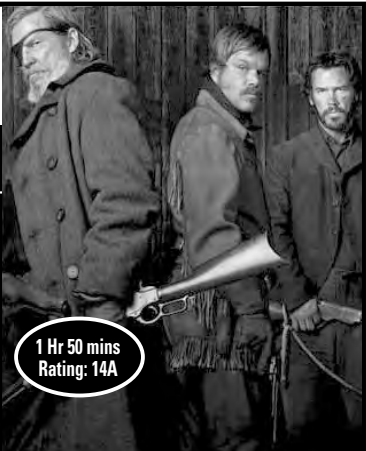
**Music & Munch.** Free recital of Hector's Friends at All Saints, 12:10 p.m.  
**Open Stage.** Moby's. 8 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Yellow Submarine Mental Health Drop-in Open House.** Come see the newly renovated space in the Community Services building. 2 to 4 p.m.  
**Collaborative Activity — A Design Approach to Abstraction.** A SS Painters Guild workshop at ArtSpring. First of two Wednesdays. Info/register: Ann Holt at annholt47@hotmail.com.

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### CINEMA


**True Grit** — Jeff Bridges gives a great grizzled performance as an old drunken U.S. Marshall hired by a young girl to find the man who killed her father. Texas Ranger LaBoeuf (Matt Damon), also aims to catch the killer which brings the trio to collide on the trail. This unlikely posse rides towards an unpredictable reckoning, as they find themselves enveloped in the stuff of legend. Strong performances from Matt Damon, and Hailee Steinfeld, and lifted by some of the Coens' most finely tuned, unaffected work.

### EXHIBITIONS

- **Salt Spring Photography Club** presents an exhibit called **Elements** in the **ArtSpring** lobby space through Jan. 31.
- **Imaginary Landscapes**, an exhibit of paintings by Vancouver artist **Andrew Gibbs**, runs at **Market Place Cafe** through Jan. 30.
- **Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art** is pleased to welcome its newest artist, **Lloyd Nickleson**. Lloyd's artwork is abstract colour forms featured on plexiglass panels, wall art and screens.
- **Pegasus Framing Gallery** presents work by the lino-cut master **Richard Calver** along with **Bill Mayberry** abstracts and hyper-realist oils by Christopher Walker.
- See **Lyman Whitaker's** wind sculptures at **Grace Point Square**.
- **Lou Ellis** shows photos of Havana at **TJ Beans**.
- **Margaret Threlfall's** miniature original watercolours are now available in the **ArtSpring** lobby display case.
- **Evelyn Russell** shows collograph and China ink paintings at **Island Savings** through the end of February.
- **The Salt Spring Photography Club** displays photos by club members at the **Salt Spring Coffee Company** on an electronic picture frame, with updated photos every two weeks.
- **Margaret Ann Argiro**, visual artist and photographer, has eight photos and one pastel painting hanging in **Bruce's Kitchen**. Images feature fruits, vegetables and the Northern Range as seen through the notch in Mt. Belcher.
- **Shari Macdonald** shows new photos at **Jana's Bake Shop**.

## Insects in Action

SS Conservancy talk with Linda Gilkeson and Elizabeth Cronin  
Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>  
Community Gospel Chapel 7 pm

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## ART EDUCATION

# Panoply of art classes splashes on scene

Gillian McConnell teaches four series plus intro

Islanders can pick up a paint brush and beat the winter blues with a series of colourful art classes taught by Gillian McConnell beginning in February.

A local artist and art teacher with an honours BFA, McConnell will teach four eight-week classes on Mondays and Tuesdays at Mahon Hall.

"Brighten up dull winter days with an in-depth exploration of colour (in the Colour Compass course) or get away with a journey to abstract art (Approaching Abstraction)," she said.

"Lighten up in spring with some inventive ways of drawing (Experimental Drawing) or put your renewed energy into a series of works (A Process & A Project)."

For people wanting a sneak preview of what they can expect, McConnell offers a taste of her class content and teaching style in a fun-filled one-day workshop on Saturday, Jan. 29 at Mahon Hall.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Gillian McConnell is set to teach four art class series and a one-day workshop.

Called Creating Intuitively — Embracing the Artist Within, it's the first in a series of professional development workshops being presented by the Salt Spring Arts Council. Gillian is excited to be part of this initiative, which is a pilot project for the arts council's proposed School for the Arts on Salt Spring.

"You don't have to be an artist, or even think you have any talent, to benefit from Saturday's workshop," said McConnell.

"In Western culture we regard as artistically gifted those people who possess the ability

to render accurate representations of three-dimensional forms on two-dimensional planes," she continues.

"While many artists do exhibit exceptional (and valuable) rendering skills, technical prowess is not the same thing as artistic ability. Many a superbly executed portrait has failed to capture the sitter's personality. Many a deceptively simple abstract embodies the essence of love, joy or grief."

McConnell says those who don't exhibit exceptional rendering skills at a young

age receive little, if any encouragement.

"Most of them inevitably conclude that they are completely bereft of talent and stop drawing or painting altogether."

"This is indeed a tragedy, for everyone has the ability to create. Everyone has thoughts, feelings and impressions worthy of creative expression — in paint, melody, poetry or performance."

This is the basis of McConnell's approach to art education.

"I want to help people to be fully present in the process of creating. When we connect deeply with the subject,

we produce work that is beautiful, has meaning and embodies universal truth. An artist's work is their voice — their means of moving people emotionally, stimulating them intellectually and uplifting them spiritually."

To register for Creating Intuitively — Embracing the Artist Within, go to [www.ssartscouncil.com](http://www.ssartscouncil.com) or phone 250-537-0899.

To find out more about McConnell's eight-week art classes, call her at 250-537-4439 or email [gillian@arthygillian.com](mailto:gillian@arthygillian.com).

## Course Info

### Creating Intuitively — Embracing the Artist Within

Saturday, Jan. 29, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Colour Compass Mondays starting Feb. 7, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Approaching Abstraction: Tuesdays starting Feb. 8, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Experimental Drawing Mondays starting April 4, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A Process & A Project: Tuesdays starting April 5, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## MUSIC & MUNCH

# Nautical theme forms basis of octet concert

Hector's Friends bring 15th All Saints recital season into port

Music and Munch launches its 15th year on Wednesday, Feb. 2 with a nautical theme. Returning to perform at the lunchtime concert is the male a cappella octet called Hector's Friends.

Formed two-plus years ago from members of the Victoria Philharmonic Choir, their debut performance at M&M, as a sextet in March of last year, was a great success, says the M&M series producers.

The group's intriguing name arose when, at the rehearsals in the living room of baritone David Woodridge, his Jack Russell terrier named Hector would lie on his side on the rug and listen. So rather than take some formal Latin name, they all agreed that Hector's Friends they would be.

Their performance schedule in 2010 began with a concert in St. Paul's church, Esquimalt, for the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Navy where a large commemorative stained glass window was installed. No less than 14 admirals were in attendance.

They kicked off the Christmas season at the Victoria Maritime Museum and toured their yuletide program of shanties discovery songs to the Cowichan Bay Wooden Boat Society, the Danish Club and the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

"So what could be more fitting than a taste of the sea at All Saints By-the-Sea?" asks a M&M press release. "You will be able to sit back on Wednesday and let your mind drift with the music, back to a time when sailors and the great square-rigged ships they worked became legends."

Music and Munch recitals are free, although donations are gratefully accepted for the work of the producers, Music Makers of the Anglican Parish.

A delicious lunch is served following the music for \$5.50. Tickets must be purchased before the performance.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

DANCE BAND

Ever-popular Oka ready for Beaver Point groove-fest

Benefit for Phelisanong Lesotho project

Perennial island favourite band Oka is back for its first-ever wintertime Canadian tour, with the Australian trio making Salt Spring its first stop on a cross-country odyssey.

Islanders can look forward to a dance-happy evening of pumping didgeridoo, Polynesian rhythms and trance-y melodies performed on flutes, sax and lap-steel guitar.

The perfect-for-dancing show is at Beaver Point Hall on Thursday, Feb. 3. Doors are at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8, with the angelic harmonies of special opening band Sweet Water Revolver warming up the hall. Culinary delights include raw chocolate, pastries and assorted savouries.

“Our sound is constantly evolving, but at the moment it’s a hybrid of feel-good, dance, roots music, with a bit of reggae-dub, jazz and electro thrown in . . . a bit of positive music for the soul and the soles of your feet,” says band leader and “didger-istu” Fergie.

According to press material, Oka is riding high following a wildly popular summer 2010 tour, which took in major music festivals in western Canada.

“Their Beaver Point Hall show in August was a sold-out groove fest, with all ages sharing the love on the dance floor.”

Since then, Oka has been in the studio, recording new tracks, while playing shows back home in Australia.

“Despite the heat they’re accustomed to, the band has always wanted a true northern experience: their dates in Cal-

gary and Whistler will guarantee that they won’t have packed their long johns in vain.”

Oka is described as a celebration of Australian cultures with a present, powerful and uniting indigenous cultural overtone running throughout the music.

In the spirit of solidarity, the Beaver Point Hall show is a benefit for Community to Community projects in Africa.

Islanders Gary McNutt and Andrea Palframan are heading to Lesotho on Feb. 7, taking proceeds of the show to Phelisanong, a community project run by and serving HIV-positive and disabled children and adults. For more information about the group, visit [www.phelisanong.com](http://www.phelisanong.com).

Tickets are \$20 and available at Salt Spring Sound and Salt Spring Books.



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Oka drummer Charles Wall at a Centennial Park show last summer.

**“Music For A While”**  
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Join CFSI for dinnertime classics every weeknight from 6:30 - 8pm. On Fridays, Larry Woods presents a broad range of styles, from choral to orchestral. “Music For A While” is sponsored by Sotheby’s International.

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Listen online at [www.cfsi-fm.com](http://www.cfsi-fm.com)

BENEFIT DANCE  
Sweatshop Union on road for ride-sharing benefit

At Beaver Point Hall on Feb. 11

Vancouver’s Sweatshop Union is returning to Salt Spring for a special Valentine’s weekend benefit show on Friday, Feb. 11 at Beaver Point Hall.

The concert will benefit Transition Salt Spring in its aim to develop a ride-share program on Salt Spring. The ride-share program will be launched for the concert and attendees will have access to a website to coordinate rides with each other.

A licensed event that will require ID to

be shown at the door, incentives will be given to designated drivers, including free chai tea and goodies. Guests are reminded in the promotional material to “Arrive alive, drive sober.” The liquor licence was granted as a trial with support from the Beaver Point Hall committee and the RCMP.

“Sweatshop Union has sold tens of thousands of albums, rocked hundreds of shows in North America and toured overseas,” states press material. “Word of mouth is spreading about Sweatshop Union’s style of conscious lyrics, highly

musical beats and high-energy live shows that far surpass the average hip hop concert.”

The band has performed in the company of artists such as Jurassic Five, Blackalicious, De La Soul, Black Eyed Peas, Ozomatli and their then-label-mates Swollen Members.

In a time when hip hop music remains soulless and simplistic in the eyes of the mainstream, Sweatshop Union remains driven to deliver a deeper, more meaningful sound into the conscience of the masses. They are one of Canada’s top-selling independent hip

hop artists with four album releases, multiple nominations for the Juno Awards, Western Canadian Music Awards, Muchmusic Video awards, to name a few.

Band members are no strangers to Salt Spring, having previously performed at Moby’s. They’re coming back with a fresh lineup, some new songs and the earthy danceable beats that islanders love to hear at Beaver Point Hall.

The show includes special guests Pigeon Hole and White Buffalo.

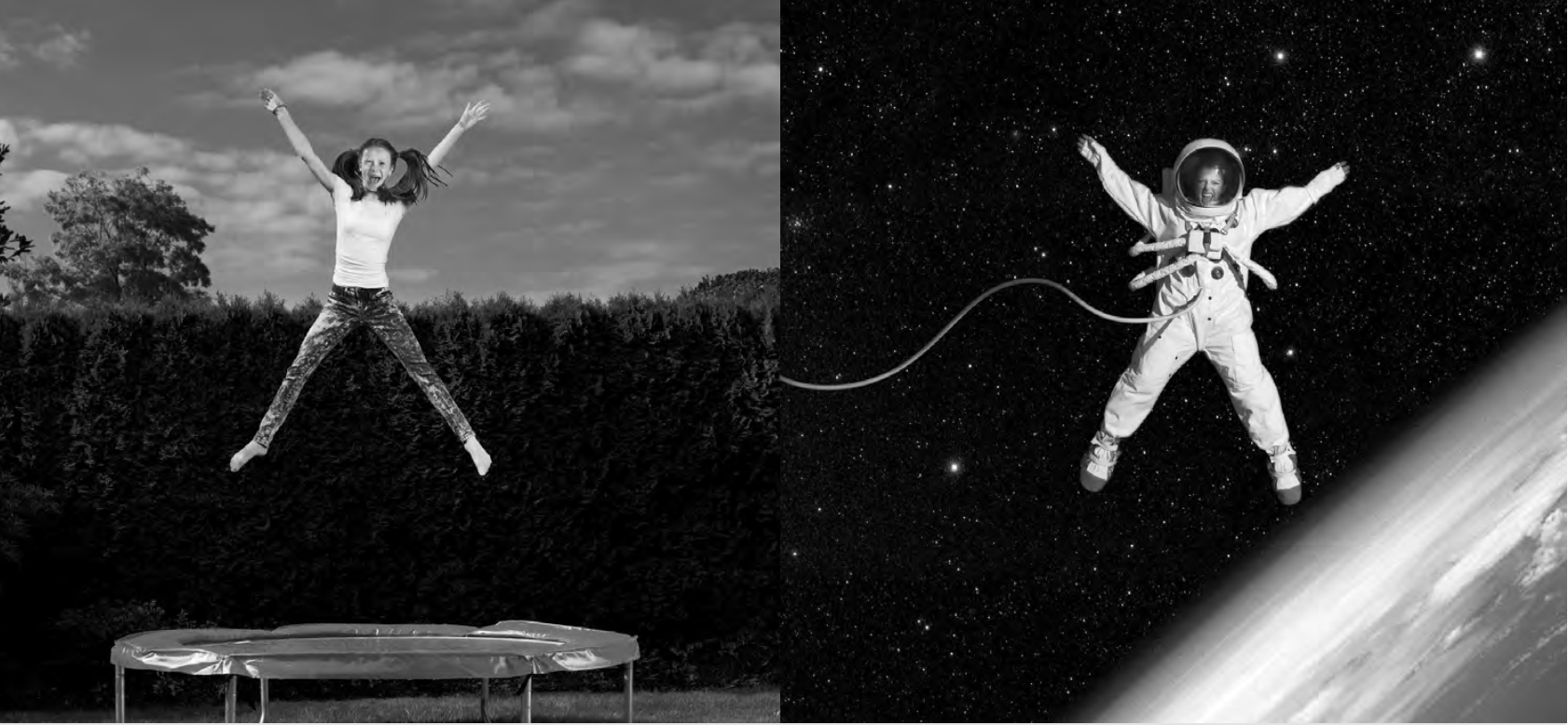
Transition Salt Spring, the beneficiary of the show, is a local group within the Salt Spring Island community, committed to working to address the urgent and critical issues of global climate change and declining fossil fuel supplies.

Transition’s ridesharing group is working to establish a system that links drivers and passengers on Salt Spring’s road system, to extend and enhance current public transportation options and to make it easier to share rides to and from events. Currently in the planning stages, the ride-sharing initiative is looking at successful models already in place on Pender and Mayne islands.

For the Feb. 11 event, a ridesharing map has been created on Google that allows people to plot their destination point on a map of Salt Spring, and post whether they can offer or need a ride. The public can view and sign on to the ride share at <http://tiny.cc/r3jms>.

Doors open at 8 p.m. with the band playing at 9:30 p.m. Absolutely no minors are allowed.

Tickets cost \$25 and are available at Salt Spring Books and Morningside Organic Bakery, Cafe and Bookstore.



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# People & Community



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**A WEE CELEBRATION:** People of all ages enjoy a dance and celebration at last weekend's Robbie Burns Night hosted by the Salt Spring Scottish Country Dancers at Fulford Hall.

## FUNDRAISER

# Cookie sale revenue helps family give thanks to children's hospital

Bake sale nets over \$1,300 in donations

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Jasmin Wilson's family has returned from BC Children's Hospital with much to be grateful for on two previous occasions, but during their most recent visit it was hospital staff who were doing the thanking.

The nine-year-old girl was first sent to BC Children's three years ago after Lady Minto staff discovered she had Compartment Syndrome, a painful and life-threatening condition.

Jasmin was able to return home after three months of treatment, but in October of 2009 she contracted the condition again as a reaction to the H1N1 flu.

Once again she received treatment that saved her life, with an emergency fasciotomy to relieve the pressure in her legs and more than two months of kidney dialysis.

In an effort to help the hospital where she received so much

aid, and other children in care there, Jasmin and her mother Liz Wilson raised several hundred dollars with a driveway bake sale after her first extended stay. They decided to raise the scale of operation last Christmas with a cookie sale at Country Grocer, as Jasmin set her fundraising goal at \$1,000.

"I really didn't think we'd make it, but we did and that was thrilling," her mother Liz said.

The family used 14 pounds of butter and baked for 24 hours in preparation for the sale, with her neighbour and her mother-in-law each contributing another couple of dozen cookies.

The day of the sale, held the Saturday before Christmas, was one of the darkest and wettest of the year. But Jasmin, two little friends and her mother all approached the task with good humour.

Their effort produced outstanding results. Generous community members bought out the stand's supply in just two hours and donated a total of \$1,302.50 to the children's hospital in the process.

Liz said that although it's unusual to see such a young person committed to giving to others in need, her daughter is very aware of the service hospital staff have given.

"We told her when we got home how sick she was and how we almost lost her," Liz said.

"She loves the help and care that we received at the hospital — we still keep in contact with some of the nurses and doctors quite regularly."

The Wilsons must travel regularly to BC Children's for testing since doctors still don't know why Jasmin is susceptible to Compartment Syndrome.

During their most recent visit they brought the cookie sale revenue with them and were overwhelmed by the staff's grateful response.

The overall experience was so positive the family is planning to make it an annual event, Liz said.

"There were a lot of compliments and a lot of generous donations. A lot of people know our story, but lots didn't and just thought it was a great idea."

## BUSINESS

# Tourism talk at chamber

Members' breakfast meeting set for Feb. 3 at the Harbour House

Salt Spring's Chamber of Commerce has finalized its new board and is inviting local chamber members to meet them.

Salt Spring Air co-owner Philip Reece is the new president and chair of the tourism committee.

Suzanne Little (Suzanne Little Consulting and the Salt Spring Exchange) is the vice president and responsible for communications and media.

Matt Steffich (Steffich Fine Art) is the board member responsible for organizing mixers and breakfast meetings; Mike Best (Alders Plantation Vacation Rental) is in charge of sponsorships and funding; Tim O'Connor (Island Star Video and TJ Beans) for Canada Day and associated events; Mike Boizard (Thrifty Foods) for finance and Andrew Haigh (Salt Spring Books) continues to look after agriculture.

Joining the board are Kelly McAree (Hastings House), John Quesnel (Salt Spring Metal Recycling), Li Read (Sea to Sky Premier Properties) and Robert Steinbach (Moby's Oyster Bar and Marine Grill).

The chamber invites all of its members to a breakfast meeting at the Harbour House at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 3. A presentation will be made by the tourism committee to update those attending on its recent work and findings.

Reece said there are many new exciting developments to discuss, including marketing possibilities with BC Ferries. A proposed Salt Spring Island Day at the Tsawwassen terminal is just one of the ideas already in the works.

Building tourist numbers outside of the peak season has been one of the committee's priorities, Reece said. New events include a blossom festival set for this spring and a wine and food festival in the fall.

Accommodations providers will also be interested in a new booking engine and online networking sites, he said.

The breakfast cost is \$10.

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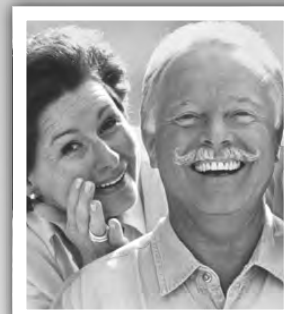
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# PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

## BIRDS

# Birders count record number

Highest number of species spotted

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

More than 100 volunteer counters covered Salt Spring to collect and report their feathered sightings as part of the island's official 2010 Christmas Bird Count.

The Dec. 27 count marked the 111th year of the Audubon Society's involvement, making it "the largest and longest-running ornithological citizen science project," according to event spokesperson and participant Tim Marchant.

The day's unsettled weather and occasionally heavy rain reduced the count from last year's 13,617 birds to 12,121, he noted.

"I know, personally, that on counting day I searched and searched for birds in the bushes and then, two days later, in the warmer sunny weather, they were all parading on the lawn again," Marchant said.

Water birds comprised one-third of all birds counted, though two species of perching birds, notably the dark-eyed junco and the chestnut-backed chickadee, were the most commonly sighted.

Marchant said this year's big surprise was the common tern.

"Terns visit Salt Spring in the spring, summer and fall, but never in the winter," he said. "This year two were sighted near Scott Point."

Marchant said 89 Anna's Hummingbirds were spotted, a threefold increase from last year's count.

"Anna's are showing up 10 times as often now as they were 10 years ago," he said. "They continue to move out from their traditional California home. In fact, this week an Anna's hummingbird is being observed in South Carolina, the first time ever in that state."

An indication of just how natural the island's environment really is was exemplified by reports of rock doves, commonly known as pigeons, in only two of the island's 12 zones. Conversely, every zone reported sightings of bald eagles.

"A total of 99 bald eagles in fact, not bad," Marchant said.

Marchant said the 96 species counted during this year's count represents a new high.

"Wrens, kinglets, siskins, widgeons, grebes and scoters. You name it, they all count toward a healthy ecosystem," he said, thanking all 106 counters and the zone coordinators.



PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**BABY CROWD:** Cathryn Seedhouse, Ted Bowland and their Jan. 1 baby Julia Elizabeth Bowland (centre) are presented with flowers and gifts from the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary at the group's Monday meeting. The auxiliary makes a presentation to the first baby born in Lady Minto Hospital each year.

## WORKSHOP

# Vision board helps people achieve goals

Emma-Louise Elsey leads workshop on Jan. 29

Islanders are invited to make a "vision board" for themselves at an upcoming workshop, while helping two local charitable groups at the same time.

Yogini and life coach Emma-Louise Elsey will lead the fun and inspirational workshop set for Ganges Yoga Studio on Saturday, Jan. 29 from 2 to 4 p.m.

A vision board compiles

inspiring words, phrases or images cut out of magazines and other publications. Elsey says vision board themes can be "what you'd like to achieve in 2011 or who you'd like to be" or a longer-term board could be created.

"Use this sacred time to create whatever will inspire and move you forward," she suggests.

People should bring scissors, coloured pens, glue and any pictures they may already have, and inspirational magazines as a supply of pictures and words.

Elsey will provide guidance,

paper, felt-tip pens, multi-coloured post-its, some scissors and glue (for people who forget to bring them) and "about three years worth of Oprah magazines."

The workshop fee is by donation (suggested \$15), with all proceeds benefiting Copper Kettle Community Partnership and the Glasswaters Foundation.

For more information, call 250-537-2250. To register, call Ganges Yoga Studio at 250-537-2444 or visit the website at [www.gangesyogastudio.com](http://www.gangesyogastudio.com).

# True or False: If you already have debt, it doesn't make sense to get an RSP loan.



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The 2010 RSP Deadline is March 1st.



# ISLAND SAVINGS

# PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

## PERSONAL HEALTH

# Salvestrols touted as cancer protection in Saturday seminar

### Free seminar

A presentation on the role of salvestrols in protecting people from cancer comes to ArtSpring this weekend.

“Cancer scientists have recently uncovered a rescue mechanism found exclusively in genetically damaged

cells, which can be targeted with plant-based dietary compounds (salvestrols) to protect the body from cancer development and progression,” states press material on the event.

Beginning at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 29, people will hear the Foster Health presentation that

will include:

- How to protect your body from cancer beyond the use of antioxidants.
- How the discovery of resveratrol in red grapes has led to the discovery of many other potent cancer-fighting compounds.
- Why salvestrols are

going far beyond antioxidants as the next household name.

• How people in the health-care field can further protect their patients from cancer without interfering with what they are currently doing.

• Why our diets contain 10 to 20 per cent of

the salvestrols they did a century ago and what can be done about it.

• Why people get more colds in the winter and how to avoid them.

People can register for the free one-hour seminar called Salvestrols vs. Cancer online at [www.savemyseat.ca](http://www.savemyseat.ca).

More information is

available from Dawn Rehwinkel of Foster Health at 250-714-8978, or email her at [dawn@yourlifeconsulting.ca](mailto:dawn@yourlifeconsulting.ca).

## HIKING CLUB

# Busy month for nature club

Lunchtime AGM on Jan. 27

Annual General Meeting: It will be on Thursday, Jan. 27 at the Community Gospel Chapel. Doors open at 11:30, with lunch starting at 12 noon. The meeting will follow a new format: light lunch, guest speaker and a short meeting. Our guest speaker is John Neville, well-known naturalist and bird song recorder.

Nature: Owl walk/meditation. Weather permitting. Late Feb/early March. Please contact Teresa for more details: [tghitch@shaw.ca](mailto:tghitch@shaw.ca).

### Hikers

Feb. 1: Jean Gelwicks leads a moderate hike on some of the new pathways and newly signed areas of Channel Ridge. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m.

Feb. 8: Charles Kahn leads a moderate hike with a few strenuous sections through some lesser-known trails on Mount Erskine. Leave ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m.

Feb. 15: Lynn Thompson and Ted Brown lead us on a strenuous hike that will loop around Mount Maxwell from Burgoyne Bay. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or meet at the Burgoyne Bay parking lot at 10 a.m.

Feb. 22: Barry and Sheila Spence lead a moderate hike from Crofton onto Maple Mountain trails and back. Some steep sections. Meet at Portlock Park at 8:30 a.m. to carpool to Vesuvius. We will walk onto the 9 a.m. ferry.

### Walkers

Feb. 1: Choose a leader and follow to a surprise destination. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

Feb. 8: John Flannagan will take us on a walk to the Mill Farm Park Reserve. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or Drummond Park at 10:15 a.m.

Feb. 15: Bryan Adderley will lead us to a mystery destination. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

Feb. 22: Anke Smeele will lead a walk on the Saanich Penin-

sula exploring Glendale Gardens, home of the Horticultural Centre of the Pacific.

We'll stop at the Prairie Dog Inn for lunch followed by a stroll through Lillian Hoffer Park in North Saanich if time permits on the way back to the ferry. Northenders carpool from ArtSpring parking lot at 8:50 a.m. We will meet others in line for the 9:50 a.m. Fulford ferry.

### Ramblers

Due to uncertainty with the weather, Rambles will be planned in as dry places as possible. Route details will depend on the weather.

Feb. 1: Mystery Ramble with Betty Sharp. Rambles start at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Feb. 8: Mystery Ramble with Bob Ball. Rambles start at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Feb. 15: Ramble in the Epron/Byron Road area off North End Road with the Hardings. Rambles start at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Feb. 22: Visit to MacDonald Park and other

places in Sidney, with lunch at a local restaurant. Meet at Centennial Park at 9 a.m. or at the Fulford Inn parking lot at 9:15 a.m. to take the 9:50 ferry to Swartz Bay.

### New Members

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

### Membership Fees

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

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5. Stretch your body daily to keep your muscles limber.
6. Update your wardrobe so you feel good about yourself.
7. Take care of your skin.

### Home and Family

1. Get rid of the clutter in your home and decorate to inspire your goals.
2. Create family traditions that communicate warmth and love.
3. Help your children set personal and academic goals.
4. Only make choices that support your family values, priorities and vision.

### Personal Development

1. Stop comparing yourself to others and step into your beautiful self.
2. Push through the fear and boldly stretch your comfort zone.
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7. Practice extreme self-care.
8. Don't give up on your goals.
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## FC squad looks to regain footing

Alumni FC earns well-deserved victory

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring FC fell short of toppling the Division 2-leading Vic West FC in spite of a strong second-half performance during a Saturday game at Victoria’s Finlayson soccer pitch.

“They handled us pretty easily last time so we knew it wasn’t going to be a walk in the park by any stretch of the imagination,” said FC player and spokesperson Jordon Morrison.

As was expected, Vic West came out flying and wasted little time scoring the game’s opening goal.

Ten minutes later, they added another.

“I looked at Gord Akerman and said, ‘This is going to be a long night,’” Morrison recalled.

Undaunted by its opponents, Salt Spring FC buckled down and sustained the persistent onslaught of Vic West pressure until the half.

Within minutes of the second half’s start, however, Vic West scored a third-and-final goal to put the game out of Salt Spring’s reach for good.

“After that we actually started to look like we knew how to play soccer and started to possess it and knock it around,” Morrison said in his post-game report.

Salt Spring avoided a shut-out when Jeremy Byron scored his second goal of the season on a penalty shot awarded with fewer than 20 minutes left to play.

“He’s pretty much automatic and he sent the keeper the wrong way,” Morrison said.

“We had a few chances to



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON

Sean Norgard is pushed off course, is awarded a penalty shot and scores the winning goal in an Alumni FC match against the Castaways Juniors.

make it closer but their keeper came up with a nice save or two. Keeper Jeremy Morrison did well to snuff out any more chances they had and helped keep the score respectable.”

The loss puts Salt Spring (5-6-4) in a two-way tie for sixth place in its division with 19 points on the season.

FC travels to Powell River this weekend in search of a win against the division’s ninth-ranked team.

“I think, if we play like we did in the second half, we’ll

start to string together a few much-needed results,” Morrison said. “We have to get back to playing hard and digging in for every ball because I don’t think we can get by on our skill level alone. We are known for working hard and we have to get back to it.

“No point in playing if you aren’t going to go all out all the time.”

In other VISL news, Salt Spring FC Alumni (3-9-1) scored a long-awaited victory in a Masters-A division match-

up on Sunday morning against the Castaways Juniors.

Alumni secured the 2-1 victory in front of its hometown fans thanks to goals from Mike McCormick and Sean Norgard.

The team will try to maintain its newly found upward momentum when it travels to take on UVic Alumni (10-1-1) in two weeks.

Eight Old Boys players suited up for FC Alumni after learning that their weekend match was cancelled.

**Gulf Islands secondary school basketball**  
upcoming schedule of events

- Jan 28/29 -Sr Boys away to Brentwood Tourney
- Monday, Jan 31 - Jr Girls HOME GAME 4:30
- Tuesday, Feb 1 - Sr Girls HOME GAME 4:30

full schedule: [www.gulfislandssecondary.ca/homeschedule.html](http://www.gulfislandssecondary.ca/homeschedule.html)

**Meet the Team**  


**Meet five Juniors:** just back from winning first place at the Cedar Tournament, left to right: **Justin Kopetzki** brings impressive defensive skills to the game. He was on the Grade 8 Travel Team and also is a skilled soccer player. **Eric Weatherby** plays with passion, speed and strength. He was on the 2010 BC Summer Games basketball team and also is a powerful soccer player. **Jackson Irving**, grade 10, is one of the teams’ leading scorers and plays skillfully at both ends of the court. He played at Gr. 8 provincials. **Vinny Martin** unstoppable at post, plays with strength, athleticism, and leadership. He was on the 2010 BC Summer Games baseball team. **Brandon Kilgour**, plays with agility and smarts. He has played high level night league basketball in Victoria and also traveled to Provincials with the Grade 8 team.

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BASKETBALL

## Junior Scorpions take first at Cedar tournament

Final game win accomplished with only five players

Last weekend, the Gulf Islands Secondary School Scorpions junior boys basketball team took their talent show on the road and scorched their way to a first-place Cedar tournament win.

The first game against Ballenas was much the toughest as the Scorpions met a well-coached shooting, passing and rebounding team who had “win” written all over their faces.

But the scorching Scorpions used their speed, passing and shooting skill to rack up a 10-point lead within four minutes of the opening tip.

Exhorted by their coach, Ballenas went into high gear, dominating the boards and making their shots, until by the half they had pulled ahead.

Given the momentum shift, the Scorpions’ faces showed do or die as the

third quarter began.

Relying on their confidence in each other and their skill, they put on their own five-minute boarding, stealing, passing and scoring clinic, patiently building their score, until 90 seconds of pyrotechnic “what hit me?” basketball exploded Salt Spring past their opponents for a lead they never gave back.

Tournament high scorers Eric Weatherby and Jackson Irving were aided by scoring and rebounding Vinny Martin, driving and three-point shooting Billy George and playmaking Tai Levitt.

But without the always intense defence of Justin Kopetzki and Brandon Kilgour, and the tough inside play of Sam Montalbetti, the game might have gone the other way.

Final score was 67-61 for a Salt Spring win.

The second game against Qualicum presented a new challenge.

By far the stronger team, Salt Spring had to use its defensive prowess to keep their opponents to as low a score as possible.

According to rules, in case of a tie in the win column, the team with fewest points against them would be declared the winner, and so the Scorpions made sure they held Qualicum at bay, ending with a win of 67-44.

Only five Scorpions players (Irving, Martin, Weatherby, Kopetzki and Kilgour) were able to attend the third and final game against Cedar.

Having no subs is not a coach’s dream in case a player fouls out, but according to coach Diane Weatherby “the boys played extremely smart with intent focus.

“They all had to adjust their game and since Cedar was making their shots, we could not be passive on defence.”

In the end, Salt Spring dominated for a 75-39 finale.

SPORTS & RECREATION



RUNNING

Sneakers descend on Cobble Hill

Haigh leaves competition in his dust

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Andrew Haigh made it two in a row as he topped runners in his age category during an Island Race Series event in Cobble Hill over the weekend. Haigh completed the 10-kilometre course with a remarkable time of 38:39, some 51 seconds ahead of the second-fastest man competing in the 55-59 age category.

The performance was good enough to place him in 45th spot out of the 560 runners who completed the race.

Haigh was among eight mem-

bers of the Salt Spring Sneakers who participated in Sunday morning's event. All of the team's runners completed the course in less than an hour.

Final times are: Lise Fraser, 52:06; Greg Taylor, 52:25; Karen Curtin, 53:24; Janice Dickie, 54:09; Lynn Thompson, 54:30; Margery Moore, 58:00; Julie Van Soeren, 59:18.

Competitors earned the Sneakers a whopping 71 points towards the team's overall Island Race Series standings. After two races, the Sneakers are in 18th spot overall despite the considerably larger and more established running clubs that dominate the competitions.

Jon Suk, a non-Sneaker, completed the run in 54:05.

The annual race series, organized by the Vancouver Island Runners' Association, consists of eight events held in various communities across the island between January and April.

The series' next scheduled event is a 12-kilometre run in Cedar on Sunday, Feb. 6.

Runners can register for one or more races and compete as part of a team or on their own. For more information, visit the Vancouver Island Runners' Association website at [www.vira.bc.ca](http://www.vira.bc.ca) or catch up with members of the Salt Spring Sneakers during one of the team's regularly scheduled training runs.

For times and more information about the group, contact Janice Dickie at 250-537-2399 or [jdickie15@hotmail.com](mailto:jdickie15@hotmail.com).

FUNDRAISER

Swimmers set for heart, stroke fundraiser

Training laps reproduce ferry routes

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Island swimmers are encouraged to start training now for the annual Swim for Heart event taking place the Rainbow Road Pool on Sunday, Feb. 13 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Pool manager Jim Raddysh said charts are already up in the pool's lobby area where lap swimmers can record their lengths as completed. Participants can compare their accomplishments to Salt Spring's ferry

routes, with Vesuvius to Crofton at 192 lengths, Fulford to Swartz Bay at 380 and Long Harbour to Tsawwassen at 1,820 lengths. Fortunately, the distances can be completed in increments.

"It's really up to [the swimmers] how many routes they complete before the 13th," Raddysh said.

"It's a motivational thing to get them started."

The motivation and training are leading up to the main challenge, in which teams of six swimmers will each be given one lane and 30 minutes to swim as many lengths as they can. Pledges will raise funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation based

on the number of lengths completed.

"Our first goal is to meet or beat the \$2,500 we raised last year," Raddysh said.

"The second challenge is to try to get 100 lengths in 30 minutes." Last year the top team completed 93 lengths in that time period.

Raddysh said the community will be invited to take to the water in a show of support for people who have suffered from heart complaints or strokes. The fundraiser event will begin with a water fitness class at 10 a.m. and will be followed by lunch, served after the swim challenge.

Registration is free.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

United dominates Castaways turf

Extra time allows 2-2 final

Salt Spring United women fought hard to keep their advantage against point rivals the Castaways last week, and successfully remain in second spot in Division 2 despite ending the game with a 2-2 tie.

Team spokesperson Sue-Anne Donaldson said United held its own for most of the game but received stiff opposition from the home team.

"We started a little flat-footed in the beginning of the game and Castaways were able to capitalize on that and came up with the first goal," she reported.

United put on the pressure to deny the Castaways another goal, however, and it remained a 1-0 match going into the second half. Shortly after the second half started Salt Spring

received a free kick, which Carol Adam took with a brilliant shot that just bent under the cross bar.

"We played a strong second half, our defensive line had a stunning game on defence and Tami Benoit played a sensational game in net, coming up with the important saves to keep us in the game," Donaldson said.

As United pressed hard throughout the second half, Erica Rimmer had the drive and determination needed to give the team a 2-1 lead.

Unfortunately the referee added extra time and the Castaways were able to sneak one in to tie up the game.

Still holding strong in second place, United plays another away game against Gorge at 12 p.m. this Sunday.

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PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

**EYE ON THE BALL:** Rawdia Bartrim controls the ball in Salt Spring girls' soccer action at Portlock Park on Saturday morning.

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DEATHS	COMING EVENTS	DEATHS	DEATHS	COMING EVENTS	COMING EVENTS	COMING EVENTS

Margery Isobel Sampson (nee Dempster)



December 1921 - January 22nd, 2011

Predeceased by Harold Henry Sampson, the love of her life and by her beloved brother Jack Dempster. Born and raised in Victoria, BC Margery worked full time, running the news stand at St Joseph's Hospital until her retirement.

Free time was spent with family on Salt Spring Island, or traveling BC and the Yukon in their truck and camper. Margery was very proud of her family connection to the Dempster Highway.

She had wisdom, wonderful wit, a great love for adventure and life and she was always ready to feed unexpected company, entertain grandchildren or sit and chat. She enjoyed many outings with the CNIB.

Margery is survived by her three children Margaret (Neil), Douglas, Phyllis (Edwin), as well as Grandchildren Troy, Tannis, Julia (Nick) Lane (Melissa), Megan, Declan and Great Grandchildren, Ashley, Jade, Kaylen and Adam (predeceased 1994).

Service is planned for Friday January 28th at McCall Brothers Viewing at 11am. The service at 12:30 will consist of the sharing of memories by family and friends.

Margery will be laid to rest by her husband's side at Hatley Memorial. In lieu of flowers, donations in her name can be made to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

Salt Spring Island Agricultural Alliance

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
SSI Farmers Institute  
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DEATHS

Sagness, ROBERT EDWARD



March 28, 1929 - January 23, 2011

Bob was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He passed away peacefully at home on Salt Spring Island after a brief illness.

Predeceased by son Stephen - 1975



He will be deeply missed and forever remembered by his loving wife and best friend of 55 years, Rita. Also sons Ted and David and daughter Lisa (Tony) and grandsons, Steven, Ben and Kevin and 3 great-grandchildren. As well his sister Andree (John) and many nieces and nephews and extended family.

A Memorial gathering for family and friends will be held at the family home on Friday, January 28 - 2pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to the charity of one's choice.

Happy Boating, Bob!


LEE, John W.



(son of Frank & Margot) passed away peacefully at age 90 years on January 20, 2011 at Valhaven Extended Care facility in Abbotsford. John was predeceased by his wife Gladys in 2010, after 64 years of marriage and is survived by his sister Helen; 5 daughters, Mary Austin (Rodger), Linda Sanger (Ian – deceased), Wendy Slavin (Carl), Diane Pastor (Al) and Barbara Grimmer (Bruce); 14 grandchildren; 6 great grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; sisters-in-law Flo Dow and Rose Spooner; brother-in-law Ray Meade and cousins Verna, Laura and Marion. John and Gladys met while working for CIBC at the Ladysmith branch prior to World War II. John served in the Canadian Army (Signal Corp) from 1942 (age 21) until war end and was a member of the 4th Canadian Armoured Brigade. His home regiment was the Rocky Mountain Rangers. John and Gladys were married in 1946 following John's return from service overseas. They started their married life in John's home town of Kamloops and also resided in Prince George, Burnaby, Williams Lake and Salt Spring Island before retiring to Parksville in 1985. Dad loved music and will be remembered at Valhaven for his constant singing. His family will remember competitive family games and hilarious nicknames for everyone and of course he selected a nickname for himself too, so he was known by all as "The President". Our parents considered themselves very fortunate to be together until separated by death. We were also very fortunate to have all 5 daughters and some of their family members together to celebrate Dad's 90th birthday on December 4, 2010. At their request no funeral ceremony or memorial service will be held. A private celebration of life will be held at a later date. We are forever grateful for the compassionate care extended by the staff at Valhaven to both our parents. In lieu of flowers a donation can be made to the charity of your choice.

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DEATHS

DEATHS

DEATHS

Eric Stanley Bracher

Nov. 9, 1920 – Jan. 19, 2011  
90 years



Eric grew up in Vancouver with brother Noel. Both boys were early stalwarts of the rustic summer Christian camp Artaban on Gambier Island. Many stories and experiences were formed by those years working as team members helping others enjoy this unique and beautiful place.

Eric joined Trans Canada Airlines (later to become Air Canada) in his mid 20's in flight dispatch, working his way up in the ranks of this fledgling airline to become Systems Operations Manager. A 35 year company veteran, he lived with his young family in almost every major city in Canada, as the airline opened new flight centres. Eric was a consistent optimist and storyteller par excellence with an encyclopedic knowledge of the history of the airline he loved.

An avid golfer, Eric, with his lifetime partner of 62 years, Grace, chose Salt Spring to retire and pursue his passion for the game. An early life member of the Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club, Eric shot his age at 79 on the course and was men's club Captain in his 70's. Those were his happiest years as he continued to golf until he was 89 yrs. with close pals.

Many will remember Eric as a keen and tenacious chess player at the Seniors for Seniors Centre where he also regularly volunteered as an off-island support driver.

As Eric logs his final journey, his family offers heartfelt thanks to all those who helped make his life so rich and bountiful. In particular, the people who cared for him in his last days: Dr. Woodley, his long time physician, Dr. Goranson, Jo Twaites and the staff at Lady Minto Hospital. Special gratitude to the inspired care in his final hours from the Salt Spring Hospice volunteers, Lorinne, Monika, Colleen and Beth.

He will be missed by his dear wife Grace, daughter Susan, son-in-law John, grandson Christopher who will miss his grandfather's wisdom and endless jokes, nephews John (Judi), Michael (Gigi), Peter (Jo) and their children. Eric is predeceased by his brother Noel, (Jo) and granddaughter Emily.

Donations to Salt Spring Hospice would be gratefully accepted.

Friends and family are invited to a celebration of Eric's life at the SS Golf and Country Club, 805 Lower Ganges Rd. on Wednesday, February 9th @ 3:00 p.m. Come and raise a glass to Eric. Refreshments served.

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your views at a Village Gath-  
ering, Saturday, Jan 29 at  
noon, on the Fulford-Ganges  
boardwalk near the crosswalk.

JAPANESE GARDEN  
SOCIETY  
Annual General Meeting  
Feb 10 4pm  
250-537-4716

PAINTING CLASSES  
Acrylics & Watercolours  
Weekly Feb 16 - Apr 20  
Small classes  
Beginners & Intermediates  
1st hr. free to new students  
Call Val Konig  
250-537-4660

SUSAN NORMAN, long time  
pupil of French Dressage Mas-  
ter Jean-Claude Racinet is re-  
turning to Salt Spring to give a  
clinic March 25-27 at Blenner  
Hassett. If interested in riding  
or auditing the clinic please  
contact Ann Watson 250-653-  
4184.

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP  
Jo Logan will facilitate Session  
Three of the "Spirit in Action"  
program, Sunday January 30,  
11 am at S.S. Seniors' Cen-  
tre.



355B Blackburn Rd.  
250.537.9130

Salt Spring  
Centre School

Where learning connects the child to the world.

Open House  
Feb.8th, 4-6pm

REGISTRATION FOR NEW STUDENTS  
OPENS FEB. 15TH

to our patients

Please be advised that the office of

DR. ROBERT CRICHTON  
WILL BE CLOSED  
Monday, January 31 -  
Friday, February 4

The office will reopen  
Monday, February 7

We apologize for any  
inconvenience

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY PLEASE  
ATTEND LADY MINTO HOSPITAL



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, February 10, 2011  
TIME: 10:30 am  
PLACE: Hart Bradley Hall - Lion's Club,  
103 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.

PERSONALS

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

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND: Aluminum landscap-  
ing rake. 250-653-9392

FOUND CAT, North End Rd.  
250-537-8890.

KEYS FOUND under mailbox  
1300 block North Beach Road.  
Claim at Driftwood.

MY OLD DOG Victor, choc.lab  
cross, lame, somewhere in the  
Mt. Tuam/Musgrave/Mountain  
Rd. area. He may be  
injured and can't get home.  
Please call 250-653-4101

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www.NSBFLA.com or 1-800-  
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5562.

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**RUSKIN CONSTRUCTION** Ltd. Pile driving and bridge construction; www.ruskinconstruction.com currently looking for: Professional Engineers; Engineers in Training; Project Managers; Site Superintendents; Site Administrators; Journeymen/Apprentice Welders; Crane & Equipment Operators; Bridgemen; Pile Drivers; Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanics. Permanent and seasonal work. Competitive/Union wages. Fax resume 250-563-2800. Email: bridges@ruskinconstruction.com

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**STAR FLEET TRUCKING HIRING! DRIVERS, FAMERS, RANCHERS & RETIREES** needed with 3/4 Ton or 1-Ton pickup trucks to deliver new travel trailers & fifth wheels from US manufacturers to dealers throughout Canada. Free IRP plate for your truck and low insurance rates! Pref. commercial Lic. or 3 yrs towing exp. Top Pay! Call Craig 1-877-890-4523. www.starfleettrucking.com

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**AIRLINES ARE HIRING**-Train for high paying Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified- Housing available. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance (877)818-0783

**BECOME AN** Event Planner with the IEWP online success. Start your own successful business. You'll receive full-colour texts, DVDs, assignments, and personal tutoring. FREE BROCHURE. 1-800-267-1829. www.qceventplanning.com.

**Become a Psychiatric Nurse** - train locally via distance education, local and/or regional clinical placements, and some regional classroom delivery. Wages start at \$29/hour. This 23 month program is recognized by the CRPNBC. Gov't funding may be available. Toll-free: 1-877-STENBERG www.stenbergcollege.com

**INTERIOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR SCHOOL.** Locations in Alberta & BC. Hands on real world training. Full sized equipment. Job placement assist. Funding Avail. www.iheschool.com 1-866-399-3853

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**POWER ENGINEERING**, GPRC Fairview College Campus. Now accepting applications for fall study. On-campus boiler labs. Fourth Class Level and Part A of Third Class. Affordable residences. 1-888-999-7882; www.gprc.ab.ca/fairview

HELP WANTED

**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

**HEAVY DUTY** Mechanics required for busy Coastal logging company on Northern Vancouver Island. Must have extensive mechanical experience, certification an asset. Above industry average (wages), plus excellent benefit program. Email or fax resume to: lem@office.ca or 250-956-4888.

**LEMARE GROUP** is accepting applications for Administrative Assistant/Receptionist in our Port McNeill office. Position requires organization, accuracy & multitasking. Must be energetic & proficient with switchboards/computers. Fax resumes to 250-956-4888 or email: office@lemare.ca.

PERSONAL SERVICES

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CLEANING SERVICES

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

**MAIDS PERSONALLY** "Welcome Home Services" Professional cleaning Excellent service Attention to detail ALSO: Property Maintenance Ground maintenance, power washer, patios, roofs, windows & painting Dependable ~ Trustworthy **NOW TAKING ON MORE CUSTOMERS** Bonded ~ References 250-537-1517

COMPUTER SERVICES

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

CONCRETE & PLACING

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

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

CLEANING SERVICES

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

FITNESS & TRAINING

**SUMMERSIDE POOL**  
Swim on your own time!  
• Private • Salt water  
• UV Filtered • Close to town  
• Fitness room • Adult Memberships  
• Private swim instruction  
• Aquafit program  
**OPEN DAILY 5:30am - 9pm**  
To view our facility or to find out more, please call Julie at 250.537.9433

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

**GULF COAST MATERIALS**  
Serving the Gulf Islands  
Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne, Penders  
• PARKING CURBS  
• READY MIX  
• WASHED GRAVEL  
• REINFORCED STEEL  
• BAGGED CEMENT  
**250-537-2611**  
345 Rainbow Road

**MERCHANDISE FOR SALE - New To You**  
Deadline 10 am Tuesday for Wednesday paper, 4 pm Wed. for Friday paper  
Merchandise ads with items totalling less than \$200 receive a **50% discount** with your Residents Card

APPLIANCES

**STAINLESS STEEL** Frigidaire side-by-side fridge/freezer excellent condition H 69" x W 33" x D 34" \$400. Sam Anderson Appliance 250-537-5268

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**SEE US FOR A FAST QUOTE ON ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS!**  
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For all your building requirements, large or small!  
**SLEGG LUMBER LTD.**  
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COMPUTER EQUIPMENT

**COMPAQ PRESARIO:** Desktop S4100NX, XP, 6 USB ports, 70 gig HD, 512 Ram, 2.5 GHz, ADSL and dialup modems, Windows Office Suite. Needs monitor and keyboard and you're surfing! \$100 firm. Call 250-538-0052.

FOOD PRODUCTS

**Caldwell's OAKSPRING FARM** LOCAL **Free Range AND Grain Fed** **Pork, Chicken & Beef**  
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SINCE 1882

FREE ITEMS

**HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:** baking sheets, tins, lamp, vase, other small items. Sat, Jan 29. 10am. 612 Vesuvius Bay Rd.

**USED CARPET** and underlay. Good condition. Variety of sizes. 250-537-1763.

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**HONEST OL'S FIREWOOD**  
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HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

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

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

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

**STRONG WOMAN HAULING**  
Attn: SaltSpring Island residents, contractors & managers! I will sort, load and haul away. Construction/reno debris, tenant leftovers, household garbage, brush, yard waste. Look for the new PINK one ton/ WCB est. 1993  
**Vanessa**  
**250-538-8985**  
I Love Hauling!

RECYCLING

**SALT SPRING** Island Recycle Depot is located at 349 Rainbow Rd. We are open Tues. through Sat., 10am to 5pm. This service is operated by Salt Spring Island Community Services. Please call the Recycle Depot at 250-537-1200, or Community Services at 250-537-9971 for information on materials accepted for recycling.

Deadline 10 am Tuesday for Wednesday paper, 4 pm Wed. for Friday paper

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**AB-DOER TWIST:** Recent purchase, lightly used, comes with book and DVD, new \$250, \$150 firm. Can deliver. Call 250-538-0052.

**A FREE** Telephone service - Get Your First Month Free. Bad Credit. Don't Sweat It. No Deposits. No Credit Checks. Call Freedom Phone Lines Today Toll-Free 1-866-884-7464.

**BUILDING SALE...** "Rock Bottom Prices!" 25x30 \$6200. 30x40 \$9850. 32x60 \$15,600. 32x80 \$19,600. 35x60 \$17,500. 40x70 \$18,890. 40x100 \$26,800. 46x140 \$46,800. Others. Doors optional. Pioneer Manufacturers Direct 1-800-668-5422.

**CAN'T GET** Up Your Stairs? Acorn Stairlifts can help. Call Acorn Stairlifts now! Mention this ad and get 10% off your new Stairlift. Call 1-866-981-6591.

**COMPLETE WINE** making equip \$125, heavy duty bottle corker \$140, & 700 corks \$50. 250-537-8938

**HOT TUB (SPA) COVERS.** Best price. Best quality. All shapes & colours available. 1-866-652-6837 www.thecoverguy.com

**MODEL AVR 1507** Denon A/V receiver, \$200, obo. Energy, HI quality bookshelf speakers, L/R/center \$150 obo. Canon IP 4200 inkjet printer \$50 obo. 250-537-4652.

**NO HST, SALE** Prices This Week-End on Reclining Sofa w/Coffee Table & Recliner \$1099., Leather Sofa & Love-seat w/4 Recliners \$1499., Hooker Deluxe Wall-Unit 72"Wx83"H \$1799., Solid Pine Corner Nook Set w/table & chairs \$499.; **TRUCKLOAD** Mattress Sale Direct from Factory! 39" 2Pc Sets \$189., 54" Sets \$249., Queen-Size sets w/10yr. Warranty from \$399.; No HST on Tools & Hdwe. **BUY & SAVE** 9818 4th St., Sidney. buyandsave.ca

**SEND FLOWERS** to your Valentine! Starting at just \$19.99. Go to: www.proflowers.com/Cherish to receive an extra 20% off your order or Call 1-888-587-0771.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

**TREE SERVICES**

PETS

EQUESTRIAN

**MIRA WARRINGTON**, Certified Farrier is accepting new clients. Cold shoeing and barefoot trims. (H) 250-653-2305 or (C) 250-538-7721.

PETS

**CKC REGISTERED** English Cocker puppies. Vet checked, first shots, dewormed, micro-chipped. Great family dogs, 250-537-4962.

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

**Salt Spring Island Residents Card**  
SHOPPING LOCALLY STRENGTHENS OUR COMMUNITY

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**OMAHA STEAKS** Wrap up your Holiday Shopping with 100% guaranteed, delivered-to the door. Omaha Steaks! SAVE 67% PLUS 2 FREE GIFTS - 26 Gourmet Favorites ONLY \$49.99. ORDER Today! 1-888-702-4489 Mention offer 45102 AAD or www.OmahaSteaks.com/gift03

**PROSKI GLIDER:** Exerciser, easy to use, folds up to store easily. \$100. Can deliver. Call 250-538-0052.

**STEEL BUILDINGS** Priced To clear - Holding 2010 steel prices on many models/sizes. Ask about Free Delivery! Call for quick sale quote and Free brochure: 1-800-668-5111 ext. 170.

**STEEL BUILDINGS.** Rock Bottom Prices! Pre-Eng & Arch-Style. Over 1300 Sold! BC/Alberta company - 40 years experience. Professional Construction Crews. References available. Call now! 1-800-565-9800. www.alpinesteelbuildings.com

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**PIANO YAMAHA**, upright apartment size, walnut finish, as new, incl. matching bench. \$1200, 250-537-5193.

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

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

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

<p><b>REAL ESTATE</b></p> <p>ACREAGE</p> <p><b>ARIZONA BUILDING LOTS FULL ACRES AND MORE!</b> Guaranteed Owner Financing. No credit check \$0 down - 0 interest. Starting at just \$99/mo. Close to Tucson's Intl. Airport. Hear free recording at 1-800-631-8164 Code 4001 or visit : <a href="http://www.sunsiteslandrush.com">www.sunsiteslandrush.com</a></p>	<p><b>REAL ESTATE</b></p> <p>ACREAGE</p> <p><b>OWN 20 Acres \$129/mo.</b> \$13,900 Near Growing El Paso, Texas (safest city in America!) Low down, no credit checks, owner financing. Free Map/Pictures. 1-866-254-7755. <a href="http://www.sunsetranches.com">www.sunsetranches.com</a></p> <p><b>bcclassified.com</b></p>	<p><b>REAL ESTATE</b></p> <p>FOR SALE BY OWNER</p> <p><b>CORTES ISLAND 72.5 ACRES</b></p> <p>Seven 10 acre shares, water views. \$80,000 per share. Dick Hayes 250-935-6612.</p>	<p><b>RENTALS</b></p> <p>HOMES FOR RENT</p> <p><b>2 BEDROOM</b> home on quiet, pastoral 5 acres. Big, S facing windows, 9' ceilings. Radiant heated, terra cotta tiles &amp; wood burning furnace. W/D, D/W, large bathroom w/deep tub, grassy open yard w/beautiful landscaping and lots of parking for long term, NS tenant. \$1200/mo. Lv message 250-537-1433.</p> <p><b>2 BEDROOM SEAVIEW</b> 1200 sq. ft. Upper 100 Hills location close to Ganges, fenced yard, lg decks, all appliances, A/T fireplace, car port, NS NP, long term, references required. \$1200 + util. Avail Feb 1, 2011. Call 250-537-4591 or 250-537-2236.</p> <p><b>3 BDRM.</b> 2 bath, lovely ocean view home, 2100 sq.ft., newly renov., workshop, large garden, 2 min. to town, on quiet street, fence, HW &amp; tile, solarium, 5 appl., NP, NS, Jan. 15 \$1800 plus util. 250-537-8431.</p> <p><b>3 BDRM</b> house, newly decorated, lake view, 1.5 baths, near Central, WD, carport, NS, long term. \$1350 plus util., 250-537-4413.</p> <p><b>BRIGHT &amp; CLEAN</b> lower level suite in Vesuvius area 1 bdrm 1 bath, NS, cat ok. \$850. <a href="mailto:dansneade@hotmail.com">dansneade@hotmail.com</a> 250-551-7444</p> <p><b>CENTRALLY LOCATED</b> sunny, 1 bdrm &amp; loft designer cab-in for l/t rental. Incl. d/w, w/d, NS, NP, \$900/mo + util. Markus at 250-653-9799.</p> <p><b>COMFORTABLE FURNISHED</b> 2Bdrm, oceanview, 1 min. bus/ocean, full amens. Daily/wkly rates 250-537-1517</p> <p><b>COTTAGES ON</b> St. Mary Lake, fully furnished, NS, NP. Starting at \$700/mo., available Nov 1 to Apr 1. 250-537-2585.</p> <p><b>MODERN, CUSTOM</b> built cottage on 5 park-like acres. Minutes to Ganges. Perfect for single, NS, NP, person. \$775/mo., util. incl. 250-537-8938.</p> <p><b>RV PADS</b></p> <p><b>RV HOOKUP</b> in Walker's Hook area, water &amp; hydro incl. NP. \$400/mo. 250-537-8969.</p> <p><b>SHARED ACCOMMODATION</b></p> <p><b>2 LARGE ROOMS</b> in tidy, eco-friendly house for single person. Quiet, roommates work varying hours. Walk to Ganges. Includes hydro. Cable / hi-speed extra. Available now. \$390 &amp; \$425 per mo. Call 250-653-4573</p> <p><b>JAN.</b> share large 2 bed Vesuvius apt with quiet NS woman of 50 yrs. \$460/mo. plus shared util. 250-537-2809.</p> <p><b>STORAGE</b></p> <p><b>HEATED HUMIDITY CONTROLLED 9' CEILINGS 24 HR. ACCESS</b></p> <p>Salt Spring's newest storage facility, located at 1429 Fulford-Ganges Rd. Three sizes: 4'x8', 6'x8' and 8'x8', all with 9 foot ceilings for maximum storage. The facility is operated by Island Explorer Property Management Ltd.</p> <p><b>MID ISLAND STORAGE</b> 250-537-4722</p>	<p><b>RENTALS</b></p> <p>SUITES, LOWER</p> <p><b>1 BDRM SELF CONTAINED</b> garden suite. Avail. Feb 1., on fenced 1/2 acre. 5 min drive to Ganges, 5 min walk to beach or Mt. Erskin trail. Incl heat, hot water, cable, WiFi and garbage pick up. New fridge &amp; stove. Beautiful ocean views, \$800 all incl. 250-537-4709.</p> <p><b>SALT SPRING</b> Above ground bachelor basement suite. Clean, private entrance. Quiet setting across rd. from Cushman Lk. 10 min. from Ganges. NS for responsible adult. References required. Utilities incl. \$600/month. Available from Feb. 1 - ph. Andy 250-475-3821</p> <p>SUITES, UPPER</p> <p><b>1 BDRM</b> studio apt., ocean view, private deck, walk to town. Avail. immedi.. \$750 incl. util. 250-931-0909.</p> <p>TOWNHOUSES</p> <p><b>LANGFORD</b> NS, 3 BR Quiet. Central. 1400 sq.ft. Gas fp, fncd yd. Lease \$1700/m + util. Feb or Mar 1. Refs 250-388-5894</p> <p>WANTED TO RENT</p> <p><b>SALT SPRING</b> Mature ns couple looking to rent a 2 - 3 bedroom house for long-term starting in April or May. Prefer bungalow but willing to consider house with bedroom on ground level and extra bedroom(s) on second floor. Call 604-244-7404</p> <p>TRANSPORTATION</p> <p>AUTO FINANCING</p> <p><b>\$0 DOWN</b> &amp; we make your 1st payment at auto credit fast. Need a vehicle? Good or Bad credit call Stephanie 1-877-792-0599. DLN 30309. <a href="http://www.autocreditfast.ca">www.autocreditfast.ca</a>.</p> <p>CARS</p> <p><b>1988 DODGE</b> Dakota, 5 speed trans, runs well. 250-537-4812 evenings, 250-537-4212 days. \$1200 obo.</p> <p><b>'98 DODGE</b> Neon 5 speed, 140,000km, excellent condition, good tires. 250-537-4812 evenings, 250-537-4212 days. \$2500.</p> <p><b>CANOPY TO</b> fit Dodge Dakota, std box, black in colour, as new condition. 250-537-4812 evenings, 250-537-4212 days. \$800.</p> <p>SPORTS &amp; IMPORTS</p> <p><b>1978 MG MIDGET</b> plus parts car. Asking \$5,000 250-537-4098.</p> <p><b>50% DISCOUNT</b> Classifieds <b>MERCHANDISE FOR SALE</b> ads totalling less than \$200 receive a 50% discount <b>WITH YOUR RESIDENTS CARD</b></p>	<p><b>TRANSPORTATION</b></p> <p>MOTORCYCLES</p> <p> <b>SCOOTERS</b> Gas &amp; Electric. Island's Largest Selection. Vespas ♦ Yamaha ♦ Honda</p> <p><b>SGpower</b> 730 Hillside Ave., Victoria 250-382-8291 <a href="http://www.sgpower.com">www.sgpower.com</a> <a href="mailto:marc@sgpower.com">marc@sgpower.com</a></p> <p>SCRAP CAR REMOVAL</p> <p><b>SCRAP BATTERIES</b> Wanted We buy scrap batteries from cars, trucks &amp; heavy equip. \$3.00 each. Free pick-up anywhere in BC, Minimum 10. Toll Free 1.877.334.2288.</p> <p>TRUCKS &amp; VANS</p> <p><b>1989 DODGE</b> Ram, 4 speed., 317, \$900 obo. 250-221-5049.</p> <p><b>DODGE CARAVAN</b>, 1994, automatic, red, \$1000. 250-930-0707.</p> <p>MARINE</p> <p>MARINE ACCESSORIES</p> <p><b>ICOM M802</b> single side band (SSB) radio with digital signal processing, remote head remote speaker and AT-140 automatic antenna tuner for IC-M802. The radio has been overhauled and bench-tested at ICOM Canada in Richmond since its last use and has since been uninstalled. Price \$2495.50. Xantrex True Charge TC20i 20A battery charger for 200-250V 50*60Hz 400 Watts. The output is 20 A continuous duty. For use in almost all continents except North America. \$150. Contact 250-931-2279.</p>	<p><b>MARINE</b></p> <p>BOATS</p> <p><b>OUTBOARDS</b> Yamaha • Suzuki Honda from 2 HP to 350 HP Four strokes New &amp; Used Great Selection Great Prices Over 40 years in Victoria <b>SGpower</b> 730 Hillside Ave., Victoria 250-382-8291 <a href="http://www.sgpower.com">www.sgpower.com</a> <a href="mailto:jay@sgpower.com">jay@sgpower.com</a></p> <p>SIMPLY SALT SPRING</p> <p><b>BLUE MONDAYS</b> melt away at Bronzing Thursday! Patti's Partini at the Downtown Pharmasave - be there! 11-2pm, January 27. We'll be under the pink parasol!</p> <p><b>FAUX TANNING?</b> Let's talk about it over "Faux-tinis" - this Thursday, January 27 - 11-2pm at Downtown Pharmasave Patti's Partini!</p> <p><b>FEELING PASTY?</b> Everyone going to Mexico except you? Cheer up - come and play with us at Patti's Partini at the Downtown Pharmasave. January 27 - Thursday, 11-2 pm!</p> <p><b>GULF ISLANDS</b> Optical 50% refund on the cost of your eye test when you purchase a full set of frames and lenses. Ask about our new Precision Digital Lenses. Lancer Building 250-537-2648.</p> <p><b>LIVE-IN STUDIO</b>, \$675 all incl. 2 bdrm cabin \$800, all incl. Fulford 250-653-0046.</p> <p><b>Who reads us?</b> 88% of Islanders read the Driftwood each week. -Combase survey</p>
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**WHAT'S ON PAGE 16**

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