

# Gulf Islands' Island Tides

Every Second Thursday & @www.islandtides.com

Attractions & Accommodation

Vancouver Island & The Gulf Islands, Back Page

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Visitors explore a vineyard in progress, Saturday August 28, on Pender Island. Morning Bay Farms gave vineyard and garden tours and tastings of local wines made by the company's winemaker Eric von Krosigk, including the first vintages under Morning Bay's label.

## New obstacles for GSX pipeline

Patrick Brown

The Georgia Strait Crossing Concerned Citizens' Coalition may have thrown a sizeable monkey-wrench into BC Hydro's plans to build a gas-fired electricity generation plant at Duke Point, south of Nanaimo, fed by a gas pipeline built across the Strait of Georgia.

At a special extra session of the National Energy Board/Canadian Environmental Assessment Joint Review Panel on June 23, Concerned Citizens counsel Bill Andrews pressed the Panel to re-open the hearings in order to consider new alternatives to the pipeline, proposed since end of the Panel March Hearings. Significantly, Andrews was backed up by the lawyer for the federal Justice Department, John Clark.

Eight years after it was conceived, BC Hydro's Vancouver Island Generation Project (VIGP) may be further from implementation than ever before.

Hydro is currently also facing a contentious BC Utilities Commission hearing this week in Nanaimo. The company's proposal is being strongly questioned by several groups, including the GSX Concerned Citizens Committee, the Sierra Club, and the Suzuki Foundation.

Terasen (formerly Centra Gas or BC Gas, and operators of the existing gas pipeline to

the Island) has presented alternatives to the Utilities Commission. In addition, alternative schemes have recently been suggested by Norske Skog (operators of three pulp mills on the Island, and users of 25% of the Island's electricity).

### Fundamental Assumption Flawed?

Andrews' arguments to the federal Joint Review Panel were:

- The GSX-pipeline was originally presented to the JRP on the 'fundamental assumption' that it was the most economical way to get gas for power generation to Vancouver Island.

A report commissioned by Hydro from Singleton Associates Engineering (April, 2002) and presented at the March Panel Hearings, dismissed Terasen supply alternatives. In view of the fact that the Terasen claim, that it could do the job more cheaply, and with less environmental damage, is being considered by the BC Utilities Commission, Andrews argues that the federal Panel must, in fairness and for its own credibility, consider this new information. The factual basis for federal and provincial decisions must be the same, he says.

- Hydro indicated to the BCUC that it would be willing to issue a call for tenders to

GSX, please turn to page 6

## Birthday treat—browse new Canadian maps

Seven collections of previously published maps were added to Natural Resources Canada's Atlas of Canada website on Canada Day. The maps, in the Map Archives section of the website, include all five previous editions of the Atlas of Canada (1906 to 1995), the Canadian sector of the International Map of the World series, and the Glacier Atlas of Canada.

The maps are easy-to-view versions of the original printed maps and show how Canada has developed and changed over the last 100 years. Explore these maps by going to the Atlas of Canada's website [atlas.gc.ca/](http://atlas.gc.ca/)

## Last time together?

July 7 will be a poignant day for Island lovers. This is the day that the dearly-beloved collection of Island pictorial, community maps is slated for dispersion. The 32 maps will each return to the Island community in which they were created. Seventeen Islands took part in this two year millennium project to record what is treasured in each community.

A great many Islanders took part in translating the knowledge of their beloved places, through the hands of local artists into the maps.

Although hard to describe, the powerful collection, once seen, is not forgotten—so this is what maps can be! And the collection can be seen one last time at UVic this week—don't miss it (details, 'What's On?' page 2).

There is another goal for the project—an atlas in which the maps can remain side-by-side—and sit on our coffee tables as a touchstone to the magic of Islands. However what is currently lacking is funding for this vital last leg of a remarkable community journey.

The Land Trust Alliance of British Columbia and West Coast Islands Conservancy are seeking private charitable donations, corporate sponsors and Foundation support toward the production of The Atlas of the Salish Sea. If you can help, contact Sheila Harrington, 250-538-0112.

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## Island Tides

AT FULFORD HARBOUR  
JULY

Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m.	Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m.
<b>1</b>	0040	9.5	2.9	<b>9</b>	0710	2.6	0.8
	TU 0325	9.8	3.0		WE 1510	8.9	2.7
	MA 1140	1.0	0.3		ME 1810	8.5	2.6
		2020	10.8		3.3	ME 2355	10.8
<b>2</b>	0125	9.5	2.9	<b>10</b>	0750	1.3	0.4
	WE 0410	9.8	3.0		TH 1620	9.8	3.0
	1220	1.0	0.3		JE 1930	9.2	2.8
	2050	10.8	3.3				
<b>3</b>	0215	9.2	2.8	<b>11</b>	0030	10.8	3.3
	TH 0455	9.5	2.9		FR 0835	0.7	0.2
	1300	1.3	0.4		FR 1715	10.5	3.2
	JE 2115	10.8	3.3		VE 2045	9.8	3.0
<b>4</b>	0310	.5	2.6	<b>12</b>	0110	10.8	3.3
	FR 0555	8.9	2.7		SA 0920	0.0	0.0
	SA 1340	2.0	0.6		SA 1800	11.2	3.4
	VE 2145	10.8	3.3		SA 2200	9.8	3.0
<b>5</b>	0405	7.5	2.3	<b>13</b>	0200	10.8	3.3
	SA 0710	8.2	2.5		SU 1005	0.0	0.0
	1420	3.0	0.9		SU 1840	11.2	3.4
	SA 2210	10.8	3.3		DI 2300	9.8	3.0
<b>6</b>	0455	6.6	2.0	<b>14</b>	0255	10.5	3.2
	SU 0855	7.5	2.3		MO 1055	0.0	0.0
	1505	4.3	1.3		LU 1920	11.2	3.4
	DI 2235	10.8	3.3				
<b>7</b>	0540	3.9	1.2	<b>15</b>	0000	9.5	2.9
	MO 1110	7.2	2.2		TU 0345	10.2	3.1
	1555	5.6	1.7		TU 1140	0.3	0.1
	LU 2300	10.8	3.3		MA 1955	11.2	3.4
<b>8</b>	0625	10.8	3.3	<b>16</b>	0100	8.9	2.7
	TU 1325	7.9	2.4		WE 0440	9.8	3.0
	1655	7.2	2.2		WE 1220	1.0	0.3
	MA 2325	10.8	3.3		ME 2030	11.2	3.4

ADD ONE HOUR FOR PACIFIC DAYLIGHT TIME

*Dear Eileen Tides,*

Like no doubt every body else, I cannot help but worry when I see all the advertisements telling us how governments are dealing with an enormous variety of pandemics. Tell me, are there any particular Southern Gulf Islands diseases that I should get especially upset about?

*Smiffly on Salt Spring*

*Dear Smiffly,*

Yes, there have certainly been a rash of ads. Christa tells me that it was only non-meshing publications dates that saved us from the mad cow one this time. The Islands do, of course, have their own unique maladies of which mainstream medicine is blithely unaware! Fortunately, most of us have built up resistance and do not worry unduly, or at least some of us, or at least not all the time. Here are some of the worst:

**East Fraser Virus:** This is apparently passed through ferry schedules. Sufferers develop a compulsion to surround themselves with a broad as possible variety of mechanical contraptions. These unfortunates, and their shiny pick-ups, SUVs, Seadoos, motor-boats, motor-bikes, etc. can be seen queued at the ferry terminal for the last boat off the island. The disease is seasonal, with particularly virulent outbreaks on long weekends. Most patients self medicate with alcohol.

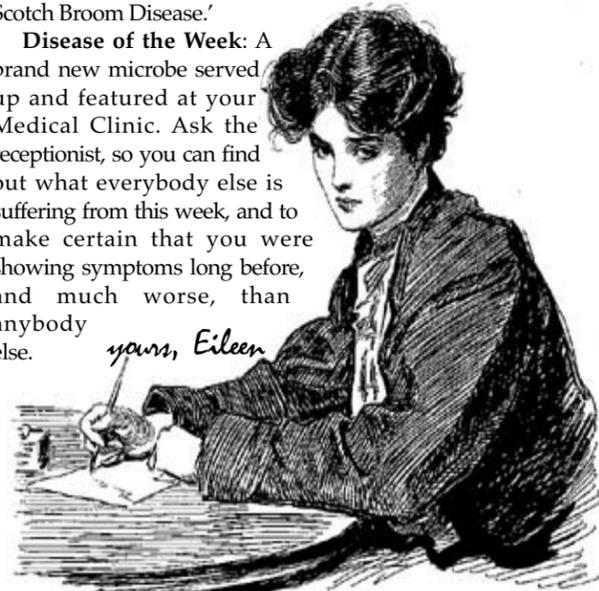
**Ferry Anxiety:** A psychiatric disorder, that used to be called 'Crusoe Syndrome.' It is related to fears that one will miss the last ferry, and be marooned on the very dark and very scary island. It can be treated with drugs (refer to The Gulf Islands Pharmacopoeia), or by incarceration on the island. Sufferers who simply move to the island are cured almost overnight. The disorder may re-occur when those apparently cured believe themselves about to be trapped in the other direction, on the very expensive and very scary Saanich Peninsula.

C.A.R.S: (Cyclists Acute Respiratory Syndrome) This is an

apparently airborne virus of very short duration that causes extreme difficulty in breathing. It seems to affect only people on bicycles and even more curiously is limited to certain hilly parts of the islands. Recovery is usually complete and rapid. Patients present with intense thirst, elevated temperature, and gasping for breath. Triage and first response centers have been established at a variety of pubs around the islands.

**Mad Slug Disease:** This is highly contagious, and can be contracted by simply seeing slugs, especially black slugs, in one's vegetable garden. Sufferers indulge in all manners of irrational behaviour, including pouring beer on slugs, salt on slugs, poison on slugs, picking up slugs and flinging them into fires. The pathogen responsible is probably related to 'Mad Scotch Broom Disease.'

**Disease of the Week:** A brand new microbe served up and featured at your Medical Clinic. Ask the receptionist, so you can find out what everybody else is suffering from this week, and to make certain that you were showing symptoms long before, and much worse, than anybody else.



*Eileen invites your queries on Islands' etiquette.*

### Saturna Notes ~Priscilla Ewbank

Our native floral showpiece, foxgloves, are adorning the islands and lining the roads. Sometimes you see ones that are like huge candelabras with multiple sidebars. Quite glorious. Kids love to stick the blossoms on the ends of each of their fingers and jump into ghoulish or fairy mode! The spirea or ocean spray are also in full dress. The deep green of their leaves and the creamy bunches of tiny blossoms make a lovely contrast with the blue of the ocean. Ocean spray smells marvelous, which is good as it seems to adapt everywhere in the Islands!

#### Saturna School Graduation

School is out for everybody now. Saturna Elementary School had Celebration Day on a lovely sunny afternoon with parents and grandparents. Celene Speers, Mitchell and Morgan Pearse, Kaleb Walker, Giovanna Davies and Allison Gaines received book prizes, a certificate noting their special skills and a booklet with photos of themselves, their friends and their school projects. Teachers Michelle Guerin and Paula Volrath received framed prints from the Parents Group for their excellent teaching and creating such a wonderful learning environment. In addition, the children picked bouquets and delivered them with hugs to school secretary, Dayle Johnson, and teacher assistant, Barb Ropars. Preschoolers Abbi Hock, Jasmine Lambert, Krystal Underwood, Nickolas Range and Zander Cozine were also praised for their effort and enthusiasm.

#### Mayne School Graduation

On June 20, Mayne School had their graduation ceremony. Jared Edwardson, Brianna Jones, and Graydon Bruce graduated from Mayne Island School. It was a wonderful evening for our kids and their parents. The ceremony was held in the school gym and then a picnic potluck supper was held out at the Lighthouse. Teacher Mr. Lee spoke highly of this grade eight class, commenting on what a tight group they are and how caring they are of each other. The staff talked about each student and shared with the parents and school community the triumphs and funny incidents each student had been a part of during at the school.

Brianna and Graydon wrote and presented speeches thanking their teachers, parents and the school community for supporting them so well during their three years at Mayne School. Graydon was presented with the Dave Bentham award for excellent citizenship and sportsmanship. Jared was praised and acclaimed for his excellent athletic abilities and sportsmanship and Brianna for her artistic, musical and showmanship abilities. It sounds as if our three are ready and

SATURNA, please turn to page 7

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You left us so quickly. We would have gladly enjoyed your company a while longer, swooned at your piano playing, grinned at your jokes, and shared a few more glasses of 'nerve tonic' with you. That was not meant to be.

Al Schreiber died at the Royal Jubilee Hospital on April 30, in his eightieth year. He had a history of heart trouble and had been feeling poorly for some time. He leaves his wife, Cathy Holahan, his son by a first marriage, Eric, three grandchildren, a brother Eugene, and many friends, old and young, on Galiano Island and elsewhere.

Al was born on September 28, 1923 in Baltimore, Maryland. His family operated a large grocery store, a precursor of today's supermarkets and he was first oriented toward a business education. World War II interfered however, and it was only after he returned from military service in Europe that he completed a degree in Business Administration at Johns Hopkins University in 1949. He then operated a smaller record store in Baltimore, combining his love of music with his business training. After a few years, he decided to broaden his intellectual horizons and perhaps find some more rewarding occupation. While learning computer programming on the job at the U.S. Navy David Taylor Model Basin, he returned to school and obtained a M.S. degree in Mathematics from George Washington University in 1965. He then worked from Bellcomm on the Apollo Project, analyzing orbital mechanics and rocket problems. Al was a rocket scientist! He went on to work on software development for the Global Positioning System at IT&T and later as a senior computer scientist at Intermetrics in the Boston area.

Throughout his life, Al was interested in politics and became a strong advocate for social justice and liberal causes. He subscribed to *The Progressive* and was a supporter of the Freedom From Religion movement. It was in 1987, while working in Cambridge, Mass., that he met fellow sailing enthusiast Cathy Holahan who shared many of his views. They decided to leave the US for political reasons. They arrived in Canada in 1993 and soon settled on Galiano Island.

Al was also a prolific writer of letters to the editor, editorials, essays, poetry and plays, some of which were published. He was also keenly interested in the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence Society, founded by Carl Sagan. His strong views about various social institutions were tempered by a loving nature and a wry sense of humour—his kitchen wall was plastered with cartoons depicting the folly of religious and political intolerance. His love of music endeared him to all in the community. We miss you Al. P.L.

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# 'What's On?' Vancouver Island & The Gulf Islands

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## Now till July 6

'Islands in The Salish Sea—Communities in Transition' Community Map Exhibition Extraordinaire—last chance to see 30 remarkable pictorial maps of 17 Gulf Islands before they are dispersed; show runs in tandem with the 2nd National Conservation Conference • Vertigo Lounge, Student Union Building • Info: Sheila Harrington, The Land Trust Alliance of BC 250-538-0112 • AT UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

## Sunday, July 6

**Annual Studios, Homes & Gardens Tour**—Hornby Festival's self-directed tour of splendid and unusual venues (9 studios, 3 houses, 8 gardens and 2 farms) including a computer imagery studio in a tiny old growth forest, a studio where elegant jewelry is made from crushed rose petals from the rose garden, a hand-built garden on a gravel bed where all the earth had to be composted and grey water recycled; free morning coffee; inexpensive lunch served • Tickets: \$15, @ Hornby dock or New Horizon on July 6, credit cards accepted • Info: festival@mars.ark.com, 250-335-2734 • ON HORNBY ISLAND

## July 7 to 23

**Greenpeace 'Make a Wave' Vancouver coordinator Natasha van Bentum will be visiting Pender Island on holiday;** she would welcome a casual get together of Greenpeace supporters • Please phone Peter Carter 250-629-3811 for him to set up the meeting • ON PENDER ISLAND

## Thursdays, July 10 to August 21

**Summer Storytime program at Pender Island Public Library**—featuring songwriters, authors, readers, puppeteers and storytellers; for ages 2 to 10—bring an adult lap to sit on! • 2-3pm • Info: Pender Island Public Library 250-629-3722 • ON PENDER ISLAND

## Saturday & Sunday, July 12 & 13

**Trincomali Community Arts Council presents Rembrandt's Birthday**—an Artist's Paint-in at the Driftwood Centre Common • 10am-3pm each day • Info: Carol Christie 250-629-3468 • ON PENDER ISLAND



## Now till August 30

**Fresh salmon and scallops 'off the boat'** • Pender, Hope Bay, Thurs-Sun, 11am; Galiano, Sturdies Bay, Saturday, 5-6pm; Saturna, Lyall Harbour, Friday, 5-6pm; Mayne, Miners Bay, Saturday, 7-8pm • Weather and availability permitting • AT A GULF ISLANDS' DOCK

## Saturday, July 12

**All Ages Dance with Vancouver's 'Leisure Lab,'** seven-piece funk/soul/world/hip-hop band; plus Pender's own DJ, 'Cool Ade' food and beverages available • Pender Community Hall • Doors 7pm, music 8pm • Tickets: \$10, Under 12 free • Adrian 250-629-6968 • ON PENDER ISLAND

## Saturday, July 12

**Salt Spring's comedy duo 'The Geezers' star in Death, The Musical** • Community Hall • 8pm • Tickets: \$14 (\$35US) • ON SATURNA ISLAND

## Saturday, July 12

**St. Mary Magdalene Annual Church Fair**—a traditional Church Fair since 1989 complete with kids' games, prizes, silent auction, pies & cakes, plants, entertainment & refreshments—come for the day from Swartz Bay, Tsawwassen or the Islands • St. Mary Magdalene Church Grounds, Miners Bay • 10:30am-3pm • Admission free • Info: Pat Gasston 250 539-5519 • ON MAYNE ISLAND

## Saturday, July 19

**St. Peter's 70th Annual Garden Party**—attic treasure stall, bake table, gardening, book table, old fashioned children's games, including hat making creations will be paraded at the 'Mad Hatter Parade' • 4703 Canal Road • 1pm-4pm • Admission \$5 adults, children 1\$, under 5 free • Info: Carol Meek 250-629-6810 • ON PENDER ISLAND

## Sunday, July 20

**The Real Food Faire**—wear a funky farm hat and find out about pesticide-free, locally grown, natural foods in season—pesto taste-off, berry dessert, food samples, numerous vendors, info tables, talk to experts, children's play area, twooney auction, music • Fragrant Fulford Hall (also talk by panel of experts previous evening, 7pm) • 10am-4pm • Info: Michelle Grant, 537-9634; or Ellie Parks, 653-9612 • ON SALT SPRING ISLAND

## Fri, August 1 till Sat, Aug 9

**Hornby Festival Nineteenth Season**—line-up includes: *The Arbutus Chamber Ensemble, Pirate Jenny Trio; Mum's the Word; Borealis String Quartet; Arthur Rowe piano recital; Joe Trio; SWARM*, percussion instruments made from recycled materials; *Bara-rumba* from Cuba; *Rumba Calzada; Hans Staymer Swing Band; Alpha Yaya Diallo* • Events at the Hornby Community Hall, under the stars, at a seaside farm, at the school • Tickets: general \$16, seniors \$14, children \$6 (matinées \$12, \$9 & \$4), box office 250-335-2734 (cards accepted) • Info: [www.hornbyfestival.bc.ca](http://www.hornbyfestival.bc.ca) • ON HORNBY ISLAND

## Saturday, August 9

**Penducky Derby Rides Again!—Pender Lions 'Between the Islands' fundraiser**—if your Ducky wins you will win \$1,000 (lots of other prizes, too), games, entertainment, food—and fun! • Mortimer Spit, ducky race through the channel under the bridge • 11am • Have you got your tickets, yet?—\$5 each from all Pender Lions and Silk 'n' Petals • ON PENDER ISLAND



## Sunday, August 10

**Second Annual FestivaLavender at Valhalla Gardens**—love lavender?—join us to shop for a huge variety of lavender products grown and made on Mayne; taste what is cooking on the bbq, savour other sweet lavender treats, and enjoy and learn from demonstrations throughout the day! • 411 Village Bay Road • 11-4pm • Admission: \$5 • Info: [www.lavenderscenterprises.com](http://www.lavenderscenterprises.com), Elaine



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## A Few Mosquito Tips - John Wiznuk

Instead of minor annoyance on the Islands, mosquitoes have become a big deal. Irritatingly, they seem to be a lot more prevalent this year, too. A friend of mine from real mosquito country in Ontario sent me some suggestions, collected on the internet, for unusual mosquito repellent. It's never pleasant to get bug bites and with the West Nile Virus making its way across the continent these hints for alternate repellents are timely. The standard disclaimers apply here, no guarantees of successfully repelling anything is given. These are just interesting suggestions that you might want to experiment with. Mosquitoes in different localities will have different tastes and if you have sensitive skin or allergies try using it on a small patch of skin before slathering.

For those who don't mind smelly stuff, some people in Northern Ontario use Vick's VapoRub—prevent your sniffles and bug bites at the same time.

Some members of the US Marine Corps, also known as leather necks, use Avon's Skin So Soft bath oil cut 50/50 with rubbing alcohol—soften that skin and beat those bugs.

Vitamin B1 (Thiamine Hydrochloride 100 mg) is used by an Ontario fisherman named Bob who hasn't had a bite in years—mosquitoes that is.

Folks in Louisiana use Bounce Fabric Softener sheets—just wipe and go.

Apparently, one of the best natural insect repellents is real vanilla. Read labels, the product available in grocery stores may be a synthetic. Pure vanilla is said to work against both mosquitoes and ticks.

Eating bananas is one thing not to do. It seems that mosquitoes are highly attracted to the scent that bananas produce on the skin.

And a hint from Manitoba, where the mosquito is the provincial bird. The old time Métis folks believed that drinking a cup of stinging nettle tea a day would keep the mosquitoes at bay.

There must be many more home remedies and folk wisdom about dealing with the pesky mosquito, let us know at *Island Tides* what your favourite is. ✓

## Trust considers loss of influence over aquaculture

David Essig, Chair of the Islands Trust has written to Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Minister John van Dongen to express concerns about a provincial initiative that could reduce local zoning control over aquaculture in BC's coastal waters. Bill 48, given First Reading by the provincial legislature in May, would allow the province to designate 'farming areas' along island shorelines. In these farming areas, the province could then over-rule local zoning provisions that restrict aquaculture.

'Our policy statement recognizes aquaculture as a valuable activity in the Islands Trust Area, provided it is compatible with the maintenance of the Trust Area's ecosystems and community character,' says Essig. Community members rely on their locally elected trustees to make land use decisions and they express significant concern whenever provincial

AQUACULTURE, please turn to page 6

## Real food panel and faire

Three celebrated personalities: Percy Schmeiser, Ann Clark, and Dan Jason will usher in this summer's Real Food Faire with an evening panel at 7pm on Saturday, July 19 at Fulford Hall. The evening event and the faire will celebrate the importance of food that is organic, non-GMO, and locally produced.

Percy Schmeiser, a Saskatchewan farmer, was targeted by chemical giant Monsanto who accused him of using its pesticide-proof seed without paying the fee. The resulting legal battle is before the Supreme Court of Canada. The proceeds from the evening will help Schmeiser with his legal expenses.

Dr. Ann Clark is a professor in the Plant Agriculture Department of the University of Guelph. She has many publications to her credit, and is known to radio and TV fans who follow *Quirks and Quarks*, *Marketplace*, *Country Canada*, and the *Nature of Things*.

Salt Spring's own Dan Jason is familiar to Islanders as a champion of gardeners saving their own seeds. He has his own seed company and is the author of several books on growing food.

If you can't make the panel, these speakers will be at Sunday's Real Food Faire (see 'What's On?', page 2). ✓

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*Readers' Letters*

**Eat Natural—Eat Local**

Dear Editor:

The recent international turmoil triggered by the discovery of mad cow disease in a Canadian cow, has caused many of us to give more careful thought to what we eat and where it comes from: Is there pesticide in our pesto? Hormones in our hamburger? What's on the label?

The Real Food Faire that is planned for the weekend of July 19-20, at Fulford Hall on Salt Spring Island, will be a joyous and informative event that can help islanders make sound choices about food and have a lot of fun in the process.

Maggie Schubart, Salt Spring Island

**District Lot 14, Sandstone Quarry Permit**

Dear Editor:

On June 19, I attended a public information meeting which was intended to reassure local property owners that the granting of such a permit would have minimal or no effect.

Not only were the permit applicants and the reluctantly attending representative from the Ministry of Energy and Mines poorly prepared and misinformed, we were presented a very crude and inaccurate map. Important streams were not even on it.

The permit applicants are not the owners of the property but the permit is transferable without any due process. The owners of the property have violated many regulations over the past decade. Despite numerous letters and petitions from concerned neighbours, regulations have not been enforced. Assurances from the Ministry of Energy and Mines that

next column

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**S**ome time ago, that strange force in the universe that distributes unlikely magazines left a 1938 edition of *Rudder, the Magazine for Yachtsmen* in my office. What a wonderful time that summer must have been.

You might have been out in your new cruiser from the Elco Boatworks of Bayonne NJ, taking advantage of its radical new marketing concept: 'Enjoy your Elco this summer, and take a year to pay.' Their handsome 34 footer sold for \$6,675.

The excellent cover photo shows a fleet of big ocean racing boats driving to windward. There are significantly more masts than there are boats, and a scattering of bowsprits, but no casts of thousands lining the uphill rail. They are not going as fast as the modern bottomless horrors, but they appear to be having more fun.

The first boat review is of Edlu, a gorgeous 68' yawl built by Nevins. Among her up-to-the-minute equipment is a new Blutworth Direction Finder. This unit has a demountable loop, and presumably, judging by its size, a winch to assist in the demounting process. The loop is trained by a wheel that must be from a tractor, and the angle is displayed on a splendid dial like an old grocer's scale that could be read from two boats away.

The article on 'Amateur boat building' by William F. Crosby, takes you through the setup for what seems to be a 70' dragger. There must have been some pretty ambitious amateurs at the time. My old partner, Vancouver naval architect Bob Harris' first teacher was one the wood boat building Crosbys, and Bob says that William F. Crosby was the original designer of the perennial and ageless Star class boats.

A trivia question: What was the first pleasure boat to ever have a Caterpillar engine? The answer is on page 42, and it was a lovely Deering designed 55' cruiser built for Mr. Byron C

regulations and restrictions will be enforced do not ring true in view of past performance.

There is a riparian zone immediately adjacent to the proposed quarry site which drains into an important stream nearby. How can we believe assurances that water will not be affected when the person doing the assuring doesn't even know where the water is?

The Ministry representative told us the permit application had been approved by all referring agencies without any of them being informed of local concerns and he is not obliged to consider the fact that the permit would not be in compliance with local bylaws.

I find it rather frightening that several ministries of our provincial government are simply rubber-stamping permits for non-residents to exploit local resources without input from local residents who will be negatively affected.

Cheryl Bastedo, Galiano Island

**Lay counselling program**

For the first time, Peninsula Community Services (PCS) Lay Counsellor training program is recruiting participants from the Southern Gulf Islands. The program, starting in September, trains community volunteers to be mental health lay counsellors.

Lay counsellors become an integral part of the PCS mental health counselling team, working one-to-one with adult clients 'I believe strongly in this program and in its ability to support the community,' says trainer and PCS Community Counsellor Berns Galloway. 'People who complete the program feel a deep sense of personal accomplishment,' he said. 'This work of Lay Counselling is not about fixing anyone or giving people the answers. It's about assisting others to . . . find their own answers.'

Potential lay counsellors are typically empathetic people curious about themselves and others, who want to make a contribution to the community, and have time to devote to the training. There is no charge for the ten-month training program, although volunteers must pay for their books and a weekend of out-of-town training. Upon completing their training period, volunteers must commit to at least 200 hours of counselling with PCS.

For more info, contact Berns at 655-5301, or call Peninsula Community Services reception at 656-0134.



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**Definitely Not The Ferries!**

**The Summer of '38**

John Carlton



Patten, of Chicago. The drafting standards in these drawings are superb, and are a reminder of the artistic as well as theoretical skills of previous generations of designers.

Gulf Oil has an advertisement showing a little boy at the knee of an old sailor who is saying: 'Nope sonny, geography maps don't work at sea, and that goes for landlubbers gasoline, too!' Gulf's marine white gasoline apparently has dozens of uses, and the ad shows happy boaters spraying it (eek!) onto their boats to clean them, and putting it in their stoves and blowtorches.

Big news on the engine front is that Detroit Diesel Power replaces the old Winton label, and goes to sea for the first time as 'Jimmy Diesel.' New products include the revolutionary Sperry Topsider sole, another reminder that good ideas are timeless.

In the brokerage pages, we see yacht broker Gerald R Ford natively attired in a grey homburg while phoning his office from his yacht *Parthenia* with the Harvey Marine 12 Radio telephone, a compact unit, about 2' square by 1' 6" high. It is obviously sturdy, being built from what looks like steel angle sections and mahogany, and—eat your hearts out Fido and Telus—it's even varnished.

**Pender firefighters win**

Pender Island firefighters won big at Salt Spring Island's Sea Capers festival this year. On Sunday, June 15, the Salt Spring Fire Department hosted an invitational 'make and break'



Photo: John Wizniuk

L to R, Kevin Biagioni, Chris Watson [with trophy], Richard Hyde, back, Chad Buch.

competition at Firehall #1 in downtown Ganges. In this type of event teams run against the clock to connect a nozzle and three lengths of hose to a pumper, pressurize the hose with water, knock down five targets, replace a section of hose, show water again then disconnect all the pieces; fastest time wins. It is a competition that practices basic firefighter skills and enhances teamwork and communication.

The Pender Islanders had a best time of 1 minute and 55 seconds, a minute ahead of their nearest Salt Spring rivals. They carried off the handsome homemade trophy, which will be hung in a place of honour in Pender's Hall #1. This promises to become a yearly event and interested teams from other fire departments should contact Salt Spring Fire and Rescue for details.

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Salt Spring Island: Super ocean views! 2+ acres, new custom oceanfront home, 3 bed / all ensuite, S/SW exposures, sep. oceanview studio, comm. water. See Li!



Salt Spring Island: Private & sunny beauty, 3 bed, 2 bath, wood floors, sunroom, lots of decking, large separate studio, Don't miss out! \$479,000



Salt Spring Island: Two oceanfront properties, 7.53 acres with drilled well @ \$539,000, also 6.62 acres @\$410,000, both with 450+ ft of oceanfront, shared access to boat launch, serene, sunny & private (no GST).



Salt Spring Island: 5.12 acres, level arable land, forest, near beach access & trails, close to ferry, quiet area of quality homes! Sunny & private! excellent investment! \$199,700



Salt Spring Island: One plus acre gem! Sunny & private, "as new" quality home, (3 bed/2bath), sep. garage/studio, comm. water, adjacent to park/greenbelt. \$405,800



Salt Spring Island : Sunny rural retreat, 3 bed / 2 bath, studio space, wood floors, wood stove, veggie garden, orchard. \$438,000



Salt Spring Island : Beachcomber's delight, oceanfront privacy, wrap around deck, close to town. \$869,000



Salt Spring Island: Oceanfront 6.83 acres, panoramic oceanview, S/W/SW exposures, custom 7000+ sq ft home, 4 bed / all ensuite, B&B option. See Li



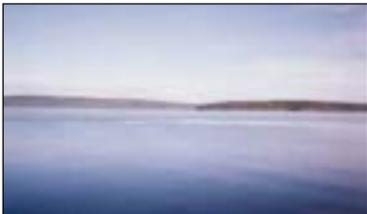
Salt Spring Island: Low bank & sandy oceanfront, foreshore lease, renovated home, sep. studio space, 50 GPM well, hot tub, lots of decking, B&B option. \$699,000



Salt Spring Island: Retirement Gem! Sunny mint condition home, detached garage & carport, close to everything, just move in & enjoy! \$298,700



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Thetis Island: "Natural" w.f. acreage, awaiting your development ideas! Drilled well developed. Best Buy! See Li! \$153,800



Valdes Island : 2.69 leasehold oceanfront acres, Noel Bay location, Commanding views of Georgia Strait, Best W.F. Buy! \$70,000



De Courcy Island: 152 ft of oceanfront, all season cottage, large deck with hot tub, 2 woodstoves, 4000w generator, deep well, lovely oceanviews. \$269,000



Saturna Island: Oceanview cottage, 1bed, 1 bath & loft, supersized garage, fenced garden, garden shed, woodshed. Walk to ferry ! Perfect summer / weekend retreat ! \$219,000



Saturna Island: Exquisite w.f. estate (10+ acres)! Beautiful character main home, cottage, studio, dock, great beaches, sunrises & sunsets! The best! See Li!



Pender Island: Private, sunny w.f., log cottage, dock, on water system! Garage/workshop, studio. Great investment! \$599,000



Pender Island: Pretty oceanviews, charming home, wood floors, 4 bed, 2 bath, large den, sauna, 2 levels of decking, carport, pool, greenhouse, B&B option. \$519,000



Galiano Island: spectacular oceanviews, 54.36 acres, custom home, guest cottage, pond, walk to marine park. \$1,250,000



Galiano Island: In beautiful Montague Harbour, a sunny "West Coast Contemporary" w.f. gem. Keep your boat at your dock! Arrive by your own floatplane! Sunsets! \$699,000



Galiano Island: Sunny Phillimore Point oceanfront, water access only, 1 acre, super views, shared dock in Montague Harbour. Opportunity! \$189,000



Galiano Island: 60 Acres, lowbank oceanfront & beach, fantastic views, forest, walking trails, Very Rare Opportunity! See Li!



Galiano Island: Almost 10 acres, lovely land, oceanviews from rear of property, orchard with several fruit trees. A Gem! See Li! \$207,800



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**AQUACULTURE from page 3**

legislation over-rides them. Further, we do not believe that finfish farms fit with our mandate to protect the natural environment so new finfish operations are not permitted in the Trust Area. This provincial initiative could lead to an erosion of our jurisdiction in this matter and that is certainly a concern to us.'

Bill 48 would make amendments to the *Farm Practices Protection ('Right to Farm') Act* and the *Local Government Act*. The *Farm Practices Protection Act* was originally introduced to protect farmers from complaints and local government restrictions as people moved into rural farming areas. The proposed amendments would extend these protections to existing and new aquaculture sites along BC's coast.

The legislature will consider Bill 48 further in its fall session and Essig encourages members of the public to make their views known before then. Essig's letter to Minister van Dongen can be viewed at [www.islandstrust.bc.ca](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca).

**GSX from page 1**

explore alternatives to providing future power to Vancouver Island. This suggests that now Hydro is not necessarily convinced that GSX is the best option. Andrews says in this case the GSX application for Panel approval is, at the very least, 'premature.' (Terasen's proposal would also not require federal approval because it does not cross an international boundary.)

- The GSX proposal anticipates using Terasen's pipeline to transport GSX gas from a connection at Shawnigan Lake to Duke Point. However, there appears to be disagreement between Hydro and Terasen on what charge would be made for this, and on whether Terasen would use GSX gas. If there is no agreement, then the GSX would not be connected to VIGP, and thus no rationale for the GSX. (Terasen, of course, is now a competitor to the GSX.)

Clark, speaking for the federal government, added that if the Terasen proposal was not now considered by the Panel, 'both the accuracy and the public credibility of this Environmental Review would be prejudiced.'

**Other Vancouver Island Alternatives**

Liquefied natural gas from Asia has been claimed to be cheaper than gas from GSX; there is a proposal by Quinsam Coal to generate power from 'run of mine' coal at Campbell River, and another proposal by pop singer Jewel and her friends to generate power at the former Gold River pulp mill.

**More Hearings**

The GSX proposal has been approved by the US Federal Energy Review Committee, but may face a hearing by the Washington State Department of Ecology. The BC Environmental Assessment Office is also considering the VIGP proposal; it has been accepting public submissions, but will not hold hearings.

Since the start of this project, there have been many changes

in the environment for gas-powered electricity generation on Vancouver Island. But Hydro has held to its original 1995 plan.

- First, it appears that peak power demand on Vancouver Island is not rising at the rate originally forecast by Hydro, raising the question of whether increased generation capacity is needed now, or even soon.

- Second, a new BC Energy Plan, originating with the new Liberal provincial administration, specifies that new generation facilities should be built by the private sector. BC Hydro has been split into several parts and partially privatized. It has once again been put under the supervision of the BCUC.

- New natural gas pipelines across the continent have resulted in an open North American market for natural gas; looming supply shortages combined with a major shift to natural gas generation of electricity in the US have resulted in gas prices (and hence gas-generated electricity prices) tending upwards with increasing volatility. The Joint Industry Electricity Steering Committee, an association of BC's largest industrial electricity consumers (under the wing of the Council of Forest Industries) is raising the gas price risk question at the BCUC hearing.

- Major BC industrial electricity customers, anticipating price increases, have developed cost-effective plans for saving electricity and generating it themselves.

- The cost of 'Green' generation alternatives is tending downward; and Canada has signed the Kyoto accord, leading to far greater emphasis and newly identified costs of greenhouse gas production.

- Citizens have become more concerned about environmental degradation from pipeline and power plant construction and operation. /

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## CRD CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT - NOTICE OF COUNTER PETITION OPPORTUNITY

### OPERATING AGREEMENT, EQUIPMENT LEASE, LANDFILL GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENT, LICENCE OF OCCUPATION AND ELECTRICITY PURCHASE AGREEMENT

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of Directors of the Capital Regional District ("CRD") proposes to enter into four agreements (the "Operating Agreement", "the Equipment Lease", the "Landfill Gas Supply Agreement" and the "Licence of Occupation") with Maxim Power Corporation ("Maxim") to operate a landfill gas utilization facility ("Facility") at Hartland landfill. Maxim will generate electricity from the landfill gas and sell the power to B.C. Hydro. Under the proposed Operating Agreement, the CRD contracts with Maxim to operate the Facility. Under the proposed Equipment Lease, the CRD leases 70% of the Facility equipment to Maxim and receives a monthly lease payment from Maxim. Under the proposed Landfill Gas Supply Agreement, the CRD would make landfill gas available to Maxim who will use the gas to generate electricity for sale to B.C. Hydro. Under the proposed Licence of Occupation, Maxim will have access to the landfill and a portion of land on the landfill site on which to operate the Facility.

Maxim has entered into an Electricity Purchase Agreement with B.C. Hydro for the sale of power. In the event that Maxim defaults under any of the above four agreements, or the quantity of landfill gas falls below a pre-determined level, all contracts will be terminated with Maxim and Maxim will assign the Electricity Purchase Agreement to the CRD.

The CRD and Maxim have entered into a Development Agreement with Maxim under which the CRD will be contributing the lesser of \$1,750,000 or 70% of the total cost of constructing the Facility and will be obtaining a proportionate ownership share in the Facility.

The term of the proposed Operating Agreement, Equipment Lease, Landfill Gas Supply Agreement and Licence of Occupation would commence on March 26th, 2008 and terminate 20 years from the commercial operation date of the Facility, targeted for the 31st day of December, 2003. The term of the Energy Purchase Agreement would commence at any time over the term of the Electricity Purchase Agreement entered into by Maxim and terminate 20 years from the commercial operation date of the Facility, targeted for the 31st day of December, 2003. There are provisions to extend the term of the Electricity Purchase Agreement to compensate for interruptions in the supply of electricity to B.C. Hydro.

Under the **Operating Agreement** the CRD would be required to expand the landfill gas collection system as the landfill grows subject to CRD Board approval and availability of funds. The CRD will also indemnify Maxim against all actions arising from the CRD's breach of the agreement. The CRD may also be required to purchase Maxim's interest in the Facility (including vehicles, equipment and fixtures) in the event of default by the CRD in performing any of its obligations under the agreement or if landfill gas production is insufficient to allow for the generation of 1.4 megawatts of power for 3 consecutive months. The estimated cost of meeting this obligation, should the CRD be required to do so, is approximately \$476,000 in year one of the agreement, declining to zero dollars by year 20.

Under the **Equipment Lease** the CRD may be required to

purchase Maxim's interest in the Facility plus equipment, vehicles and fixtures used by Maxim in connection with the Facility if landfill gas production falls below threshold levels sufficient to generate 1.4 megawatts of power for 3 consecutive months.

Under the **Landfill Gas Supply Agreement** the CRD would be required to supply landfill gas to the Facility during the term of the Electricity Purchase Agreement. Such supply includes operational requirements on the part of the CRD to balance and operate the existing landfill gas well field and collection system and to operate existing equipment in order to collect landfill gas from the well field and deliver it to the proposed facility. The cost of meeting these obligations is estimated to be approximately \$57,000 per year. As all of these activities are currently being carried out by the CRD to flare the gas, the CRD does not expect to incur any additional costs in meeting this obligation.

Under the **Licence of Occupation** the CRD will grant by way of licence the use of an area of the landfill to Maxim for the sole purpose of installing and maintaining the Facility and agrees to indemnify Maxim against damages that may arise as a result of the CRD entering onto the Licence Area.

The CRD would be required to assume responsibility for obligations under the **Electricity Purchase Agreement ("EPA")**, only in the event of a default by Maxim under the EPA or in the event of default by the CRD under one of its Agreements with Maxim, or if landfill gas production is insufficient to allow for the generation of 1.4 megawatts of power for 3 consecutive months. Under the EPA the CRD may be required to design, construct, interconnect to the Transmission Authority's Plant, commission, operate and maintain the Facility in compliance with applicable laws, the terms and conditions of all permits and land tenure agreements issued to the CRD in connection with the Facility, good utility practice, and the terms and conditions of the EPA and the Interconnection Agreement. The CRD would be required to provide appropriate documentation and maintain at its expense equipment shared with BC Hydro associated directly with the Facility such as revenue metering equipment. The CRD would also be required to maintain minimum required insurance and to indemnify B.C. Hydro against loss or damages. The cost of meeting these obligations is estimated to be \$2.5 million in the event that the CRD builds the facility, and thereafter approximately \$25,000 per year.

The CRD is to be compensated under the Operating Agreement for the supply of landfill gas by an annual payment of between zero and \$108,000 from Maxim, depending on the quantity of gas supplied and the year of the contract. This payment is in addition to other payments to be made to the CRD under the Equipment Lease, which are calculated to repay the CRD, over the term of the lease, that portion of the CRD's initial contribution under the Development Agreement which is used to purchase equipment use in the Facility.

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the CRD may proceed with

the Operating Agreement, the Equipment Lease, the Landfill Gas Supply Agreement, the Licence of Occupation and the Electricity Purchase Agreement (in the event that Maxim assigns this agreement to the CRD) if the number of electors' signatures on the counter petitions received by the CRD represents fewer than 5% of the electors of the Capital Regional District. The counter petition must be in the form as established by the CRD and forms are available from the CRD on request. The only persons entitled to sign counter petition forms are electors of the area to which the counter petition opportunity applies. The counter petition opportunity applies within all municipalities and electoral areas of the Capital Regional District.

**The deadline for delivering original signed counter petitions against the proposed Operating Agreement, Equipment Lease, Landfill Gas Supply Agreement, Licence of Occupation and Electricity Purchase Agreement to the CRD is 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 6th day of August, 2003. Petitions must be received by the deadline to be counted.**

The CRD has estimated that the total number of electors within the Capital Regional District is 220,648 and 5% of that number or 11,032 electors must petition against the Agreements to prevent the CRD from entering into these Agreements without the assent of the electors.

Copies of the Operating Agreement, Equipment Lease, Landfill Gas Supply Agreement, Licence of Occupation and Electricity Purchase Agreement and records relating to them, including copies of the Request for Proposals package and related agreements that may be disclosed may be obtained from Larisa Hutcheson, Environmental Services Dept., (Telephone: 360-3057) at the CRD Offices, 534 Yates Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6 during regular office hours Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) from the date of this notice until the 6th day of August, 2003.

**VOTER QUALIFICATIONS**

A qualified elector is a person who:

1. is a Canadian citizen;
2. is at least 18 years of age;
3. has resided in British Columbia for at least 6 months; and
4. has resided in the Capital Regional District for at least 30 days; or
5. has been an owner of the real property within the Capital Regional District for at least 30 days and otherwise meets the qualifications of a non-resident property elector as set out in Section 51(1) of the *Local Government Act*.

To obtain the counter petition forms, or for further information, please contact Carmen Thiel, Administration Dept., CRD offices at 524 Yates Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6 or by telephone at 360-3129; or toll free 1-800-663-4425 (local 3129).

Given under my hand at Victoria, B.C. this 18th day of June, 2003.  
Carmen Thiel, Corporate Secretary

*This notice is being published in this newspaper as a convenience only and not in accordance with the legal requirements pursuant to the Local Government Act.*

## Peanut Butter, the Healthy Way

Harry & Debbie Burton

The healthiest peanut butter contains only ground peanuts. The main problem with natural peanut butter is that the solids will eventually settle out as the peanut oil rises to the top and the butter at the bottom hardens after a month or so.

Conventional manufacturers take advantage of this problem by removing the peanut oil (a valuable oil) and replacing it with hydrogenated oils. This process keeps the peanut butter creamy smooth but hydrogenated oils are not good for people and should be avoided. The negative health effects of hydrogenated oils includes obesity and heart disease. The solution is easy. When natural peanut butter starts to get hard, just add some olive oil and stir. *Voila*, it is smooth and creamy again. As an additional health bonus, the body gets a little extra olive oil, something that is good for your body. Santé! ✓

### SATURNA from page 2

prepared for high school. Congratulations Jared, Brianne and Grady!

### Talent Show

There was a packed house for the Talent Show on June 25. This fundraiser for Saturna Arts and Concerts Society is getting better and better. Master of Ceremonies and Director Edmund Coulter and stage manager Jane Dixon-Warren had a talented cast to work with and did a wonderful job getting the show organized and running smoothly. Every show had different cast of volunteer performers and the audience was wowed by the different acts. MC Edmund kept the audience laughing in between acts and the pace was fast.

I heard lots about Sweet Pea and Hyacinth - two fairies with sparkly wings, voluminous gowns, and wands who sang and played piano to "Nobody Loves an Aging Fairy." Chris Danyliw had a bold delivery; Gord Kristjansen had a lot of laughter with his tent caterpillar piece. Sharon Scherbrucker and her accomplished accompanist from the Phoenix Chamber Choir of Vancouver were stunning. Harvey Janszen accompanied the well-known Saturna singers on the flute. Sam Perimaki, Rosalind Compton and Jillian Tebbit read self composed pieces. Brianne Jones gave a confident and poised singing performance. Well-known author Bill Scherbrucker read a poignant piece set in South Africa. A delightful evening with many accomplished performers! Special thanks to Robert Montgomery for lights and sound.

### Impromptu Boat Race

Capitano Ricardo (Blagbourne) responded with alacrity to a phone challenge from Loren Wilkenson on Galiano—with half an hour's practice he had whipped a crew into shape for our replica longboat *Saturnita*. Loren and his summer students were rowing south in the eight-oar Spanish *Nina* and the six-oar English *Kingfisher* and wanted a rematch. He professed he 'was sure we could repeat our win.' (At the last race on Galiano *Saturnita* lost). The course started below the pub, twice around the red buoys and back to the pub for glasses of brew. This time the triumphant *Saturnita* flashed first across the line—the south wing-wall of the ferry dock. Judges, Sheffield and Gill, declared the victory from the ferry platform.

(Saturna sailboat race is scheduled for the last weekend in August. Contact Richard Blagbourne for details.)

### Kids Concert

Kaleb Walker did a small performance at the Talent Show to remind people of the Kids Concert the next day. With the support of Parks and Recreation, Gord Kristjansen has been teaching the Saturna Elementary students music for four months this year. The kids put on a wonderful performance to a full house at the Community Hall. We are talking "small" but "mighty talented" here! Gord knows how to catch the kids interest and the performance showed the kids' talents and abilities. Through the use of costume, their voices, many different instruments and sounds, the kids made the performance very entertaining.

### Summer Market

The new Saturday Open Air Summer Market starts on July 5 through to August 30, from 11 am to 2 pm. Local arts, crafts and produce will be available in the new location at the Saturna Recreation Centre. Please contact Jody Bavis or Linda Carson for information about setting up a booth.

### Hoarse Raven Theatre

The play *Mother Load*, presented by Hoarse Raven Theatre, was wonderful entertainment. It is always great fun to know that the frustrations, puzzlement, and resentments that result from the huge endeavor of parenting are shared by other mothers! This funny, witty, fast-moving presentation was wonderfully acted, sung and danced. We are fortunate to have such good live theatre. New parents Charles and Lacey Campbell managed to keep 5-month-old Callie asleep as they watched the whole performance. Wonder how they did it!

### Upcoming Hysterical Society Play

Sid Filkow and Arvid Chalmers of the Salt Spring Hysterical Society will present their latest work at the Community Hall.

Arvid and Sid have been on the stage of Saturna Community Hall many times and are always highly entertaining. They seem to have an uncanny ability to grasp Saturna's unique rural culture and portray it accurately for us! For details, see 'What's On?', page 2. ✓

## On line and on board

Gulf Islands weekenders who like to book their ferry tickets on-line will be pleased with improvements to the service. A new system allows for immediate confirmation and payment of fares. Reservations, which have been in place on the route since 1964, are strongly recommended for residents and visitors.

Last summer, more than 53,000 reservations were made for the Tsawwassen-Gulf Islands routes. Online reservations can be made at [www.bcferries.com](http://www.bcferries.com). ✓

# Bulletin Board

(PAID BY DEADLINE ONLY - VISA ACCEPTED)

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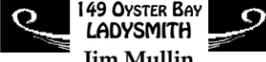
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I apologize to the Galiano people kept awake on June 16 by my coonhounds howling. Especially Don & Deborah who were mistakenly called. Sorry, Lorayne.

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Exploring Our Intertidal Zone -- by Julie Johnston, Pat Haugh & Susan Taylor

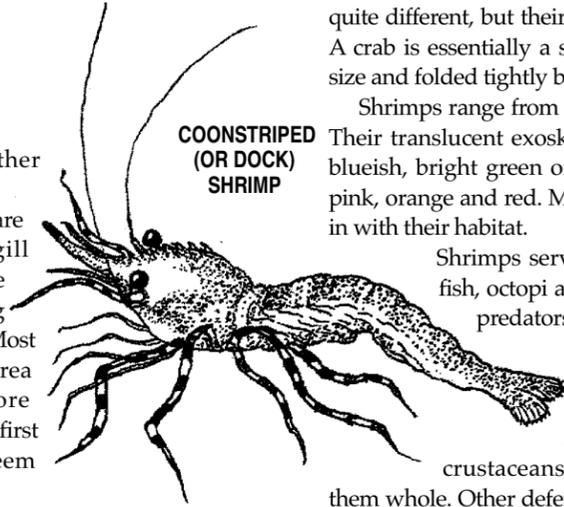
## Shrimps—A Child's Delight

Children are drawn to the beach and few creatures are more fascinating to them than shrimps. Shrimps live in intertidal zones around docks and pilings, near anemones, in kelp beds, and burrowed into muddy beaches.

When children catch them with little nets, they see just how graceful and colourful these creatures are. Along with crabs and lobsters, shrimps are decapods (5 pairs of appendages) in the phylum Arthropoda (meaning jointed legs). The term 'shrimp' actually refers to three broad types of organisms. The ghost shrimps have reduced eyes and a soft, thin exoskeleton. They tend to burrow, and are more closely

related to lobsters than to other shrimps.

A second group includes rare shrimps with a unique gill structure and reproductive cycle, found only at diving depths along the Pacific coast. Most of the species found in our area belong to a third group, more closely related to the crabs. At first glance, shrimps and crabs seem



COONSTRIPED (OR DOCK) SHRIMP

quite different, but their body plans are actually very similar. A crab is essentially a shrimp with its abdomen reduced in size and folded tightly beneath its body.

Shrimps range from a fraction of an inch to 9 inches long. Their translucent exoskeletons vary widely in colour, from blueish, bright green or candy-striped to several shades of pink, orange and red. Many are cryptically coloured to blend in with their habitat.

Shrimps serve as important prey to many birds, fish, octopi and other animals. This wide range of predators has forced shrimp to adopt several strategies for eating without being eaten. Some shrimps hide themselves in sand or mud, then seize unsuspecting smaller crustaceans, worms or even fish and swallow them whole. Other defense mechanisms include spines along the lower edges of the abdomen, and long, sharp, toothed rostrums (noses), making shrimp more difficult to swallow. The unusual pistol shrimp in California kills or stuns its prey by making a very loud popping sound with a huge claw.

Like crabs, shrimps moult. Moulting allows growth, the shedding of parasites, and the replacement of missing limbs. Newly moulted animals are soft and vulnerable to predation, so may hide after moulting until the new exoskeleton hardens.

During mating, the male deposits a sperm packet directly into the female, and when the female extrudes her eggs, she uses her legs to scratch open the packet and release the sperm. Female shrimp lay over a thousand eggs, carefully brooding them on a pair of modified legs, picking out the dead ones, sometimes shaking the mass of eggs to them. The shrimp emerge as tiny larvae. Prawns, coonstriped and related shrimps all begin adult life as males and later change to females. The size and age at which this occurs depends on the density of females in the population, occurring at a smaller size if females are rare and being delayed if many large females are already present.

There are over 1,700 different species of shrimps worldwide, with 85 observed on the Pacific coast, many intertidally, some only in deeper waters. All species of Pacific shrimp have at least one pair of small pincers for grooming and food handling, and different species can be identified by the size, shape and position of these specialized legs.

One of the larger intertidal species is the stout shrimp, up to 2-1/2 inches long. It can be seen in tidepools, especially at night when it comes out to feed. The most common shrimp found intertidally on rocky or gravel bottoms and in tidepools, hidden in algae, is the broken-back shrimp (about 1 inch long), so named because of a sharp bend in its back. This shrimp is so transparent that its heart can be seen beating through the exoskeleton.

The coonstriped or dock shrimp (see illustration) is named after the raccoon because of its greyish-brown, red and white markings. It is common around pilings, or in sand or gravel bottoms where there is a rapid current.

Some things never change—like a child's fascination for little shrimps. Learning that they need to be returned to the ocean is no hardship for the child, who finds a reason to refill the bucket and fish for more.

For more information on shrimp, see *Pacific Coast Crabs and Shrimps*, by Gregory C. Jensen (Sea Challengers, 1995).

This article is one of a series about the species you might find on Gulf Island beaches. Julie Johnston (writer), Pat Haugh (researcher) and Susan Taylor (illustrator) are members of the Georgia Strait Alliance Straitkeepers, a volunteer group supported by the Pender Islands Conservancy Association (PICA). We conduct surveys of shorelife between high and low tide, to encourage ongoing intertidal stewardship in our community. /

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