

Welcome to Our New Advertisers—Check Out the New Products, Services and Fun Things To Do!

Gulf Islands' Island Tides

Every Second Thursday - Serving the National Park

Attractions & Accommodation

Vancouver Island & The Gulf Islands, Page 8

Volume 15 Number 11

Tsawwassen to Vancouver Island & On-line

June 5- June 18, 2003

Canadian Publications Mail Product Sales Agreement N° 40020421



Small vineyards burgeon on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. This one is the Garry Oaks Winery on Salt Spring Island.

Tide tables	2
Saturna	2
Letters	4
What's on?	5
Bulletin board	7

Missile defence 'worrisome'

In an era of growing American military dominance, Canadian participation in negotiations over the development of a North American Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) system sets a dangerous precedent, according to Dr. Peter Langille, senior research associate and human security fellow at UVic's centre for global studies. 'It's a setback for our government,' says Langille, 'because Canada has always opposed the militarization of space. Now that we're negotiating, it's going to be hard to be independent of the development of BMD.'

He notes that Canadian politicians likely felt pressure to engage in the talks because of the country's dependence on American trade. 'It's hard to deal with an administration that says, 'you're either with us or against us.' Langille writes and lectures extensively on Canadian defense, foreign policy, and conflict management. /

Nanoose decision reversed again

Following an appeal by the Government of Canada, the Federal Court of Appeal has reversed a previous court decision which held that the federal government did not have the right to expropriate the 'Whiskey Golf' area of the seabed from the provincial government in order to permit the US Navy to use the waters as a submarine and torpedo testing range. The latest court decision holds that the federal government had that right.

Originally, the BC provincial government, under premier Glen Clark, had refused to grant an extension to the previous lease to the federal government. The lease had been the subject of public protests since the US was using the area for the testing of nuclear submarines. The Canadian Navy also used 'Whiskey Golf,'

which is located in the western Strait of Georgia near the Ballenas Islands, for torpedo testing.

When in use, other vessels were not permitted in the area, and were often chased away by Navy and Coast Guard vessels. Recently, a US warship travelling to the area operated high-volume sonar in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, apparently disturbing orcas and possibly killing dolphins.

It remains to be seen whether the current BC provincial government is willing to pursue a counter appeal. The issues included not only the use of the area by both Canadian and US warships, but also the prevention of public use and the right of the federal government to expropriate lands from the provincial government. /

Lady Minto's ball a non-event

Lady Minto's seventh annual phantom ball will not take place again this year. Instead, the Salt Spring hospital's fundraising foundation invites Islanders to donate the funds they save by not attending the Phantom Ball to the foundation. An 'RSVP' returnalope was delivered to all Gulf Islands households recently.

The foundation hopes that a great many people will RSVP with a contribution, making this year's ball another glittering success. There is of course an incentive, a vacation trip for two to the Ontario, Stratford Festival; and a deadline, the draw will take place at the Foundation's Annual

Golf Tournament, Saturday, July 12.

Lady Minto's Foundation has been in operation for over a decade. During this time over \$2.8 million has been raised for the purchase of hospital equipment, including such important items as laparoscopic surgical equipment, an anaesthetic machine, cardiac monitoring equipment, ultrasound equipment, microbiology and lab expansion items. This year the Foundation also raised \$650,000 for the Capital Campaign to assist with the operating room renovation and palliative care suite. /

Special Report~ Patrick Brown

BC Hydro fate now clearer

Provincial Energy and Mines Minister Jack Neufeld has repeatedly assured British Columbians that the 'core assets' of BC Hydro will 'remain in public hands.' Technically, he's right. Instead, he's letting the private sector use them for their own purposes: he's not selling them, he's giving them away!

Marjorie Griffin Cohen, of the BC Citizens for Public Power, has published two recent reports on the future of BC Hydro. She describes Mr. Neufeld's mantra as 'disingenuous'—a polite way of saying that his words are meant to deceive.

The division of BC Hydro into four parts—generation, transmission, distribution, and Accenture Business Services—is making it possible to destroy BC Hydro as an integrated power company and turn each part of it into a subsidy for the private sector. The private sector gets the benefits, without ever having to invest in the 'core assets.'

Low-Cost Electricity or Hi-Yield Exports

Hydro was originally conceived (in the long-ago days of Premier W.A.C. Bennett) as an integrated company, generating power mainly from hydro-electric dams, transmitting it across British Columbia on high-voltage power lines, and fulfilling the power demands of BC's residents and industries at a minimum cost. The dams were built and paid for many years ago, and have low operating costs. BC enjoys some of the lowest electricity rates in North America (only Manitoba, with a similar publicly owned hydroelectric system, is lower).

In recent years, BC Hydro has sometimes exported power to the US, a very lucrative business. So lucrative, in fact, that the US Federal Energy Review Commission (FERC) has named Hydro's exporting subsidiary, Powerex, as one of the companies overcharging California for power during their recent deregulation crisis. (Hydro has emphatically denied this.)

But clearly profitability remains a seductive vision for Mr. Neufeld. However the true owners of Hydro—BC citizens—are unlikely to benefit.

Part I—Accenture Business Services of BC Ltd.

The first part of BC Hydro's dismemberment was the administration, turned over to a 'joint venture partnership' with the massive international consulting firm Accenture (formerly Anderson Consulting). Approximately one-third of Hydro's employees, with all their years of expertise at managing Hydro, have been transferred to Accenture, and will form the core of Accenture's new venture to contract for similar functions for other utility companies throughout North America.

BC Hydro has, in fact, provided the capitalization, computer systems, necessary human expertise, and a profitable initial contract for Accenture's new business. (This human capital is, of course, not counted as a 'core asset' by the government.)

The Board of the new company is dominated by Accenture, with no public

HYDRO, please turn to page 6

PURCHASE NEW CARS and LIGHT DUTY TRUCKS

\$200.00

over the Lowest Dealer Cost
www.discountcarsales.com

Call Toll Free:
Office: 1-800-307-4808
Fax: 1-888-307-1230



Letter From China ~ Ross McKinnon

Here in Wuzishan City on the island of Hainan, the weather is beginning to warm up as we move towards summer. Quite often it's 35° during the day, cooling down to about 25° at night. My apartment is not air-conditioned, but I do have a fan that I keep on 24 hours/day, blowing on me at night to at least get some air movement. It seems because we are somewhat higher than the city that we get some slight breezes, but there is no doubt that it is hot.

We are at a height of about 800m above the coastal plains where most people live, and where the good beaches are. I hesitate to imagine how hot it must be down there. I remember being in Sanya about a month ago where it was around 40°, and it is getting hotter. In addition it is only the past two nights that we have had any rain. We have had thunder in the mountains around us on other occasions, and rain all around us, but none here. The lightning is quite spectacular as are the thunderclaps—Wuzishan is surrounded by mountains, so you get a lot of reverberation and reflection.

Life at a Chinese University

This is my third month of teaching here. Most of the students at Qiongzhou University come from far away. I have made a point of talking to them about their hometowns and home life, and it seems that many of them come to Wuzishan for two or three years without ever going home. For some, if they wanted to go home, it would be a five-or six-day train trip. They remain at university for the entire three years living in a room with eight other people, sleeping on bunk beds, eating communally, and sharing one bathroom. There are no opportunities for summer, casual, or any other kind of jobs, so their entire life revolves around the university.

Many of my students become quite open with me, as I'm the first foreign teacher they have had, and they all want to know about life in Canada. Many of the questions revolve around personal relationships, and the desire of many of them to have a boyfriend or girlfriend, but they don't know where to start. I would estimate that about 5% of the students have ever been in a romantic relationship, even in their home province. It just does not seem to be what is done in China, or at least in Wuzishan. There are no dances and very few chances here at the university to get together with someone. Movies are shown in the auditorium on Friday and Saturday nights, usually a double-header with the first one being a foreign one with Chinese sub-titles, and the second being a Hong Kong or Taiwanese movie. It seems that many on the mainland favour these two places for making movies.

The youngsters are quite surprised, and a little bit jealous, that many university students live together in Canada, but they say it is not the Chinese way. Some have told me that they expect they will be told who to marry when they go back home, and many seem to accept it. There are no cooking

facilities in their dorms, so there is a main cafeteria where they go and pick up their food and then take it back to the dorms to eat. The dorms are only a place to sleep. No TV or rec room, so at all hours of the day the students can be found in their classrooms. Some are watching TV there, but most are studying. Their day runs from 6am until lights out at 11pm.

Omnipresent loudspeakers with music and news reports are loudly trumpeting when the students are not in class. In addition there is a large military presence in the city so the bugle calls of the soldiers get everyone else awake at 6 am as well.

My first year classes all underwent military training over the course of the last two weeks. It's over now for them and they are glad to be back in classes. As far as I can tell, the training was about twelve days marching from 6am-11pm in the hot sun. There was not much shelter on the basketball courts where they took their training.

At night they sang and marched. I have had each of my classes sing me their song that they learned while training, and I must say that they all seemed to enjoy singing. I don't think you would see this in a Canadian university. In return I had to sing a Canadian song to them, so I sang 'Take me out to the ball game.' I couldn't think of another one to serenade them with, and now they all want to learn it. Maybe I should have used 'O Canada.'

The high point of their training was firing a rifle at a target. They each had eight bullets to shoot. Rifles and firearms generally are banned in China, and the police in Wuzishan do not even have them. I asked them where they did the shooting and they would not tell me. Apparently some information is still banned in the Middle Kingdom. They all learned how to march very well though and had a large graduation ceremony to mark the end of their training. One of my classes took second place so they were elated.

Wuzishan Redevelopment

In the last couple of months, the city has undergone remarkable changes. It's really quite amazing how fast the infrastructure and appearance of a city can change if it has the support of the authorities. The new reform mayor has certainly got things moving. Many old buildings have been gutted and either removed or completely rebuilt. There was an old three story apartment block down by the market that used to have its drainpipes and sink outside the windows on the front of the building, so if you walked down there you saw the people doing their ablutions out the window three stories up.

It seemed overnight it was transformed into a shopping centre with three storeys of shops, mostly or rather entirely selling clothing, and the exterior drainpipes are down now. I would guess that the shops don't need any plumbing. As an

CHINA, please turn to page 7

Lester and 'Honey Mae' make it sweet ~ Zorah Staar

What if your distant cousins who you don't know really well but who you really, really like somehow turned out to be immensely talented international recording artists and then they decided to play a show for you in your living room, just for fun. That's sort of what it felt like watching Mae Moore and Lester Quitzau of Pender Island play for Pender Island at the Community Hall on May 19.

Besides being a Hall benefit, the Pender show led off performances in BC and Alberta that will make up what Mae and Lester called the 'Renovation Tour' (major work on their new house being well underway). And I guess I'll let go of the cousins metaphor because there's a romantic subplot here where a certain well-traveled blues fusion man who 'never thought he'd end up married and on Pender Island' was somehow (as he very sweetly explained) compelled to do just that.

But enough of the tongue-wagging. What a gift it was, first to hear a juicy blues set from Lester, and then to hear the rootsy-pop blend, as he and Mae started sharing new joint versions of their own strongest original songs.

Lester led off playing dobro (a partly metal slide guitar that makes a kind of rattling wail), devoting his pleasantly husky voice to an intense blues medley that sounded like a road

music smorgasbord. There was stomping freight train stuff, but also a lot of different textures, like he was bending the blues to his own shape. Lester is a Juno Award winner for his work with the roots/world music trio, 'Tri-Continental,' and also acclaimed for his 'Very Electric Trio' and solo works.

Next Lester brought out an acoustic guitar for some complex, jazzy rhythms, almost like between his various fingers he was very skillfully covering the bass, the drums and a hot electric guitar line. And meanwhile he was singing over top in a mellow, soulful voice, spreading 'just a little heart and soul' our way.

Then out came Mae with her heart on her sleeve, singing about how 'Love will bring you back,' as Lester dropped in some soulful licks and joined her on the chorus. Mae has this magnetic way of smiling that makes you feel like she's beaming just for you, and she was in fine smiling and singing form on May 19, running through hits like 'Red Clay Hills,' 'Bohemia' and 'Watermark,' plus new ones from her latest album ('It's a Funny World'). Mae Moore has achieved Top 10 radio success in Canada and the US for her 'neo-folkster' songs, many of which have appeared in film and television.


But it was the complex, vibrant and gutsy blend of Mae and Lester that was the most interesting part of the Pender show for me. One of my recurring thoughts while I listened was what amazing guitar players both of these people are, as they wove together multiple threads of sound into versions of their songs that were bigger and better than any one person can do alone. And then there was the feeling. As Lester sang, 'Yes, we are bold as love.' And they were. ✓



Fly on Your Own Schedule at Great Rates!

FLOATPLANE AIR TAXI & TOURS

Now Serving
**The Mainland, Gulf Islands
 Sunshine Coast &
 Vancouver Island**
1-866-655-1144 (Victoria Airport)
www.air-hart.com



richard j. wey & associates
 land surveying inc.

Richard J. Wey BCLS

*Legal, Engineering and Topographical Surveys
 Subdivision Planning*


The Oakville-Suite 106-9717 Third Street
 Sidney, BC V8L 3A3
 Telephone 250-656-5155 Fax: 250-656-5175

Island Tides

AT FULFORD HARBOUR
JUNE

Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m.	Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m.		
3	0215	9.5	2.9	11	0100	10.8	3.3		
	TU	0405	9.5		2.9	WE	0820	2.3	0.7
	MA	1235	1.0		0.3	WE	1600	9.2	2.8
	2125	10.8	3.3	ME	1945	7.9	2.4		
4	1315	1.3	0.4	12	0125	10.8	3.3		
	WE	2205	10.8		3.3	TH	0900	1.0	0.3
						JE	1705	9.8	3.0
				JE	2045	8.9	2.7		
5	1400	1.6	0.5	13	0155	10.8	2.9		
	TH	2240	10.8		3.3	FR	1940	0.0	0.0
	JE					FR	1800	10.8	3.3
				VE	2150	9.5	2.9		
6	1450	2.3	0.7	14	0230	10.8	3.3		
	FR	2315	10.8		3.3	SA	1025	-0.3	-0.1
	VE					SA	1850	11.2	3.4
				SA	2300	9.8	3.0		
7	0620	7.5	2.3	15	0310	10.8	3.3		
	SA	0800	7.5		2.3	SU	1110	-0.3	-0.1
	SA	0540	3.3		1.0	DI	1940	11.5	3.5
	2345	10.8	3.3						
8	0645	6.6	2.0	16	0010	9.8	3.0		
	SU	1025	7.2		2.2	MO	0355	10.5	3.2
	DI	1635	4.3		1.3	MO	1155	-0.3	-0.1
				LU	2025	11.5	3.5		
9	0010	10.8	3.3	17	0125	9.5	2.9		
	MO	0715	5.2		1.6	TU	045	10.2	3.1
	LU	1240	7.2		2.2	TU	1240	0.3	0.1
	1740	5.6	1.7	MA	2110	11.5	3.5		
10	0035	10.8	3.3	18	0245	8.9	2.7		
	TU	0745	3.6		1.1	WE	0535	9.5	2.9
	MA	1435	7.9		2.4	WE	1330	1.3	0.4
	1840	6.6	2.0	ME	2150	11.2	3.4		

ADD ONE HOUR FOR PACIFIC DAYLIGHT TIME



Tides Tables Courtesy of
Island Marine Construction
 Floats • Ramps • Moorings • Pile Driving
 Ph: 250-537-9710 Fax: 537-1725
 www.islandmarine.ca

Butler Brothers
Supplies Ltd.

CONCRETE & AGGREGATE DIVISION
 Reliable Service, Quality Products
 & Competitive Prices
 Serving All The Gulf Islands
 Phone 250-652-4484
 Fax 250-652-4486
 6700 Butler Crescent, Saanichton, B.C. V84 2A6

PINETREE Vancouver Island's Largest
 'in stock' solid wood
 furniture store

Pine, Oak & Birch Furniture
 Knock Down or Fully Assembled
TAKE IT HOME TODAY!
 TEL/FAX: 250-595-2800
 1721 Hillside @ Shelbourne, Victoria
 Independently Owned & Operated
 www.pinetree-furniture.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sandstone Quarry
Application - Mines Act
 A public information meeting will be held on
Thursday, June 19, 2003,
at Galiano South End Hall
at 7pm
 Regarding a proposed Sandstone Quarry located at
 District Lot 14, Cowichan District,
 Galiano Island

For further information contact
 Helgi Sigurgeirson at 250-629-3778

Anyone interested in this
 application is invited to attend.

Saturna Notes - Priscilla Ewbank

What a month May is. Bare feet are just fine most days, and the carpenter ants are madly running about amped-up on May heat.

Caterpillars

Tent caterpillars are so prolific they seem to be falling from the sky. Almost a pestilence, as they say in the Bible. The tonnage of caterpillars must be immense. They hang in clots from the fruit trees, fencepost tops are fuzzy with caterpillar mats, I can hear them eating one of our plum trees. It finally got to me when they started in on the climbing rose Sutter's Gold, which is a once a year sensation—that was *too much!* Jon finally found the sprayer, which we haven't used in about 6 years, dug out the BT and sprayed the most cherished plants. Interesting to have a major infestation; while part of me is repelled, part of me is fascinated by what you can easily pick out of their adaptive behaviors since 500 of them are trying to do it at once. They all seem to be heading from east to west, some plants they adore while some are second choice, and some aren't even on the menu board. They climb to the very top of everything; you, the garden hose, the too tall apple tree. I see hardly any white eggs on the caterpillars—bad news—where is our natural-control device? Funny how impatient I am to have this natural phenomenon unroll at my pace!

Birds

Yesterday I was sweeping the deck in front of our bedroom and I noticed a lot of swallows zooming around—sweep, sweep, zoom, zoom, Aha, right above my head on top of the lamp, major construction is going on—a nest. I'm a swallow fan but not a bird-lice fan, which nests inevitably have. I weighed the pros and cons; the bed is in a perfect position to watch the hatching and nestling feeding process—okay, can't pass up the show!

We found a hen with 5 chicks two days ago. They were so new that they still had egg shells clinging to their fuzz. Peep! Peep! They call very loudly. I hear the raven's dinner bell ring. Our resident pair of ravens are raising their chicks and we know that turkey and chicken chicks make fine raven food. We handed over the little chicken gang to Abby and Zoey Hawk so they can reside in their new coop and get lots of protection and undivided attention.

Sheep

All the Island sheep were sheared last week. Miraculously, the rain abated and Christie Robley from Salt Spring sheared 99 sheep of Campbell's and Breezy Bay and the next day sheared Jones' flock. Christie graduated from Gulf Islands Secondary in 2000, is attending school in Guelph, hoping to get into vet school

when she gets her degree. To pay for all of this schooling she is shearing flocks from the Gulf Islands, up to Qualicum Beach and on the mainland.

She charges about \$5 for every sheep that jumps up shorn from her electric clippers. She is gentle and quick, obviously loves animals, and full of practical information as she grew up on her parents' farm and they run about 100 sheep. It was great to hear from Christie of her accomplishments, dreams and challenges.

Youngsters

I think about Saturna's little 'flock' of five graduating this weekend from GISS and my hope is that with the love and support they have known all their lives from their homes and their communities, they will find and create for themselves people and communities in which they will thrive—and come home sometimes and keep us up-to-date on all the 'news'!

Lamb

That BBQ will be happening on July 1st rain or shine. Within an hour, thirteen volunteers, three dogs, chain saws, and splitting mauls had a bunch of huge alder logs cut and stacked for the Saturna Lamb BBQ. Next Tuesday, the Mint Sauce Making Bee will take place. The gallon jars will be filled for the BBQ meal and lots of small canners are filled to sell on the day.

Linda Carson asks that anyone interested in having a table at the craft area of the BBQ contact her, *tout de suite*. She has to be able to get it organized so they know how many tents they need. Everyone is welcome to get involved. Luckily we already have a person rounded up to return the full porta-potties to town—judged one of the most onerous jobs—so feel free to offer your unlimited assistance! Keep checking the bulletin boards for news of work bees, they keep coming regularly from now on.

Whales

On May 24, nine members of the Saturna Sighting Network and an orca-watcher from Pender attended a Marine Mammal Monitoring Meeting at the hall. Fisheries officers and Marc Pakenham, lately from DFO, gave the group pointers on how best to assist them to ensure whale-watching boats and recreational boaters are respecting the marine mammals viewing guidelines.

Events

We have coming up on the calendar two fine events at the hall, the Talent Show June 21st, and a double bill on June 7th, *Present Day Courtship* and *Motherload*, which won 'Best Overall Production,' 'Best Original Script' and 'Best Actress' at the Vancouver Fringe Festival for Hoarse Raven Theatre. Tickets at both stores. /



Gulf Islands National Park Reserve staff: Meredith Reeve, Jim Morgan, Todd Shannon, Francine Burnett, Scott Aitken, Ron Hamilton and Rundi Koppang show off the new sign at the park's HQ in Sidney. They will host an Open House on Friday June 13 (see What's On? page 5 for details).

Trans Canada Trail Hike—Victoria to Nanaimo

Sara J. Steil

A few years ago my sister, Janet Pattinson, informed me that she would like to hike the Trans Canada Trail. I felt compelled to tell her that she'd better start immediately—hike British Columbia first and leave Saskatchewan to the last as she would probably be 105 by the time she got there! So you see, hiking the Trans Canada has been on my sister's 'wish list', then low and behold, she had me in mind to get things started! Finally the date and time was set aside to see if we could traverse the trail between 'Mile 0' in Victoria's Beacon Hill Park to Departure Bay in Nanaimo.

With sunny skies, April 1, 2003 proved to be an excellent time to begin our 'hiking adventure.' My hubby, Dick, along with Shelby (dog) and Muffin (cat), joined us as escort with the motorhome, therefore providing sleeping and eating

accommodations.

We began with a 19 km hike following the Beacon Hill Trail, the West Gorge Trail and a portion of The Galloping Goose Trail, winding our way along the ocean side streets of Victoria, across the Johnson Street Bridge and Selkirk Trestle.

On the morning of Day Two we completed the Galloping Goose Trail and hiked the Langford Route. With the Trans Canada Trail being in its infancy, several portions are shown as 'interim routes' and 'future routes'—the Malahat Route is an interim route with portions described as 'precarious' along side the main highway, so we chose to bypass this portion of the trail. The afternoon found us on the Shawnigan Lake Road Route, which was very enjoyable, but yet another portion

HIKE, please turn to page 5



On May 1, Pender's 'Balding for Dollars' raised a whopping \$27,000 for cancer treatment

Live Your Dream

THE LINWOOD ADVANTAGE

CUSTOM DESIGN
HIGH QUALITY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS
FULL WARRANTY PROGRAM
WORLDWIDE SHIPPING EXPERTISE
CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT

1.888.546.9663
www.linwoodhomes.com

NEW PLAN BOOK NOW AVAILABLE
- Over 100 full colour designs -

Cottage Water Treatment
Daynor
BioSand Filter

Effectively removes:

- GIARDIA
- CRYPTOSPORIDIA
- BACTERIA
- VIRUSES
- IRON
- MANGANESE
- H2S-SULPHUR
- TURBIDITY
- ALGAE

from **\$284.00**

- Gravity or pressure systems
- Rain water, lake water, well water

Other systems available

- Trojan UVMax, reverse osmosis
- Filters, parts, pumps
- Sales, service, installation

PRO STAR
MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGIES LTD.

250-383-4558 • Fax 250-383-6990
320 Mary St., Victoria, BC
prostar@islandnet.com
www.prostarwater.ca

It all starts with the right soil

Look for Growell at a local garden center

www.growell.bc.ca
email: mail@growell.bc.ca

seair 1-800-447-3247
1-800-44-SEAIR
SEAPLANES www.seairseaplanes.com

Leaves Vanc. Airport
7:30am
11:30am
4:30pm
des: Port Wash, Lyall, Miners
5:30pm
des: Ganges, Thetis, Montague

Leaves Gulf Islands
8:00am
12:00pm
5:00pm
dep: Port Wash, Lyall, Miners
6:00pm
dep: Ganges, Thetis, Montague

3 Scheduled Flights Daily

Ganges Harbour • Montague Harbour • Port Washington
Lyall Harbour • Telegraph Harbour • Miners Bay

FREQUENT FLYER DISCOUNTS


Island Gifts Galore!
Treat Yourself—& Those You Adore

GALIANO

ART & SOUL CRAFT GALLERY, beside Trincomali Bakery. Galiano & BC arts & crafts. Galiano & Native Art clothing (kiddie sizes, too). Work by local artists Keith Holmes, Matthew Schoenfeld, John Springer, Ronaldo Norden... 539-2944 HOURS: Thurs/Fri/Mon: 10-3, Sat/Sun: 10-5, extra viewing 539-3075

IXCHEL CRAFT SHOP, opposite Daystar Market & Montague Marina location now open! New Galiano 'T' and Sweat designs, gorgeous summer dresses, Dagoli sportswear, fabulous jewelry—come for a look! 539-3038 HOURS: Hours: Fri/Sat, 10-5, Thurs/Sun 11-4, Marina: Fri-Sun 1-5

Island Tides
 16,000 copies this issue
Every Second Thursday
 www.islandtides.com
GULF ISLANDS' ONLY FREE & MAIL DELIVERY NEWSPAPER
 8,000 copies delivered to Southern Islands' households
 8,000 copies on the Ferry Routes Sidney, Victoria & in Nanaimo



ISLAND TIDES PUBLISHING Ltd
 Box 55, Pender Island B.C. V0N 2M0
 Publisher & Editor: Christa Grace-Warrick
 Contributors: Patrick Brown, Priscilla Ewbank, John Carlton
 Telephone: 250-629-3660
 Fax: 250-629-3838
 Deadline: Wednesday between publications
 Email: islandtides@gulfislands.com
 Off-Islands Canadian Subscriptions \$37.45

Readers' Letters

Thank You To Ferries and Other Passengers

Dear Editor:
 On Wednesday, April 30th the Kindergarten and Grades One and Two students of Pender Islands Elementary Secondary School went on a field trip to Victoria. A great day was enjoyed by all. The performance of Beauty and the Beast at The University of Victoria auditorium was wonderful but went just a few minutes overtime. We jumped up and clapped, then dashed to our awaiting bus that was to take us to the 2:10 pm ferry. After quickly boarding the bus with just enough time to get to the ferry, the driver found that we had bus trouble.

Knowing our situation, he quickly rerouted us to another bus. Thank you to Wilson Bus Lines for making alternate arrangements so quickly for us. We realized though, that we did not have enough time to get to the ferry. One of our parents used a cellular phone as we traveled and discovered that we had unfortunately missed the ferry. We were only minutes from the ferry terminal!

To our great surprise we were informed that the ferry, the Queen of Cumberland, was coming back for us! Thank you to B.C. Ferries for this kind and thoughtful act. Many parents were spared inconvenience and worry. The adults on the trip are particularly grateful as we did not relish 4 hours until the next ferry with tired, young children. The students were unaware of their near miss but the adults on the trip were very aware and grateful to all who saved the day.

Helen Mason, Kindergarten Teacher, Pender School

More Ferries Appreciation

Dear Editor:
 About this time last year, you wrote an article regarding BC Ferries doing a service swap to provide a late afternoon

Those who have taken upon themselves the unasked task of amending the English language have included 'lifejacket' in the list of words that are to be debased and rendered devoid of meaning. **Definitely Not The Ferries!**
What is a PFD Anyway?

John Carlton

(A strong argument can be made that the reason politicians tell such easy lies is that they can; meaning having been removed from the language to an extent that pretty much anything can be said and then denied.)

However, to return to the point, PFDs, or even more pompously, 'Personal Flotation Devices' are now the holy mantra of 'Safe Boating.' Wear one of these things, apparently from the moment you wake up, and you will never become an 'Incident.' (The italics are directly from Coast Guard literature.) It should be told that Coast Guard's enthusiasm for PFDs has nothing whatever to do with an altruistic interest in your safety.

Au contraire, it has everything to do with reducing costs, the true Canadian divine principle. If you fall in the water and drown, or die rapidly from hypothermia, and you are not wearing a PFD, you will be at least very difficult to find and return to your grieving family. If you are wearing a PFD, your sorry carcass will be recovered very likely far faster, and the expensive helicopters can be sent back to base sooner, the boats can return earlier, and the undertaker will get hold of you in better shape.

This has very little to do with your survival. The little that it does have, of course, argues in favour of wearing a lifejacket. For kayakers, it is the equivalent of a liferaft (*Personal flotation platform?*) and it is something to choose carefully, and equip well. I carry a VHF radio on my kayak jacket, and flares that are capable of shooting aircraft down, let alone attracting their attention. It is not something to be purchased as a door crasher bargain from a store whose maritime expertise is based in the Mid West. 'Hey kids, I got you all PFDs, and there was enough money left over for a 'Pirates Pack' on the ferry!' Think about it.



If you go in to buy your children 'lifejackets,' hopefully you may put a little more thought into the purchase, but still it does not answer the big issue, which is your getting home alive.

The things that really do matter are, in rough order:

Skill: This is not obtained by writing a cheque big enough to buy the latest bit of electronic wizardry. This means knowledge and work, not money. Start early, five years old is about right, and keep at it. Sooner or later you will get pretty good, and your dependence on lifejackets will lessen.

Stay sober: I do get tired of the evangelistic whingeing that goes on if you dare to have a beer closer to the water than 500 yards from the high tide mark, but four 'guys,' four six-packs, two bottles of rye, explosive fuel, and a hot sunny day is a definite recipe for creating an 'incident.'

Don't get tired: Fatigue probably kills more kayakers in particular than everything else put together. The world will actually continue to go round if you do miss the ferry, and camp, even if uncomfortably (and illegally) on any rocky sanctuary.

Keep your boat maintained: Oddly enough lack of boat maintenance is not as much of a killer as fatigue or alcohol, but a guaranteed source of costly embarrassment and a ruined weekend. And after all, the idea is not to have ruined weekends. /

Galiano Sandstone Quarry Application

Dear Editor:
 The application by Messrs Helgi Sigurgeirson and Ron Henshaw to establish a sandstone quarry on Galiano Island has sparked outrage in those neighbouring residents most affected and significant concern for the overall welfare of the island in those resident more distant from the proposed quarry.

Past and present trustees of the Islands Trust, the Galiano Conservancy and many local residents have directed letters of concern to the Inspector of Mines.

What is most worrisome is the lack of responsiveness to such public concerns by the Ministry of Energy and Mines. The Inspector states that 'the permitting decisions are not constrained by local policies regarding lifestyle, land use conflicts or local zoning' and when it is pointed out that a recent judgment of the Supreme Court of British Columbia allowed that such considerations 'may' be taken into account when issuing such a permit, the Inspector replies that 'The judge's ruling does not specify 'must.' Add to this 'with the recent severe staff reduction within our division there is no certainty that someone will be available' to attend the public meeting arranged by the applicants for June 19 on Galiano and one has to wonder about the accountability of this public body.

This permit, if granted, threatens the continuing viability of the adjacent Finlay Lake as a source of fresh water for several animal and bird species and an effective ecological reserve, since most of the lake is surrounded by covenanted and crown land. The proposed blasting threatens the Finlay Lake groundwater reservoir, which is essential to residents in this area. The noise pollution threatens the health of adjacent residents and the incomes of many businesses that depend on the peace and tranquility of Galiano to attract summer visitors (Messrs Sigurgeirson and Henshaw propose the bulk of their work in the summer months). Add to this the increased fire hazard of blasting and quarrying in the tinder dry summer months and the increased traffic hazards posed by the addition of further heavy trucks to the roads of Galiano in the high visitor season, and the attitude of the Ministry becomes impossible to comprehend.

The Inspector of Mines has indicated that such quarries are active on Saltspring, Hardy and other islands. I would be grateful for any feedback from residents of these islands as to the effects of such quarries, negative or positive, on their local ecological and commercial environments and their experience with the Ministry of Mines and Energy.

Anthony Nolan, Galiano Island

LETTERS continued on next page

SEAFIRST
 INSURANCE BROKERS

Call Us Toll Free for Quotes on

- Homeowners • Farm
- Commercial • Bed & Breakfasts

A2 - 9769 Fifth Street, Sidney
 Doug Guedes • 1-866-656-9886 • (656-9886)

7178 W. Saanich Rd, Brentwood Bay
 Doug Strong • 1-877-655-1141 • (652-1141)

www.seafirstinsurance.com



Morning Bay
 VINEYARDS

FIREWOOD
 Wood-Mizer

Don't get caught in the cold!
 Place your order now
 \$180 a cord including delivery

6621 Harbour Hill Drive
 mrngby@netscape.net 629 - 8350

HARVEST VALLEY MEATS LTD. Est 1971

SPECIALIZING IN HOME FREEZER SUPPLIES

- Alberta Grain Fed Beef • Pork, Poultry & Vegetables
- Post-dated Checks Accepted • Top Quality Brand Names

FREE DELIVERY IN or OUT OF TOWN

1-800-784-0655
384-3592

\$50.00 OFF

'What's On?'

Vancouver Island & The Gulf Islands

Only \$26.75! • With photo just \$32.10 to Promote your Event to 36,000 Readers from Tsawwassen to Victoria to Nanaimo

Friday, June 6

'Lessons from the South African Reconciliation for Peace Making'— an illustrated presentation by Prof Heribert Adam, sponsored by the Pender Peace Circle • Pender Public Library • 7:30 • Everyone welcome • ON PENDER ISLAND

Now till August 30

Fresh salmon and scallops 'off the boat'—weather and availability permitting • Pender, Hope Bay, Thurs-Sun, 11am; Saturna, Lyall Harbour, Friday, 5-6pm; Galiano, Sturdies Bay, Saturday, 5-6pm; Mayne, Miners Bay, Saturday, 7-8pm • Info Bonnie Fales 250-629-6740 • AT A GULF ISLANDS DOCK

Saturdays, June & July

'Hot Dog Saturdays'—Pender Lions fundraiser • Nu-To-Yu: June 28, July 26; Lumberyard: June 14 & July 12 • 10am-2pm • Jumbo Hotdog \$3, soda pop \$2 • ON PENDER ISLAND

Thursday till Sunday, June 5-8

'25 years of Discovery,' Institute of Ocean Sciences Pacific Geoscience Centre Open House—scientific exhibits, public lectures, ship tours • Patricia Bay, 9860 West Saanich Road • Thurs/Fri: 9am-3pm, Sat/Sun: 10am-4pm • Info: 250-363-6550, www.sci.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/openhouse2003/ • IN SIDNEY

Friday, June 13

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve Open House—an opportunity to visit Parks Canada's new office in Sidney. Come meet the staff, have some refreshments and learn more about Canada's 40th national park. Office located at 2220 Harbour Road • 11am-2pm • Info: Parks Canada 250-654-4000 • IN SIDNEY

Saturday, June 21

Harry Potter Midnight Madness Pyjama Party—hot chocolate, treats and prizes plus 25% off Harry Potter #5!— be the first in the pacific time zone to read it • Salt Spring Books, 104 McPhillips, Ganges • 12:01am (also kids drop-in party 10am-2pm: games, treats, readings, costume contest and prizes) • Reserve HP#5 now for 15%off • Info: 250-537-2812 • ON SALT SPRING ISLAND

Saturday & Sunday, June 21 & 22

Denman Island Home & Garden Tour—eleven homes and gardens, including well-known author/broadcaster Des Kennedy's place; for the first time the art of well-known Denman artists will be on display in the gardens • 9:30am-5pm each day • Tickets: \$15 @ 250-335-2576 or on-Island on Tour days • Info: www.denmanis.bc.ca/gardentour • ON DENMAN ISLAND

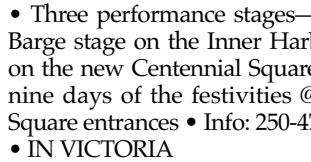
Sunday, June 22



Strawberry Tea and Fashion Show—strawberry shortcake, sandwiches, tea, coffee; Galiano's super-models will model town, country, garden, evening, wedding and kids fashions; make-overs; movies of previous Galiano fashion shows; proceeds to Bluff Park, Galiano Mountain and the Hall—lots of fun • South Galiano Hall • 1pm • Tickets \$12 at Ixchel, Deja Vu, Thistledown, Art & Soul • Info: Sue Evans: 539 2964 or Margaret Howell: 539 5064 • ON GALIANO ISLAND

Sat, June 28 till Sun, July 6

ICA FolkFest's 30th Anniversary—western Canada's largest multi-cultural arts festival expands from its usual home on the Victoria's Inner Harbour to include Centennial Square—international food village, over 60 artisans in the craft market, cooking demonstrations by renowned chefs on the World Feast Stage and music & dance from around the world



• Three performance stages—Mainstage and the new Bayou Barge stage on the Inner Harbour and the Teatro Circo stage on the new Centennial Square site • Tickets: \$5 button for all nine days of the festivities @ Inner Harbour or Centennial Square entrances • Info: 250-472-FEST or www.icafolkfest.com • IN VICTORIA

Sunday till Friday, July 13-18

The Victoria School of Writing's 8th Annual Summer School offers five days of intensive, supportive instruction at a park-like campus; accommodation and meals are available • Three workshops are full, but we still have spots with the following instructors: Kate Braid (poetry), Tom Henry (nonfiction), Lorna Jackson (fiction), Gregory Scofield (poetry) • Info: 250-595-3000, vicwrite@islandnet.com, www.islandnet.com/vicwrite • IN VICTORIA

Promote your event to 33,000 Southern Gulf Readers
Only \$26.75 • With photo just \$32.10

LETTERS, from previous page

Victory For Orchard

Dear Editor:

I have been watching the Progressive Conservative convention on-and-off all day. I would say that it was a victory for David Orchard, although that was much resented by the party brass. The day after they had listened to (and applauded) a highly self-congratulatory speech by Brian Mulroney about free trade, Peter MacKay was forced to make a deal with Orchard in order to get elected, and that deal included a commitment to some kind of review of NAFTA. Just what kind of review is not clear, but Orchard says he has it in writing and signed by MacKay.

The Mulroneys, who had managed to get a commitment to free trade inserted into the party constitution last summer (they saw Orchard coming) and therefore regarded its perfection as Holy Writ, will now try to rewrite the Orchard deal no doubt, but they can only do so at the expense of MacKay's integrity. Orchard has gained a formidable lever on the entire Canadian political scene. Very interesting.

Patrick Brown, Pender Island

Ed's Note: Patrick has just had a spell in the hospital, getting his heart meds under control. This followed closely on the death of his Dad, Norman. We wish Patrick well and a speedy return to top form. Not that much stops him, as can be seen from the letter above, received at press time.

Luckily for Island Tides, I had on hand his report on Hydro (page 1) and a piece on ferries (page 8), both of which I have been trying to squeeze in for weeks. Enjoy! I don't know what he is coming up with next but I am always curious to find out.

As some of you may know I've been a bit dodgy myself the last few months—parts of the Island Tides team are getting a bit creaky—I shall be pulling out my Canada Pension this month! (Not that that will get me off the hook for running the newspaper.) Indications are that pulling CPP early (at the amount I'm going to get) won't be a detriment unless I live past age 93! ✍



www.murphybeds-victoria.com
744-2195 1-800-670-5505

THE RAINWATER CONNECTION
Complete Rainwater Harvesting Systems
Affordable Cisterns, Roof Washers, Gravity Filters
 Bob Burgess 250-246-2155
www.rainwaterconnection.com
A Clean, Sustainable Alternative

2003
Island Tides
Voluntary Subscriptions
Did something in this edition of Island Tides:

- inform you?
- pique your interest?
- amuse you?
- give you a warm, fuzzy feeling?
- make you a good contact?
- find you an opportunity?
- inspire you to take action?
- make a conversation topic?
- find you a good buy or a good service?

If you are already receiving Island Tides in your Island mailbox or if you pick it up from one of our 70 free boxes across the Gulf of Georgia, Victoria or Nanaimo, you can show your support and appreciation by sending a voluntary subscription of (\$20 + \$1.40gst = \$21.40) to:
Box 55, Pender Island, B.C. V0N 2M0
Thank You!
And a special 'Thank You' to those of you who have sent subscriptions and letters!

HIKE from page 3

was on the roadway shoulder and caution was needed.

Day Three found us on the Kinsol Trail, which heads northwest to Lake Cowichan and offers a remote wilderness experience. The hike followed along an old railbed, which travels through a forested area. The old Kinsol Trestle is unusable at this time as it needs a \$2 million upgrade—so you are only able to hike up to one end and start again on the other side. An interim route is suggested but we were advised to forgo this detour.

On Day Four we traversed the Cowichan River Railgrade Trail. This hike proved to be 24 km as we travelled through forested sections of the Cowichan Valley. This section hosts the Cowichan River Provincial Park and Skutz Falls—a truly beautiful area to hike.

Day Five brought us to the Cowichan Valley Trail. This trail basically follows the road and passes through forests and rural areas to Paldi. The Paldi Trail is still in the 'proposed' state so unfortunately we were unable to hike this portion.

Day Six was the North Duncan Route—portions of this route are on the highway, and with recommendations from the CVRD, we hiked in a more rural setting along a less travelled roadway. Following the next routing, known as the Crofton Route, was also along the roadway but at least we did not experience highway conditions.

The next two days brought on 'april showers' in all their glory but this didn't stop our trek as we continued on the Chemainus Route and Ladysmith Route, which are also along the Trans Canada Highway. The White Rapid Interim Route heading towards Nanaimo is along a roadway and we found that this type of routing was not satisfactory, especially while hiking in the 'April Showers'; we far preferred the trails. The mounting traffic prompted us to head into Nanaimo and we hiked the South Nanaimo Trail where it joins the Parkway Trail providing a great hike through parkland eventually crossing the Chase River. We continued on the Bowen Park Route, which in part offers a tranquil walk as it enters the Buttertubs Marsh Park prior to entering the scenic Bowen Park.

Day Eight we hiked the Abyss Trail back as far as we could go plus continued on the Bowen Park Trail, which follows the Millstone River as it heads toward the Nanaimo waterfront. The last section of the Trans Canada Trail is the Nanaimo Waterfront Trail. From the mouth of the Millstone River, we followed the waterfront, with portions on the roadway, to Departure Bay.

The Abyss Trail was the most challenging. It traverses some very picturesque forest cover, but on the fringes there were massive recent clearcuts. The trail continued over a magnificent rock fissure, which is part of the earthquake fault line of the lower Nanaimo area. We had difficulty locating the

HIKE, please turn to page 7

CRD CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT
SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS HARBOURS COMMISSION
RETREAT COVE DOCK REPAIRS
CONTRACT 03-1007
INVITATION TO TENDER

Sealed Tenders, plainly marked on the envelope "Southern Gulf Islands Harbours Commission, Retreat Cove Dock Repairs - Contract 03-1007, will be received by the Director of Finance of the Capital Regional District at their offices at 524 Yates Street, Victoria, British Columbia up to 2:30 pm, Friday, June 27, 2003, at which time they will be opened in public.

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

- Supply of materials, labour and equipment to repair and/or replace and paint certain timbers on approach, wharfhead, one float and gangway.
- To repair and replace certain pile-caps, pile bracings under approach and wharfhead.
- To replace and/or inspect certain floatation pontoons.

Specifications, Drawings, Contract Documents, and Tender Form may be seen at the offices of the Vancouver Region Construction Association of BC, 3636 East 4th Avenue, Vancouver, BC; The Construction Association of Victoria, 1075 Alston Street, Victoria; and the Capital Regional District, 524 Yates Street, Victoria, on or after **Thursday, June 5, 2003.**

Copies may be obtained from the Capital Regional District, Environmental Services Department, on payment of \$26.75 (\$25.00 + \$1.75 GST) for each copy requested, the sum of which is refundable upon return of the documents in good condition within 30 days of tender opening.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

There will be no scheduled site meeting.

For tendering and technical enquiries on this project please contact Al Cannon, Ports Manager, Southern Gulf Islands Harbours Commission, 250-539-3036, E-mail: shoresun@gulfislands.com.

Al Cannon, Ports Manager,
Southern Gulf Islands Harbours Commission

HYDRO, from page 1

representation. Hydro takes the risk, and is promised savings of \$250 million over ten years. Hydro is already behind; it has, up to now, booked a loss of \$60 million in 'privatization' costs.

Part II—Power Generation

The government has announced that BC Hydro will be barred from constructing any further generating facilities; in the future, this will be done by the private sector. Hydro has called for proposals for 'green power,' mainly run-of-river hydroelectric projects, and a small number of wind initiatives.

The private sector is expected to propose coal and gas-fired generation, and has been promised access to Hydro's transmission system. But power from these projects will cost much more than hydroelectric or even wind power. The greater the proportion of BC's power coming from coal or gas, the higher the average cost, and the greater the pollution and greenhouse gas production in BC.

Part III—Transmission

BC Hydro's power transmission system is to be structured as a separate company, provincially owned. As a private company, it would not be required to report its results publicly; it would not be a Crown Corporation subject to conflict-of-interest regulations, and legislative oversight. But what is most interesting is Hydro's apparently wholehearted embrace of a US-based coordinating organization, Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) West.

FERC and RTO West

RTO West was conceived by US Federal Energy Review Commission as an organization to integrate all the transmission facilities over much of the Western US and to create a single market for electricity.

The Chair of FERC, Pat Wood, was

appointed by US President George W. Bush with a mandate to create free markets in electrical power and ensure that Independent Power Producers (IPPs) anywhere in the country would have access to transmission systems so that they could sell their power. RTO West is dominated by IPPs, large power consumers, and private power transmission organizations. A federal body, it does not have authority over local integrated power systems (such as Seattle City Light, etc.) but aims to include them in its system. It also has no authority over BC Hydro, but it could bar Hydro from selling power in the US.

FERC chair Pat Wood has already indicated his 'impatience' with the negotiation process required to obtain agreement between the many parties involved. His mandate from the President reflects the US need for energy security, given an expected 45% increase in the US need for electrical power over the next 20 years.

RTO West intends to control who has access to transmission facilities, to authorize and direct additions to the network, and to operate wholesale electricity markets, according to a 'Standard Market Design' (SMD) developed in the eastern US for predominantly fossil fuel and nuclear power generation. (In the RTO West area, much of the power is hydroelectric, with distinctly different economics and operating characteristics.)

RTO West intends to control markets and transmission in Washington, Oregon, a small part of northern California, Idaho, half of Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, and, yes, all of British Columbia. (BC is actually included on the FERC map!) This is planned to start in 2004, and be completely in operation by 2006.

And that's not all. RTO West intends to operate a 'free market' in transmission rights.

HYDRO next column below

Veil of secrecy lifted off Vancouver Island mountains

Hikers and mountaineers across the islands are heralding the arrival of the first definitive guidebook to the mountains of Strathcona Park and Vancouver Island. *Island Alpine* is the work of Quadra Island-based publisher and mountaineer Philip Stone. After 15 years of 'research' and 10 months of production, *Island Alpine* lifts the veil off the long hidden and elusive Vancouver Island backcountry and gives outdoor enthusiasts all the reasons they could ever need to head for the hills.

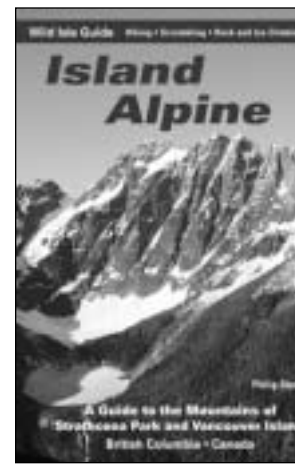
In 488 pages, Stone describes the hiking and climbing routes on some 275 Vancouver Island mountains. The scope of this guide is as vast as the mountainous country it details. The jagged mountain backbone of the Vancouver Island Ranges runs uninterrupted 350 kilometres from the Cowichan Valley to Quatsino Sound. In the heart of the Island

within Strathcona Provincial Park the peaks soar to over 7,000 feet, attracting climbers to scale their summits and hikers to wander the ridges and valleys that weave in between.

Over 550 photographs illustrate both the hiking routes and the technical climbing routes established in the Island mountains over a century of surveying and exploration, and the many millennia of inhabitation by First Nations people. The lore of early pioneers and the exploits of both world renowned alpinists and local aficionados mix to complete this book as not only a guide for future exploration but as a historical record of a rich

and colourful mountaineering history.

Island Alpine, Wild Isle Publications, PO Box 482, Heriot Bay BC V0P 1H0 (250-285-2234), \$39.95. /



Paul Agnew at Crown Mountain campsite

HYDRO from left column above

This means that the transmission companies will no longer be able to control whose electricity is travelling over their high-voltage lines, and further opens the possibility that some players may speculate in the rights for transmission over certain critical links. Transmission charges would no longer relate to costs, but would be set by a 'market.'

Destroying the Integrated Systems

BC would no longer be able to operate an integrated system, and would be completely (and voluntarily) exposed to the wholesale US electricity market.

Other publicly owned integrated systems in the US Northwest, part of California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming have raised serious objections to the proposed RTO West domination. But in striking contrast, BC Hydro has enthusiastically embraced the RTO West plan.

Rates Will Have To Go Up

BC's Energy Policy, as set out by Mr. Neufeld's ministry, sees the province's energy potential as a source of major industrial development and exports, rather than as an advantage for all BC residents and companies. Both the government and independent power producers see such development as profitable. There's just one snag—BC's power prices, based on the low cost of hydro-electric generation, are too low to support it. So BC's rates have to go up.

The Price of Industrial Power Development

The provincial Energy Policy has developed a fancy rationale for this, giving a gradual rise in rates over ten years through mixing 'heritage' electricity (from Hydro's dams) with the new, more expensive, privately generated power. But in the end, British Columbians will be sold their own electricity at twice the price: no longer related to the cost of generation; no longer related to the cost of transmission. It's

also possible that BC's present 'postage stamp' rates (priced the same wherever you are) may go.

This threatened rise in the price of electricity has not gone unnoticed by business and industry in the province. Plants using a lot of electricity, such as pulp mills, sawmills, aluminum smelters and so on, have been looking carefully at their electricity bills. Alcan, it turns out, would rather manufacture power than aluminum. NorskeCanada proposes to both generate and save power, at considerable capital cost to them, but a significant reduction of demand to BC Hydro. Weyerhaeuser made a deal with BC Hydro to receive \$18 million of 'Power Smart' cash to help them in a \$28 million electricity savings project.

In fact, the increase in electricity costs affects all existing businesses in BC, and makes them less profitable. It's removing the BC advantage.

Part IV—Distribution

The fourth and last part of BC Hydro is retail distribution. No plans to privatize this have been announced, but there's not much left of it. It's only function will be to deliver the power to you, after it has been generated by IPPs, transmitted by RTO West, wholesaled by a host of traders and speculators, and billed for by Accenture. And taxed by the provincial government.

What's the Point?

However, in order to export power to the US, it is not necessary to give RTO West authority over BC Hydro's transmission lines. NAFTA does not require it. FERC does not require it. There is no need to bring BC's retail electricity prices up to 'market.'

W.A.C. Bennett, whose vision gave us cheap power for industry and citizens, surely must be revolving at high speed in his Kelowna grave. /

"See Li for all your Gulf Islands Real Estate!"



Salt Spring Island: Private & sunny beauty, 3 bed, 2 bath, wood floors, sunroom, lots of decking, large separate studio, Don't miss out! \$479,500



Salt Spring Island: Casually elegant home, 3 bed / 2 bath, open plan kitchen / living / dining, hobby & exercise rooms, garage & carport, decks, covered patio with hot tub, perfect townhouse alternative! \$417,500



Salt Spring Island: Tidal oceanfront, 8.35 acres, custom home, B&B potential, zoned for guest cottage, sunny, private, quiet, close to all amenities. Beautiful opportunity - Don't delay! \$679,000



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



Salt Spring Island : 7.19 acres, 5 bed / 3 bath, 2 home offices, large den / rec room, 2 ponds, extensive gardens, orchard. \$420,000



Salt Spring Island: Custom 3 bed oceanfront home, superb kitchen, low bank with dock, 3 sep guest studios, beautiful views & sunsets, S/SW/W exposures. See Li!



Li Read
Re/Max Realty of Salt Spring

Toll-free: 1-800-731-7131
Fax: 250-537-4287
Email: islands@liread.com
Website: www.liread.com

"See Li for Successful Solutions!"

New Sidney thrift shop opens

Gulf Island bargain hunters will want to add a new locale to their Vancouver Island haunts. Peninsula Community Services opened its third Sidney thrift shop on a recent sunny Saturday morning. Located at the bottom of Beacon Avenue, in the Landmark Building, the Community Works Thrift Shop is a unique pre-employment program, funded by the Ministry of Human Resources, designed to help participants gain job-readiness skills and build their confidence and self-reliance.

Peninsula Community Services is a community-based, non-profit, social, employment and health services agency. PCS employees and volunteers have been helping to meet the needs of people who live on the Saanich Peninsula and in the Southern Gulf Islands since 1974. ✓

CHINA from page 2

added touch they have painted the exterior a combination of green and pink. That seems to be a favoured colour combination here.

Many streets have been re-bricked, as they use ceramic tiles (usually green and red) to do the walking areas, and just last night they have banned the three-wheel bike-taxis from the downtown area. This will cause quite a problem for the many old people who go shopping daily and use the taxis to get home with their heavy purchases. The taxi fare anywhere in town is 1RMB (about 20¢) with the fare to the university being 2RMB. That is because we are perched up on the top of a hill above the city. It is 184 steps to my apartment, and I do it at least four times a day. You have to love stairs here....

The bureaucracy is really quite astounding here, both in its complexity and in what it ignores. For instance, I and the other English teachers all have motorbikes to get around. It is too complicated for the authorities to give us licenses or registration so they just turn a blind eye on it. We have all been motioned to pull over by the police (as part of the mayor's reforms), but as soon as they see that it is a foreigner driving the bike we get waved on and they just shrug their shoulders.

In the opposite extreme, I had to go to the telephone company, then the university office, then the phone company, then the office again, and then back to both to get my Internet connection moved to another apartment. There was at least one Douglas fir in Canada that gave up its paper content to finalize this transaction. That seems to be the norm here. I need my passport and Foreign Experts certificate to pick up anything at the post office, withdraw money from my bank account, or do any sort of quasi-official business. In all fairness, the Chinese need their residents card to do the same business. And to think in Canada we are complaining about unauthorized use of our social insurance number! ✓

HIKE from page 5

exact Trans Canada Trail as the area hosts numerous other trails made by mountain bikes and ATVs.

While we found many manicured gardens, my love lies with the native flora and fauna of the area. April brings forth a host of wildflowers. The area that hosted the most wildflowers at this time of year was in the Cowichan Valley. There we saw huge beds of white fawn lilies, trilliums in full bloom telling us that Easter was near, bleeding hearts that often choose to live with the trilliums, one lone yellow violet which used to grow in profusion in the decades of long ago, blue-eyed Susan's, Oregon grape also found in profusion, and that truly beautiful spring flower, the 'Swamp Lanterns' (aka skunk cabbage).

Several of the actual trails were in active logging areas, so heed the warning signs. We also found some of these particular areas muddy and partially flooded due to the logging practices.

While we heartily recommend the Trans Canada Trail, remember it is in its infancy and we suggest that you consult with local agencies for the whereabouts of the trail and heed their suggestions and warnings. As mentioned, there are parts that are not passable at different times of year and there are sections that are proposed but not yet signed onto the trail; these probably should be avoided.

My sister and I hiked just shy of 150 km in 8 days— it was truly a wonderful adventure and experience. ✓

Way to go, Sarah!

On May 23, Pender Island student Sarah Elliott was presented with the BC Hydro Power Pioneers-Beginning a Lifetime of Community Service Award. The surprise presentation took place at Gulf Islands Secondary School in Ganges. Sarah was selected as the Victoria Region winner based on her many years of community service, on both Pender and Salt Spring Islands.

Sarah is a 12-year member of Girl Guides of Canada and

through her Guiding she has assisted many Pender organizations. During the past four years Sarah has accumulated over 225 hours as a Junior Volunteer (Candystriper) at Lady Minto Hospital. She is also an active member of the Peer Counselling program at Gulf Islands Secondary. Sarah will be attending the University of Victoria this fall where she will study science. ✓

Bulletin Board

(PAID BY DEADLINE ONLY - VISA ACCEPTED)

Email: islandtides@gulfislands.com

BULLETIN BOARD BOXED ADS - 1', 2' & 3'- \$20 per inch+gst— multi-issue discounts

BULLETIN BOARD WORD ADS - \$17.12 for 25 words or less, 27¢ per additional word

Phone 250-629-3660, Fax 250-629-3838

Next DEADLINE: Noon, June 11, 2003

AUTOMOTIVE

SIDNEY TRANSMISSIONS

- AUTOMATICS & STANDARDS
- 4-WHEEL DRIVE SPECIALIST
- DIFFERENTIALS • CLUTCHES
- NAT'L WARRANTY • COURTESY CARS

CUSTOMER PICK-UP & DELIVERY TO FERRY TERMINAL

TRANSMISSION SPECIAL!

- ✓ Trans inspection
- ✓ Cleanpan ✓ adjust bands
- ✓ Replace pan gasket
- ✓ Check modulator
- ✓ Adjust throttle linkage
- ✓ Fill with new trans. fluid

only \$29.95
reg. \$49.95
Filter extra required

1-877-655-3707
Local: 655-3707
#3 - 2051 MALAVIEW
(ACROSS FROM SLEGG)

HOME, GARDEN & PROPERTY

IS YOUR DECK OR PATIO TOO HOT?



Turn a too-hot deck or patio into your most used 'room' with a beautiful, easy-to-use retractable patio awning (also great for bar-b-queing during a shower).

Call Today
1-800-563-5558
PACIFIC ROLLSHUTTERS & AWNINGS
Serving Victoria & Gulf Is. since 1991
www.pacificrollshutters.com

ARMOUR

ROOFING Contractors

- Torch-On
- Standing Seam & Low-slope Metal Roofing
- Custom Flashing
- Asphalt & Cedar Shingles
- 6" Water Collection Gutters

1-877-652-0599

Member: Better Business Bureau, Roofing Contractors Assoc of B.C.
www.armoursheetmetal.com

FOR WILD BIRDS & GARDENERS

Home & Garden Accessories

Wild Bird & Hummingbird Feeders

Quality Seed and Suet

George Lovick & Calvor Palmateer

1-250-881-7575

566 Johnson St, Victoria
Email: hummgarden@telus.net
Locally owned/operated since 1997

REAL ESTATE

Victoria now has the most expensive homes in Canada. If you are looking for an island home consider the up-island alternative.

Same great climate and lifestyle, easy access to big city amenities, & great small town prices!

For info on properties from Victoria to Nanaimo
www.fayandlen.com
1-888-291-LAND
Re/Max Ocean Pointe Realty

Home Business Websites to Explore.

www.AvenaOriginals.com/wellness
www.LeadingEdge3.com
Email: residual-income@leadingedge3.com

BUSINESS OPP

Hope Bay Store

North Pender Island
Cafe, retail, office and professional spaces to be available.
Peter Binner 629-9990

FOR RENT

ISLAND EXPLORER

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LTD.
250-654-0230

Southern Gulf House & Cottage Rentals
List your long term rental property or vacation home with us! Licensed Property Management on the Gulf Islands since 1994.

PROVEN SERVICE
COMMITMENT • RESULTS
1-800-774-1417
email: bgerry5@shaw.ca
www.island-explorer.com/pender

MEETINGS

School District #64 (Gulf Islands). A regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be held at School Board Offices, Rainbow Road, Ganges on June 11th commencing at 1 p.m. Public Welcome!

allwoodpatorooms.com

Complete patio enclosures
High quality wood doors, windows
604-590-2631

D.A. SMITHSON & SONS
WELL DRILLERS
539-5252 & 250-478-6937

MARINE

The Boat Yard
250-655-1511

2248 Harbour Road
Sidney, BC
Fax: 250-655-1688

Call Now For Your Haul Out

30 & 60 Ton TRAVEL LIFTS

ISLAND MARINE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
Ph: 250-537-9710
Email: imarinec@saltspring.com
www.islandmarine.ca

HELP WANTED

Housekeeper/ cook, Pender Island. Summer fulltime. Enquire 250-629-3861

HEALTH

www.physio2go.com
Pain Relief at Home
Extended Medical & Social Services Coverage
Toll Free:
1-877-738-4244

Water Cisterns



- Traditional cedar stave and hoop
- Corrosion proof hoops and hardware
- 30 mil flexible plastic liner
- Pre-shingled cedar roof panels
- Easy to transport and assemble
- 3000 and 9000 gal sizes.

Forest Lumber Company
Tel: 250-642-4899
Fax: 250-642-3466
6080 Sooke Road, Sooke BC V0S 1N0
www.forestlumber.com



FMR Falling Ltd.

• WANTED •
STANDING TIMBER
Alder - Maple - Cedar
all other species. Top prices guaranteed!

250-749-6815

Luttmer Woodworks
Galano Is.
Finely crafted:
Kitchen / Bathroom cabinets
"Gallano" closets
Tel. 250-539-2991
e-mail: rowboat@islandnet.com
www.luttmerworks.com

Sea to Sky Armor Deck

100% WATERPROOF • LOW MAINTENANCE • SLIP, FADE, ROT, MILDEW, ACID & FIRE RESISTANT
• CMHC APPROVED FOR ALL APPLICATIONS • 5 Yr. WARRANTY
• CANADIAN MADE

CALL MARK
604-921-3321
www.armordecking.com

Independent Certified Home Inspectors of BC

www.cityofads.com/hunter
www.independentinspectorsbc.org

"We inspect the inspectors"

604-725-7713
Toll Free
1-877-725-7712

SHOPPING

SALT SPRING ISLAND MERCHANT
www.ssimerchant.ca

Something is happening on the merchant site...
GO THERE NOW!
Phone 250-537-5931 if you're not "connected".

IS YOUR WELL WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

Contamination can occur without changes in colour or taste. Be safe, test annually.

MB LABORATORIES LTD
ANALYTICAL & TESTING SERVICES

250-656-1334
fax: 250-656-0443 Website: www.mblabs.com
Email: mblabs@pacificcoast.net
2062 Unit 4 Henry Ave. West, Sidney, B.C. V8L 5Y1

A BEST BUY!
High Visibility to Promote Your Business to 33 000 Readers from Tsawwassen to Victoria to Nanaimo
250-629-3660 (Fax: 250-629-3838)
islandtides@gulfislands.com

Say it isn't so! ~ Patrick Brown

A Corporate Identity Crisis

A copy of the following memo was not received in a plain brown envelope from an anonymous official, and is in fact entirely a product of an overactive imagination.

Memo to: Judith Reid, Minister of Transportation

Re: BC Ferries' revised corporate identity

A meeting was held in BC Ferries' boardroom in late February to discuss the need for revisions to BC Ferries' corporate identity program in view of the impending change in corporate structure. Present were a representative of the Ministry of Transportation (Wanda Backanforth), a representative of BC Ferries (Captain Crunch), a representative of the Ministry of Nights, Weekends, and Holidays (Bill Overtime), and a Consultant (The Consultant). The meeting was chaired by a representative of the Premier's office.

The Chair opened the meeting by explaining that the object of the meeting was to arrive at recommendations on decisions regarding a new slogan to replace 'The dogwood fleet' and a new logo. A focus group of current cabinet members had failed to correctly identify a dogwood tree from among a small number of miscellaneous objects. The Premier had apparently complained that ferries did not grow on trees, and he felt that new symbolism was required.

Ms. Backanforth suggested that a good starting point would be the statement made by her Minister at the announcement of the new organization of BC Ferries: 'You've all been to Vancouver's Airport with its bistros and boutiques, its crafts and cappuccinos. You need only look that far to imagine what our ferry terminals could look like in the future.'

The Consultant, breaking the silence that followed, indicated that this inspirational message clearly called for a fresh approach, one that broke with the past, set a new course for the future, clearly expressed the new corporation's promise of performance, was short, to the point, easy to remember, and would last through several refits.

Mr. Overtime noted that the Minister's remarks did not actually appear to mention either ferries or transportation. He was reminded that much had been said about reliability, service, and on-time performance in the past, and that these characteristics could be taken for granted. He went on to suggest that the two aspects of ferry operations, ferries and terminals, were neatly combined in a phrase which had previously been used: 'Your trip is your destination.' Or, alternatively, 'Your destination is a trip.'

Captain Crunch said that he found that confusing, and that he was not sure what kind of a trip was meant.

The Consultant suggested that the new slogan should be, first and foremost, a promise of performance to the customer. Warming to his task, he urged the group to go full speed

ahead and plunge headlong into dangerous currents of controversy. He went on at some length, 'There is a tide in the affairs of man, which, taken at the flood ... once more unto the bridge, dear friends...' and was eventually halted by the Chair pulling the plug on his PowerPoint presentation and reminding him that passengers were not allowed on the bridge.

Ms. Backanforth remarked that BC Ferries was embarked on a new and exciting voyage of discovery, and she felt that the new phrase should reflect that. She suggested 'BC Ferries—voyages of discovery' but Mr. Overtime felt that after a few voyages there wasn't all that much to discover any more. The Chair disagreed, asking whether he had tried the taco salad, leading to the discovery of new parts of the ship.

Captain Crunch mentioned a previously successful campaign, entitled 'Friends at sea' which emphasized that BC Ferries employees were actually quite nice people. This led to several suggestions, including 'Men who go down to the sea in ships', and 'Steel ships and iron men.' The Consultant said that not only was this getting off track, but it was sexist—no, genderist—and that we could try 'Steel ships and iron people.'

Mr. Overtime broached the subject of some of the features the ferries were famous for, like safety, on-time arrivals and departures, and good food. This suggestion was supported by the Consultant, who re-emphasized that the slogan should be a promise of performance. This resulted in a halt in the discussion.

'Voyage of a lifetime' was rejected because it might suggest that the ferry would not arrive on time. 'Buy the sea' was rejected because it might draw attention to perpetually rising fares. 'Take to the water' was rejected because it suggested that there might be a need to abandon ship. 'Always afloat' seemed somehow inadequate.

After much further discussion, the meeting agreed to recommend 'We'll get you there.' This was because it sounded friendly and was the very minimal promise of performance that BC Ferries could make. It was pointed out that this slogan did not make any promises about leaving or arriving on time, how long you might have to wait, what shape you might be in when you got there, or whether the ferry would, in fact, bring you back.

The Consultant was just about to leave to catch his helicopter back to Vancouver when he was reminded that the meeting was also supposed to recommend a new logo. He suggested a couple of waves 'like the Nike swoosh or Coca-Cola.' His suggestion was adopted unanimously as the BC Ferries 'swoosh-swish.' It's either meant to represent white ships on blue seas or blue ships on white seas—it depends how much paint was on hand. /

CUPE opposes Chapter 11 ~ Canada NewsWire

The fight against the NAFTA's Chapter 11 is going a step further this week: the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) and the Council of Canadians served the federal government with evidence to support their legal challenge to this controversial chapter of the trade agreement.

The groups have applied to the Superior Court of Ontario that NAFTA's rules allowing foreign corporations to sue governments over public policies, laws and programs are unconstitutional. These rules have already been invoked to challenge everything from environmental laws, land-use planning controls, the delivery of services by Canada Post to the decisions of domestic courts.

The groups will be relying upon evidence from three leading experts to support their case. Professor M. Sornarajah is an internationally renowned expert on the international arbitral processes and tribunals that preside over foreign investor claims. Ms. Andrée Lajoie is a Canadian constitutional law scholar. She is an expert on the authority of Canadian superior courts, which the groups argue has been improperly delegated under

NAFTA to international tribunals. Stephen Clarkson is a well-known Canadian political scientist. His evidence describes NAFTA as having effectively superceded Canada's own constitutional arrangements.

The Council and CUPW are also fighting for standing in a NAFTA based suit brought by US based United Parcel Services against Canada. UPS is seeking \$160 million (US) in damages because Canada's publicly funded post office competes with it in the package delivery and courier markets. 'The UPS case shows how foreign corporations are using NAFTA to attack public services,' says Deborah Bourque, CUPW President.

'It is imperative that we challenge the legitimacy of the provision that challenges the legitimacy of our courts,' said Maude Barlow, National Chairperson of the Council of Canadians. 'Empowering private international tribunals to decide which policies and laws Canada may maintain, represents the most profound attack on Canadian sovereignty yet,' concluded Barlow.

For further information visit the Council of Canadians website at www.canadians.org. /

New website for Trust

Both the Islands Trust and the Islands Trust Fund, its conservation land trust, have redesigned and updated their websites. New features on the websites that enhance access to information include a search function and a subscription service that interested people can use to sign up for e-mail updates and news releases.

'By providing easy access to a broad range of information through the new websites, the Islands Trust hopes to engage islanders and the general public in a search for creative ways to balance the needs of the natural and human environments., says trust Chair David Essig. /

Accommodation & Attractions Vancouver Island & The Gulf Islands

250-361-9365 www.canoekayakcentre.com
575 Pembroke
Victoria, B.C.
1-877-921-9365

TOURS
INSTRUCTION
RENTALS
SALES

VANCOUVER ISLAND
CANOE & KAYAK CENTRE

KAYAK PENDER ISLAND
TOURS LESSONS RENTALS
a 10 minute walk from the ferry
at Otter Bay Marina
Pender Island, BC
(250) 629 - 6939
email: kpi@gulfislands.com
www.kayakpenderisland.com

SEABREEZE
INNE
SALT SPRING ISLAND, B.C.
FROM \$89 Weekdays FROM \$129 Weekends
250 537 4145
Reservations
1 800 434 4112
Moped Packages and
hourly/daily rentals
The Island's premiere resort hotel.
www.seabreezeinns.com

At Home In Victoria
Comfortable lodging. Close
to downtown & hospitals.
\$25/sgle, \$35/dble,
queen
250-920-9953

BEACHCOMBER MOTEL
Sunny Vesuvius Bay. Ocean
views, patio, large kitchenettes,
orchard. Walk to restaurant, pub
and beach. Cable TV &
complimentary coffee.
770 Vesuvius Bay Rd, Salt Spring
250-537-5415

PAGE'S
RESORT & MARINA
Silva Bay, Gabriola Is.
www.pagesresort.com
250-247-8931

New Open in Crofton
The Wakeside
Next to the Wharf & Salt Spring
ferry dock. Enjoy great views
from the patio and great
food in the dining room.
7am to 9pm.
Live Jazz every
Sunday afternoon
in our pub!
1534 Joan Ave
250-246-2433

Brigantine
"The Brig"
Waterfront pub in Maple Bay
Live Music Wed., Sat., & Sun. Night
guest wharf • waterfront dining
beer, wine and liquor store
6777 Beaumont Ave. Duncan 746-5422

BUNGY ZONE
Adrenalin Centre
Experience the ultimate high - 140 feet that is !!
Over 120,000 accident free jumps
- fully trained staff - night jumping - camping - licensed dining -
- volleyball - shower/laundry - shuttle - natural setting -
To book the shuttle for pick up at the ferry terminal,
call our toll free number during business hours.
1-250-753-JUMP (5867) or 1-800-668-7771
On the highway just north of Nanaimo Airport www.bunqzone.com

Visiting Salt Spring Island?
Avoid the ferry line-ups and rent a car when you
get here! Call ahead to inquire about our pick-up
service for ferry passengers.
Marine Drive
Car Rentals
Phone us at 250-537-5464
or on our cell at 250-537-3122
122A Upper Ganges Road
www.saltspring.com/rentals

Canada's
Friendly
B&Bs
www.bbvacation.com
canadacyberhighway.com
'Unity Sea To Sea'

Getaway to
Salt Spring Island
Enjoy healing mineral spring
private bath
\$238
3 days
2 nights
2 people
Salt Springs
SPA RESORT
1-800-665-0039
www.saltspringspa.com

Dalhousie B&B
A quiet haven in Victoria.
Walk to beach, close to
hospital & university.
Organic breakfasts, ensembles.
250-598-7015

WATERFRONT
DINING &
ROOFTOP LOUNGE
IN BEAUTIFUL
COWICHAN BAY
Information &
reservations:
250-715-1720
at the
Oceanfront Grand
Resort & Marina
1681 Cowichan Bay Road
1-800-663-7898

FAIRFIELD, VICTORIA
Lovely large room, full
bath, separate entrance. 2
mins from beach. 5 mins
from Beacon Hill Park. \$45.
250-386-3346

VICTORIA
MOUNT DOUGLAS
GUEST HOUSE
Tranquil setting next to
Mount Douglas Park &
ocean. Lovely guestrooms,
European breakfast, private
sundeck & yard. Close to
downtown. N/S.
250-475-0337

Your
attraction
HERE!
36,000
Readers
Tsawwassen
Gulf Islands
Victoria
Nanaimo
250-629-3660
Fax: 250-629-3660
islandtides@gulfislands.com
www.islandtides.com