



HELMETS FOR LIFE

On April 26th, Island Pathways' chair, **Margaretha Nordine**, continued her Helmets for Life program with grades 1 - 5 at Fernwood Elementary School. She instructed the students about cycling laws and safety, then she, with **Wendy Webb** and **Heather Biver** of the Island Pathways' board, fitted 33 students with new helmets.

Margaretha started this program in 2000. **Denise and Douglas Grams** of Fort Street Cycle in Victoria have, since then, provided children's helmets at cost.

Students pay only \$10 for a new helmet of their choice, and Island Pathways pays the difference. This year, funding for the program came from the Country Grocer's Save-a-Tape donation.

The best feedback was from a Grade 1 student, who waved and yelled, "This helmet sure makes me bike real good!"

"Thank you," Margaretha wrote in a report to *The Driftwood*. "That made our effort feel very worthwhile."

Island Pathways has also supplied the non-for-profit Salt Spring Centre with helmets at cost, for the bicycles its staff use.

NEW BICYCLE RACKS



Mouat's has ample bike racks now, a joint project with Island Pathways, completed this spring.

ISLAND PATHWAYS' NEW BICYCLE WORKING GROUP

Kimi Hendess got the new Bicycle Working Group going, with the blessings of the SSI Transportation Commission. It quickly found a home with Island Pathways, which has been spearheading pedestrian and bicycle pathways since 1988. Since Kimi moved away, **Brenda Guiled** took over as chair, succeeding from being a PARC Commissioner.

The new PARC Strategic Plan calls for more and better trails for walking and cycling. Bike lanes are expensive, however. We can only raise the millions needed by tying into the regional trail network that the CRD proposed in 2005. We're working hard to revive and forward it!

Salt Spring is the gem in the rings of the proposed Salish Sea Regional Trail Network.

See www.ssi-bicycleworkinggroup.blogspot.com for more.



Salt Spring's first survey of cycling on island got underway in August, finishing at the end of September. The Transportation Commission. The results will help local, region-

al, and provincial interests increase cycling safety and participation on island, for residents and visitors alike.

The preliminary results will be presented at a public forum on the October 23-24 weekend, along with other cycling news, media, and more.

See the blog for survey & results.

