

Beyond Words
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Dawn Hage
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GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, May 3, 2017 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 57TH YEAR — ISSUE 18 \$125 (incl. GST)



BC ELECTION

Riding candidates square off at GLSS event

Education and campaign spending key issues

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An all-candidates debate hosted by the Salt Spring Forum in partnership with the Gulf Islands Secondary School leadership group attracted a wide audience Thursday afternoon, as students and members of the public filled the gym to hear what provincial candidates had to say.

Jordan Templeman, an independent candidate from Sidney, was not present at the meeting, but BC Liberals hopeful Stephen Roberts, the Greens' Adam Olsen and incumbent MLA Gary Holman of the NDP were all on hand for a lively debate.

"This is by far the largest turnout we've had for an all-candidates meeting during this campaign and our roadshow's been on the road for a few weeks now — this is our 11th or 12th meeting. So thank you all for being here; it's wonderful to be part of such an engaged community," said Roberts, who drew first speaking honours for the opening remarks.

Following their party leaders, Roberts argued for the continuance of a strong economy under the Liberals, while Holman said the best chance to change the program to focus on better democratic principles, the environment and education is under the NDP.



PHOTO BY GAIL SILBERG

Saanich North and the Islands candidates, from left, Stephen Roberts, Adam Olsen and Gary Holman get ready to answer the tough questions at a debate sponsored by the Salt Spring Forum and Gulf Islands Secondary School on Thursday.

ELECTION continued on 2

WATER DISTRICT

Steinbach and McAllister elected to NSSWD

Supply challenges laid out at AGM

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A packed Community Gospel Chapel Hall saw 165 people turn out for the North Salt Spring Waterworks District's annual general meeting on April 25, a marked change from the 11 people registered at the 2016 AGM.

Registration of the huge crowd pushed back the scheduled start time from 7 to 7:42 p.m., with 95 ratepayers and

eligible voters in attendance. A large contingent of Brinkworthy Estates residents helped swell the count of non-ratepayers to 70.

Marshall Heinekey, chair of the water district's board of trustees, outlined some of the salient points from the last year of service delivery, as well as the challenges ahead. Chief among these is being able to deliver water to all the people currently paying taxes to the district, including some 200 homes that have yet to be built, and the increasing demand from people who want to build within the

district but haven't been granted connections. The ongoing affordability of the system is also a top issue.

According to the audited financial statements, the district earned \$2.87 million in revenue and had expenses of nearly \$1.94 million, achieving a surplus of \$941,936 for 2016. The accumulated surplus of \$8.17 million will be needed for an upcoming water treatment plant replacement and other infrastructure projects.

NSSWD continued on 3

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Candidates outline credentials for local support

ELECTION

continued from 1

Olsen meanwhile stated the Greens should not only be seen as a serious alternative to that view, but as strong enough to form government in their own right.

Roberts, who grew up on Salt Spring and returned to the community six years ago, summed up his relevant experience chairing several community organizations, such as the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation, the Salt Spring Hospice Society and the Salt Spring Local Trust Commit-

tee's Advisory Planning Commission.

"In the course of my role as a health-care advocate for hospice and the hospital, I see some of the needs we have in the community and I'm looking forward to getting some of those needs met as your provincial representative," Roberts said. "We have an invaluable hospital, which is key to the economic future of this island. We need to make sure we protect it, expand it, renew it and perhaps rebuild it, and as your MLA that will be a key project for me."

Holman joked he was "re-applying for his job" as MLA, and said he was honoured to have served the past four years. He lived on Salt Spring for 25 years until recently moving to Brentwood Bay to be with his new wife.

Before being elected to the legislature, Holman was CRD director on Salt Spring for two terms and introduced the island's transportation commission and bus service. An economist by trade, he worked on the Nisga'a Treaty, and served on the boards of the Salt Spring Conservancy and The Land Conservancy. More recently he worked to stop building on Grace Islet (alongside Olsen) and to ensure

recycling depots across the Gulf Island stayed open after funding formulas changed.

Olsen is from the Tsartlip First Nation in WSA NEC Territory, where he still lives with his family. He is a former Central Saanich municipal councillor and served as interim and deputy leader of the Green party from 2013-15. He has been a lead opponent of the Malahat LNG project.

"We are offering an inspiring and exciting vision for British Columbia in the 21st century," Olsen said in his opening address. "The BC Greens are an important voice. We are good for democracy — in fact I would say we are great for democracy. We've seen the impact of just one MLA in the legislature, Andrew Weaver. We've also seen the impact of one single MP in the House of Commons. We've seen what one voice can do — imagine what many more could do in the Legislature."

Students asking questions on behalf of the GISS student body were understandably concerned with issues of education, such as parties' plans for helping access to post-secondary education. The question of how to help schools meet recruitment demands in light of the Supreme Court's order that the province restore class-size and compo-

sition funding was asked by a teacher.

Students also raised a question about meeting mental health needs and asked candidates their thoughts on whether services should be offered through public or private bodies.

Members of the general public who addressed the candidates raised topics of sustainable eco-housing, the repair and maintenance of local roadways and democratic ability in a two-party system. Murray Reiss asked Holman in particular what an NDP government would do to end corruption and build transparency and accountability, in light of the controversy around large political donations.

In answer, Holman outlined a platform that includes eliminating corporate and union donations, setting a limit on personal donations, stopping political leaders from receiving stipends from their parties and banning government advertising four weeks before an election.

Holman said the NDP had introduced related bills six times since 2008, that were all killed by the Liberals.

Responding to a further question on the two-party system, he added, "We believe, actually, that we need to change the channel on politics in British Columbia, but

we are not going to tie both hands behind our backs on the eve of an election fighting the most monied political party in Canada."

"I think it's important to point out here that 'going to' and doing it are two different things," Olsen responded. He noted the Green party had already banned corporate and union donations last September.

"We've seen considerable growth since then because we took the principled position," Olsen said.

Roberts said the BC Liberals have implemented a transparency policy, so citizens can see donations posted to the Liberals' website 10 days after they have been made and decide for themselves whether the party has been unduly influenced.

"Also, the premier has said that we will appoint an independent committee to look at financing reform. I will hold her to that," Roberts said, adding he did not think it was up to any single party to make rules around election spending.

The full debate can be viewed at saltspringforum.ca under its Media tab. A video clip of the three candidates' closing comments can be found on the Driftwood's Facebook page and website at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com under the News section.



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PROVINCIAL ELECTION

Independent candidate explains position

Representation of constituents top concern

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A provincial election candidate who may not be familiar to voters but has a lot to say about BC politics has entered the Saanich North and the Islands race.

People who attended the all candidates' meeting at Gulf Islands Secondary on Thursday did not get the opportunity to see, hear or meet Templeman due to the 21-year-old student's work schedule, although he has attended a meeting of the Salt Spring Eggheads club and a meeting on Galiano Island, as well as a number of pre-election events on the Saanich Peninsula.

Templeman has completed a two-year university transfer program at Camosun College and expects to be attending class at University of Victoria this September. The Sidney resident is currently working part-time in construction to fund his next



JORDAN TEMPLEMAN

phase of school and attends part-time military training at HMCS Malahat in James Bay Victoria.

Templeman said there are three reasons why he decided to enter provincial politics.

"First is politics is a passion of mine. It's an absolutely huge interest for me," Templeman said.

He decided to enter the provincial arena as an independent to help shed light on a matter he says has not received enough attention: namely, that elected officials often get caught up in their party's agenda and therefore don't serve their constituents' real needs to the best of their ability.

"As an independent that's something I've made a huge priority in my campaign," Templeman said.

One of Templeman's major interests is lowering the voting age to 16. He observed that is the age at which Canadians can

start serving in the military, but unless they are serving full-time, they aren't given any electoral responsibility. But conversely, that is also the age at which many young people are most actively engaged in the issues.

"Something that's always been encouraging to me is when I see other young people getting involved in the community or getting involved in politics, and I want to encourage others to do that as well," Templeman said about his third reason for running.

He added the 18-25 age bracket has the lowest voter turn-out, and increasing it is one of his goals.

"I think if we can get 16-year-olds interested by getting involved, they can ask more questions about what our province is doing, and they're in a position to get answers on that."

Editor's note: Jordan Templeman was not included in our Candidate Q&A on Page 4 as the questions were focused on party policies.



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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee:

Thursday, MAY 4 at Lions Hall

Public hearing, 9:40 a.m.; town hall at noon

BC ELECTION

Varying advance poll dates cause voter frustration

Officials stress voting can be done at any polling station

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring voters were among those confused by Elections BC wording regarding advance polls over the weekend.

While advance poll dates in B.C. elections are usually the same across the province, that's not the case this time.

Voting cards mailed to registered

voters and advertisements in the Saanich North and the Islands riding indicated six days of advance polling were available: April 29-30, and May 3-6. In fact, as the fine print indicates, the April 29-30 dates were in effect only at Pender Island School and the SHOAL Centre and Saanich Fairgrounds Poplar Room on the Saanich Peninsula. The advance poll for Salt Spring residents is Wednesday through Saturday, May 3 to 6, at Salt Spring Elementary School from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Salt Spring resident Evelyn Smith, who had intended to vote at

Salt Spring Elementary on Saturday, posted on the Driftwood's Facebook page: "Their notice is very misleading! Why would they highlight it in pink so that it stands out? What they should have highlighted is a note that says, 'Dates vary, please check your location below!'"

Lucina Baryluk, the deputy district electoral officer for the Saanich North and the Islands riding, agreed that the wording in the ads and on the cards was unfortunately misleading.

"We're all acknowledging that," she said Monday.

Another local issue that's been

noted is that Fulford Elementary School is the polling station designated for residents living just south of Ganges in the Cranberry, Salt Spring Way and Isle View Drive area of the island. Three other Salt Spring polling stations are at ArtSpring, Community Gospel Chapel and Fernwood Elementary School.

In the 2013 B.C. election, Salt Spring polls encompassing residents on Cranberry Road and the southern half of the island contained 2,558 registered voters. Polls from Ganges north had 5,133 registered voters for three polling

stations in 2013, or an average of 1,711 each.

No explanation was given for the shift to Fulford for some Ganges-area voters, but Baryluk stressed that people can vote at any polling station, regardless of the location printed on their voting card.

"They can just go to the polling station closest to them."

Regular voting day is Tuesday, May 9 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters must prove their identity and home address with formal identification before voting. See www.elections.bc.ca for a complete list of acceptable ID documents.

Remuneration approved following ratepayer challenge

NSSWD continued from 1

Heinekey said several years of drought have added stress to the system, which is restricted to drawing water from St. Mary and Maxwell lakes. A project to raise the weir at St. Mary Lake may be postponed due to higher than anticipated costs, now thought to be around \$5 million.

"There's several options we can look at but unfortunately this is way beyond our means," Heinekey reported.

Capital costs of at least \$28 million are expected in the next 10 years, although Heinekey said there are a couple of unknowns that could increase that figure, including lawsuits related to Channel Ridge and Brinkworthy developments.

Though the improvement district has been incorporated for 69 years and has been around as an organization since 1913, Heinekey noted the board has proposed the incorporation of an island municipality might be the best way to continue. As an improvement district, NSSWD cannot receive the infrastructure grants available to municipalities and regional districts.

Several speakers urged the district to not pursue its proposed Plan B, which would be to hand over responsibility to the Capital Regional District if incorporation fails to win voter approval.

"It would be the worst thing you could possibly do," said Chris Dixon, who oversaw the same process as chair of the Cedar Lane Water Commission. "It would be the biggest mistake — there has to be something else you can do."

New trustees elected

Two new trustees were elected Tuesday evening to fill seats on the board. Robert Steinbach, who received 76 votes, will serve a three-year term, and Michael McAllister, with 52 votes, will have a two-year term. A third candidate, Bryce Chapman, failed to be elected with 40 votes.

Brinkworthy spokesperson Samantha Sanderson questioned the legality of the vote, and by extension the AGM, since residents of the seniors complex were denied participation.

NSSWD bylaws that were passed in 2016 created a new parcel tax classification for the mobile home park that allows

the district to charge the park's owner a much higher parcel tax according to the number of units. Homeowners who lease land in the park will absorb the extra cost but are not eligible to vote as ratepayers because they do not own the parcel of land being taxed.

"You're required to make rates equitable and understandable, which is what we want."

SAMANTHA SANDERSON

Brinkworthy homeowners' spokesperson

Sanderson said the Brinkworthy homeowners' group had received a legal opinion suggesting they do have the criteria making them eligible voters as having substantial interest in the property. Residents came prepared to vote with their leases and identification.

NSSWD had arranged a town hall to discuss the matter with the Brinkworthy homeowners in December but that was

cancelled. The improvement district did not attempt to reschedule after Brinkworthy Estates owner Raymond Heung filed a lawsuit against the organization.

"We're here today because we haven't been able to see you any other way," Sanderson said, adding later on, "Our whole aim is to talk to you — and you're required to make rates equitable and understandable, which is what we want."

Heinekey agreed to meet with group after the new board's first meeting, but refused to consider a change to the AGM meeting structure.

"You have to be on our rolls to vote. The meeting we're going to have will work toward that, I imagine. But it's not a simple matter of bringing your driver's licence," he said.

Trustee stipends renewed

Ratepayers approved a motion to continue trustee remuneration amounts of \$150 per month for the chairperson and \$100 per month per trustee. A proposed amendment to the motion raised by Michael Craig to change the remuneration amount to zero was defeated.

From The Island, For The Island On May 9th, vote Stephen Roberts

Stephen is the only candidate from Salt Spring Island in the upcoming provincial election. We need a strong voice in government to deliver for our hospital, housing and roads on our island.

STEPHEN P
ROBERTS

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BC Election 2017

On Salt Spring Island, advance voting is available from Wednesday, May 3 through Saturday, May 6 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. at SS Elementary School. General voting day is on Tuesday, May 9. Polls are open between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

? Saanich North and the Islands CANDIDATE Q & A



ADAM OLSEN

LIVES IN: Brentwood Bay
YEARS IN POLITICS: 10

BACKGROUND: Small business owner, municipal councillor (6 years), interim leader of the BC Greens, founder of Saanich Inlet Network

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: Playing with my kids, gardening, hockey



Q. Describe two positions taken by your party in this election campaign that are particularly important to you and tell us why are they important to you.

A. First — Leaders lead. The BC Greens have shown leadership by removing corporate and union donations from our party. Rather than just promising to do it, or saying that it ties our hands, the BC Green Party has acted on principle. Since we took this bold action last September, I have never felt more free.

Second — I am particularly proud of our unprecedented investment in education. To lead the world in the 21st-century low-carbon economy we must invest in British Columbians. The BC Greens' bold and courageous lifelong learning strategy invests in public education starting with our children right through to retirement.

Q. How would you differentiate your party from the other parties with candidates in this riding?

A. The BC Greens believe that

local representation comes before party allegiance, which means that I won't be forced to vote on party lines. The other parties require their representatives to vote as a block — as one — even if that is not in the interests of their riding. For example, the NDP all voted for the Liquefied Natural Gas Income Tax Act even though they argued against it, calling it a "generational sellout."

There has been a political "cold war" in our province for decades, resulting in bitter polarization. This has left us in a situation where elections are less about sound public policy than they are about fear and voting strategically. As a leader in the BC Green Party I have made sure that we have focused on offering principled and consistent positions that benefit British Columbians today and leave our province a better place for future generations. We are the only party that has offered principled and consistent positions on removing the influence of "big money" from our democracy, on LNG and fracking, on Kinder Morgan and on climate change.

Q. Describe one area of life specifically affecting Gulf Islands residents where you feel provincial government policy could be changed or improved.

A. We know that the CRD directors and Islands Trust trustees have focused on creating a year-round economy for Gulf Islanders. The BC Liberals, however, have failed to make investments in digital infrastructure that could make this a reality. We have an incredible opportunity to embrace the emerging low-carbon economy and attract high-level talent to work in the digital, creative and innovative industries of the 21st century.

This is particularly true for the Southern Gulf Islands, as the intellectual capacity and creative energy here is incredibly powerful. We often think of transportation networks as roads, bridges and ferries, but the BC Greens also include digital infrastructure in this mix. Through investments in connectivity, the quality of life and beautiful, unique, communities of the Southern Gulf Islands, we will attract the best and the brightest — ensuring that our communities remain vibrant, schools remain full and our communities continue to flourish.



GARY HOLMAN

LIVES ON: Brentwood Bay after 25 years on SSI
YEARS IN POLITICS: 15

BACKGROUND: Resource economist, SSI CRD director, community activist, conservationist

INTERESTS/HOBBIES: Guitar, blues harp, hiking, reading



Q. Describe two positions taken by your party in this election campaign that are particularly important to you and tell us why are they important to you.

A. As NDP spokesperson for democratic reform, I'm proud of John Horgan's commitment to put electoral reform back to voters with a 50%+1 approval threshold. This will give B.C. the best chance in its modern history to bring in a proportional representation voting system to ensure fair representation of smaller parties and force collaboration in the legislature. We'll also ban political donations from corporations and unions, salary top-ups for elected officials from their parties, political donations from non-B.C. residents and government advertising four months prior to elections.

As an economist, former CRD director for Salt Spring and the NDP's deputy spokesperson for the environment, I'm excited about our plans to fight climate change. Our climate action plan, commended by organizations such as the Pem-

bina Institute, will increase the carbon tax with a rebate program for 80 per cent of families to ensure fairness. The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives estimates our plan will generate \$240 million per year that a B.C. NDP government will invest in public transit, energy conservation and renewable energy alternatives. We oppose the risky Kinder Morgan project, and as an alternative to the destructive and unnecessary Site C dam, we propose a plan focused on conservation retrofits and distributed power sources, generating many more jobs throughout B.C., and freeing up generating capacity at much lower cost.

Q. How would you differentiate your party from the other parties with candidates in this riding?

A. The principles of sustainability and fairness are part of the DNA of the NDP, which invented public health care, established the Agricultural Land Reserve, created most of the parks in B.C. (including Ruckle and Burgoyne Bay on Salt Spring) and signed the Nisga'a Treaty, Canada's first modern-day treaty. Our platform reflects these principles. We are the only party with a comprehensive plan to address the affordability crisis and service cuts

imposed by the Christy Clark government. We'll reduce ferry fares, phase in \$10/day childcare, roll MSP premiums into the tax system, build 44,000 units of affordable housing and invest in urgent-care clinics, home care and residential care. We're the only party that will implement an aggressive climate action plan with rebates to ensure low to middle-income families actually pay lower taxes.

Q. Describe one area of life specifically affecting Gulf Islands residents where you feel provincial government policy could be changed or improved.

A. The Christy Clark government boasts about an economy driven by real estate speculation, but has sucked hundreds of millions of dollars out of island communities by more than doubling fares. As the NDP deputy spokesperson for ferries, I'm pleased about our commitment to reduce fares by 15 per cent on minor routes for visitors, residents (in addition to convenience card discounts) and commercial traffic, restore the Monday to Thursday 100 per cent seniors discount, and increase funding for off-island medical travel. We'll also review BC Ferries to identify other cost savings to further drive down fares.



STEPHEN P. ROBERTS

LIVES ON: Salt Spring Island
YEARS IN POLITICS: 4

BACKGROUND: BA Honours Economics, COO investment banking research

INTERESTS/HOBBIES: Kayaking, local art, local food



Q. Describe two positions taken by your party in this election campaign that are particularly important to you and tell us why are they important to you.

A. Firstly, we have a BC Liberal Vancouver Island platform — the first of its kind for any political party in B.C. One area I'm particularly passionate about is health care and continuing to improve services locally. The BC Liberal platform builds on our excellent health-care outcomes with increased funding of \$4.2 billion over three years for operations. This will mean more operating room hours, faster access to non-emergency surgery and an increased number of medical professionals,

including doctors, nurse practitioners, midwives and physiotherapists. There's also \$2.7 billion for health-care capital projects over three years. Let's make sure some of that is directed here. We're committed to ensuring accessible, affordable housing for British Columbians. Our government has spent nearly \$1 billion on affordable housing in the past year, and some of that

money is coming to Salt Spring. The BC HOME Partnership down-payment assistance program will help get 42,000 British Columbians into their first homes, and the First Time Home Buyers' Program reduces or eliminates property transfer tax for first-time homebuyers. We'll continue to support renters through assistance programs like RAP and SAFER.

Q. How would you differentiate your party from the other parties with candidates in this riding?

A. Coming from a global financial background, I understand the importance of fiscal responsibility and living within our means. The BC Liberals have delivered five consecutive balanced budgets to date and are committed to delivering another four. We're focused on keeping taxes low for the middle class, freezing personal income taxes for the next four years and cutting MSP premiums in half — the first step to eliminating them altogether. Conversely, the other parties offer platforms that rely on tax hikes to pay for campaign promises. Both the Green party and our local NDP candidate have promised to roll MSP into the income tax system. The Greens would also increase Property Transfer Tax by up to

three times, and introduce capital gains tax on your primary residence for amounts over \$750,000. The BC Liberals are the only party committed to keeping taxes low and balancing our books — ensuring future generations aren't stuck with the bill for our spending.

Q. Describe one area of life specifically affecting Gulf Islands residents where you feel provincial government policy could be changed or improved.

A. The Gulf Islands are unique in that our communities are heavily reliant on BC Ferries — something I understand as a Salt Spring resident myself. Ferries are essential to our way of life, both economically and socially. The BC Liberal Vancouver Island platform recognizes this and takes significant steps to improve these services. We're committed to working with BC Ferries to develop a frequent-use program and, in the meantime, we'll introduce a tax deduction worth up to \$250 for ferry-dependent communities. And let's not forget the investment in three new ferries this year, two of which are coming to the Gulf Islands. We'll soon have two ferries operating between Salt Spring and the Lower Mainland for five months of the year instead of two!

MEDIA

Driftwood newspaper picked best all-round in country

Several other awards also announced

The Gulf Islands Driftwood has again earned a plethora of national newspaper awards, including winning first place in the most coveted category, best all-round in its circulation class.

Other Canadian Community Newspaper Association awards won to date for contest entries from 2016 were best editorial page, second-best front page, and second-best coverage of the arts.

Papers are judged on writing, photography, advertising, breadth of content and editorial pages contained in two papers from two months designated by the competition.

In the separate but related nationwide Great Ideas Awards program, the Driftwood earned three awards:

- Second-best print ad for community papers under 4,000 circulation for a Mouat's Home Hardware advertisement;
- Second-best community newspaper magazine for the summer 2016 issue of Aqua-Gulf Islands Living;

• Second-best print innovation product for the 2017 Driftwood wall calendar.

"I am ecstatic, but not surprised," said Driftwood publisher Amber Ogilvie. "We have the best newspaper team in Canada. Salt Spring Island is laden with talent and I love the fact that it shines through our pages."

The Driftwood was also named best in its class in Canada in 2015, 2013, 2010, 2009 and 2008.

In this year's B.C. and Yukon Community Newspapers Association com-

petition, Dennis Parker took home the first-place cartoonist award

for an entry about a chicken coop Airbnb unit.

TRANSPORTATION

Minister bus ride spurs commission divide

Request to classify Fulford-Ganges an 'arterial road' rejected

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Transportation Minister Todd Stone enjoyed his first official BC Transit bus ride while visiting Salt Spring on March 28, but community members weighing approval after the fact were divided on the desirability of taxpayers providing that experience.

The bus ride was not part of the regular public schedule but a special event for Stone, his assistant and local officials from the Capital Regional District. The Salt Spring Transportation Commission narrowly passed a resolution approving the special transit request at their April 24 meeting, with three members voting for and three against the motion. Commissioner Bill Côté abstained so his vote was counted as a "yes," breaking the tie.

Commissioner Seth Wright led a passionate opposition against approving the trip, calling Stone's funding announcement-filled visit "redolent of communist China" for its pagantry.

"Our current government has lacked the ability and sensibility to govern during its four years of government and has decided to govern in the last year before the election and I find that appalling," Wright said, adding, "I find it disappointing that a decision was made absent of the commission here making the decision."

He added further, "I think it's inappropriate to invite the minister so close to election day, on a day when he hands out \$5 million."

Transportation commission chair Robin Williams noted he had been trying to get Stone to come to the island for some time. When the visit was announced, it was on short notice and ended up being hosted by the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce.

Williams had discussed the bus ride with CRD director

Wayne McIntyre before arranging it.

The estimated cost was \$200, said Williams, although that amount could not be confirmed by press time.

Incorporation offer to stand without reclassification

Commissioner Ross Simpson said he felt Stone's visit was useful because it gave NDP MLA Gary Holman the opportunity to ask about the province's incorporation offer related to roads — specifically, if Fulford-Ganges Road could be declared a provincial responsibility, similar to how other roads that connect to ferry terminals are classified in the Saanich Peninsula.

McIntyre reported that the island's three elected officials had followed up on Holman's question with a written request, but had just recently received a disappointing response from Peter Fassbender, the minister of community, sport and cultural development.

Fassbender stated in the letter dated April 10 and received by the Islands Trust on April 18 that Salt Spring's transition offer is already the most generous to have been issued to a community to date. He noted it includes repaving 13 kilometres of Fulford-Ganges Road and widened shoulders on 1.2 kilometres.

The minister also pointed out a similar request had been made and rejected during the incorporation study process of 1999 to 2002.

"Various Ministers of Transportation of that era reached the same conclusion as today, that this road does not provide an interconnection between other regions for trips that traverse the community. With most trips originating and terminating on Salt Spring Island, this road is ineligible for ongoing provincial funding beyond the five years of restructure assistance," Fassbender wrote.

The full letter can be viewed at www.latest.ssiincorporationstudy.com.

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OPINION



2016 CCNA Awards
Gold - Feature Series (Elizabeth Nolan) | Gold - Environmental Writing (Elizabeth Nolan)
Gold - Special Section (Best of Salt Spring Island) | Silver - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)
Bronze - Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)

2016 BCYNA Awards
Silver - Environmental Initiative (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - General Excellence



EDITORIAL

Keep it simple

When it comes to voting, a change in the tried-and-true is not welcomed.

Last weekend some Salt Spring residents intending to vote in the advanced poll were left confused. They headed to Salt Spring Elementary School but found no ballot box or election officials waiting to greet them.

Voting cards mailed to voters, as well as full-page newspaper advertisements, touted six days of advance voting opportunities, with the dates April 29, 30, May 3, 4, 5 and 6 clearly listed. However, specific dates for each voting location were written underneath in a much smaller font. Salt Spring's advance poll dates are only May 3-6. It's easy to say that people should "read the fine print," but uniformity in advance polling dates is something most B.C. voters are used to. There's the main election day and advance polling days. It's simple.

THE ISSUE:

B.C. election

WE SAY:

Make it easier, not harder to vote

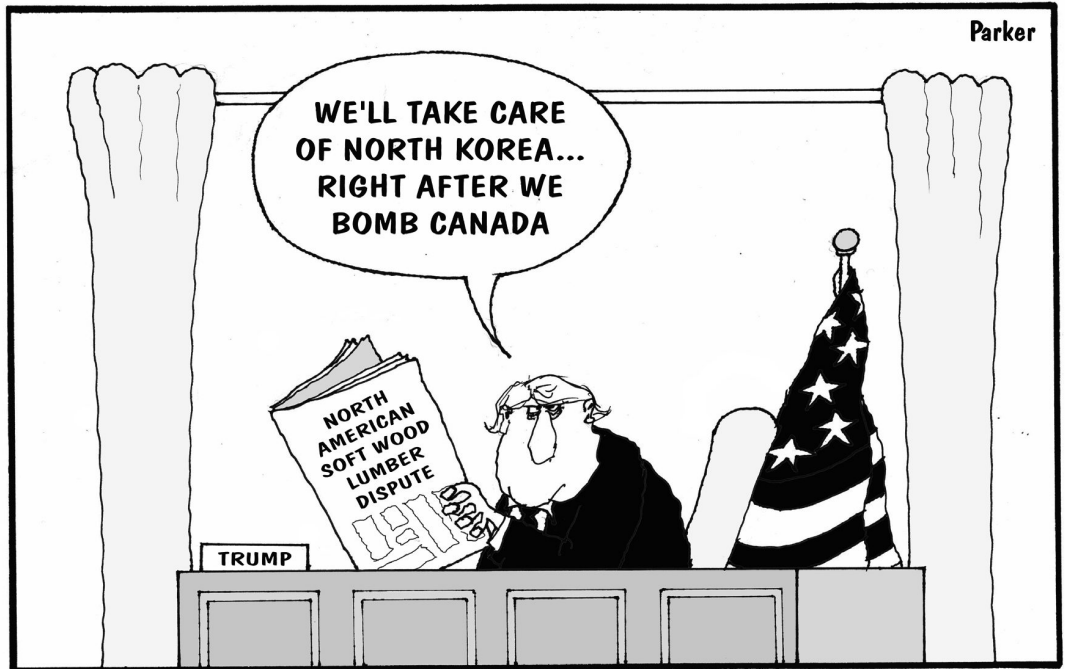
Another change has caused confusion. On Salt Spring for the first time in this election, people who live only two kilometres south of Ganges have Fulford Elementary School designated as their polling station. It's between 10.8 and 12.5 kilometres to Fulford school from the bottom of Cranberry Road, depending on which route is taken. Meanwhile, three polling stations are set up to process voters from Ganges north. In the 2013 election, polls from Ganges north had 5,133 registered voters for three polling stations, while those south of Ganges beginning at Cranberry Road had 2,558. Those numbers don't justify a change in voting venue.

Salt Springers may be silly to complain about spending 10 more minutes to drive to a destination, but for a senior or a disabled person, or a busy working individual, that extra 20-minute round-trip could be enough to dissuade them from voting.

Elections BC officials stress that voting can be done at any polling station with the proper ID, so there's no need to worry about which location one attends. But not everyone knows that, with past practice being adherence to stated voting card locations.

Straightforward access to voting opportunities is so sacrosanct in our form of government that any wrinkles in the process can be alarming. We hope Elections BC will evaluate changes made this time around and make things more clear or get back to keeping it simple.

In the meantime, it's time to vote: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on May 3 to 6 in advance polls and May 9 for regular election day.



VIEWPOINT by TOM MITCHELL

Climate change fight needs Greens

In ordinary times, which candidate and party we choose may not make that much of a difference, but in this election the stakes are exponentially huge.

Gary Holman is a good and decent man, albeit with a strange sense of humour, whom I have known and liked for close to 30 years, but his party just doesn't get it, thinking we can have our cake and eat it too, similar to Justin Trudeau, with just a little fracked LNG here and there. The destination for all that fracked gas happens to be here in our nearby Saanich Inlet, literally across the water from the ancestral home of Adam Olsen, close to ferries, shipping lanes and population centres. That proximity would not be allowed in other jurisdictions in case of disastrous explosions.

Expansion of BC LNG (AKA fracked methane gas wells), like other fossil fuels infrastructure, just doesn't make any sense in the long term, economically, environmentally, and for human and other species survivability.

The carbon count, measured on Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii, just passed 410 parts per million a few weeks ago and all graphs show it to be at present going straight up.

Respected scientists like Andrew Weaver and David Suzuki are desperately trying to wake us up and bring about a change of course, away from a hell on earth for our kids and grandkids. I wish that was an exaggeration but I don't believe it to be.

The present BC Liberal Party under Christy Clark has

shown its interest lies with the fossil-fuel companies and multinationals who make huge donations to their party. See the New York Times story about the BC Liberals and their "Wild West" funding.

From Site C to Kinder Morgan, Mount Polley, LNG at any cost, diseased fish farms on wild salmon spawning routes, the list of sellouts to big business goes on and on.

Stephen Roberts I don't know, but I assume he too is a decent man like the vast majority of people who put their names forward for public service. Unfortunately the party he wants to represent has been captured by corporate interests, in my opinion.

The BC Green Party for me represents a sane voice, calling for a moratorium on any expansion of fossil-fuel infrastructure leading to more greenhouse gases and a stop to the \$3 billion per year subsidy to the same industry.

To be clear, until the oil sands can be phased out, the refining and jobs should be close to the source, using natural gas to produce crude and other refined products and thus abolishing the shipping of

dilbit by any means.

The future is in renewables for long-term sustainable jobs and a livable planet and I believe the voice of Adam Olsen and the BC Greens is needed to get us there.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident and Green party member.

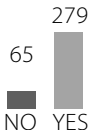
THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you support the same B.C. party you did in 2013? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday at midnight or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Is road closure the best way to expand the Saturday market?



Driftwood

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Editorial:
Sean McIntyre,
Elizabeth Nolan

Front office:
James Burton,
Johanna Walkner

Advertising:
Fiona Foster,
Jennifer Lannan



Amber Ogilvie
PUBLISHER
aogilvie@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Gail Sjuberg
MANAGING EDITOR
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Lorraine Sullivan
PRODUCTION MANAGER
production@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Their notice is very misleading! Why would they highlight it in pink so that it stands out?"

EVELYN SMITH, REGARDING ADVANCE POLLS INFO ON VOTING CARDS

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What piece of Fulford (or Salt Spring) heritage would you be sad to see go?



AAARON GREEN
The older village character in general is something I really appreciate.



SIMON FOGARTY & LYNDSEY HICKING
The old Monk farmhouse. It was a shame it was torn down.



BRENNAN CHAMBERLAIN
The Pattersons' old house. My opinion is it should be sold to someone who wants to move it to their property.



CRAIG MCCALLUM
There hasn't been a big infrastructure change in the Fulford area for 100 years. We'll have to see what BC Ferries does.



WALTRAUD NIKKEL
The little churches are beautiful. I just love them.

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name. Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication. Send your letters to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Change agent

If you want to change the direction this provincial government is heading in—huge increases in tankers despoiling your coast and destroying ocean life, including our diminishing orca pod, the Site C project eating up the money available for alternative energy programs, LNG facilities in Saanich, etc.—you cannot hope to do it by voting Green. It may feel good, but it will accomplish nothing.

The only way you can hope to accomplish a change of direction in this province is by voting out the Liberals and replacing them with some other party. At this time, the Green party has no hope of forming a government in B.C. Only the NDP do. And if they do, you certainly want someone with a remarkable record

of accomplishment to represent us in that government. That's Gary Holman.

Sadly, voting Green will only guarantee another Liberal majority. I don't like it either, but that's the current reality in this province.

SAM LIGHTMAN,
FULFORD

Clear choice

For the upcoming May 9 election we are fortunate to have a clear choice.

For Salt Spring Island I believe there is one unique issue that stands above all other issues affecting Saanich North and the Islands. That issue is the future of the Lady Minto Hospital. The outer islands do not have such a facility and we need to ensure no further hospital services are transferred off island.

If you believe we need to

preserve, protect and enhance Lady Minto, then there is one clear choice to vote for, Stephen Roberts. He is not only the chair of the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation, Roberts is the only candidate who actually lives here on Salt Spring. He is committed to continuing the pressure on Island Health for much-needed upgrades to Lady Minto.

The B.C. Liberals have committed \$2.7 billion for hospital construction and expansion for the coming term. We need to elect an MLA who will ensure we receive a portion of this funding.

As the \$4.5-million regional housing grant for Croftonbrook demonstrates, Stephen can deliver for this island. He is also committed to an on-island constituency office, the only candidate to do so.

I know all three of the party

candidates and am impressed to see a younger independent join the race, but Salt Spring's interest will be best served by a local resident. On May 9, please mark your ballot for Stephen Roberts.

ROBIN WILLIAMS,
SALT SPRING

Vote reform needed

Here we are again at another election and the thought of another Liberal government terrifies me.

What will be left to fight for after another four years of Christy Clark's leadership? There will just be more of the same: shutting public schools, raising fees, reducing health-care services, ignoring environmental concerns and so much more.

Strategic voting can get rid

of this government that only serves the wealthy and well-connected, yet this time there is a big effort by our MP Elizabeth May to ask voters to vote with their heart and not strategically. This is surely putting partisan politics over the public interest as the result of this effort might elect a couple of more Green seats but at the expense of electing another Liberal government.

Whatever happened to my MP's commitment to voter reform? Is it less important to strive for a fair voting system provincially versus federally? No it is not. Yet we are being asked to blow a chance at achieving voting reform in this province so that Andrew Weaver can gain more power, and I'm not OK with that. I'm really angry that Ms. May has abandoned this principle and is using her considerable

influence in pursuit of power at all costs. Voting reform will change our voting experience for the better. Let's not give up so easily.

We will not have voting reform with a BC Liberal government and I urge everyone to fight for John Horgan's NDP. The NDP went into this campaign with 35 seats and needs to keep all of them and gain nine more, so every seat counts. Moreover, our own experienced MLA, Gary Holman, has worked hard on voter reform and knows the importance. Gary has my vote as I want voting reform as much today as I did yesterday.

Are you ready for another Liberal government? I'm not.
CLAUDIA HOLDING,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Lack of shower facilities puts island to shame

BY PETER VINCENT

It has been 14 months now since the only laundromat shut down in Ganges, and with it, the only coin-operated showers in town. The closure left backpackers and the folks living rough with nowhere to launder their clothes, and scant few places to clean themselves up.

They could walk up to the public pool and pay about \$6 for a "swim." Community Services has a single shower stall available on Tuesdays. That's about it. Store and restaurant washrooms discourage street people and the like from using the sink to facilitate a full body once-over. Users partaking often leave the room a watery mess, which is understandably off-putting to the paying customers. Similarly, the marinas have locked out any would-be shower people, designating their facility "for paying boaters only."

Everyone expected a new laundromat with showers to emerge. Rumours and a Driftwood article pointed to long-time entrepreneur Eric Booth poised to seize the opportunity. Months passed. Nothing. Tellingly, Eric and his son have just opened up the "BD" (Bean Drinkin') coffee shop in the same strip of stores that housed the now defunct laundromat/shower place.

As a temporary measure, I opened up our change rooms at North End Fitness for trans-

sients and people living on the streets to have a place to shower. That was over a year ago. We are forced to discontinue that as of May 1. It has come to the point where our members are crowded out of the change rooms.

There have been incidents. Some members have felt threatened and intimidated. There have been shouting matches. There have been people insisting on making our change rooms co-ed so they could share the water with their significant other. The tipping point came a while ago when our staff found excrement smeared on the shower walls. We are done with public showers.

Is it not Salt Spring Island's responsibility to provide something? After all, tourism is the #1 economic driver, and not only do we have embarrassing washroom facilities at the major island cash cow—the Saturday market—but everyone with any authority has their hands in their pockets, whistling. Not that surprising, is it? The same thing happened a few years ago with something as basic as garbage cans downtown. Everyone was pointing their finger at the other guy to provide a simple garbage can where tourists could drop their dirty napkins.

With Centennial Park poised for a major redo, focusing on the deplorable public wash-

GUEST COLUMN

rooms, would it not be smart to provide public showers for those not fortunate enough to have a roof over their heads?

Wouldn't it be great for young backpackers to be able to finish their island visit not smelling like an old goat?

Apparently, new Centennial Park facilities are subject to a site coverage limit. But surely some creative architect can design something that could include public shower facilities?

Or are the potential obstacles more insidious than that? Is the North Salt Spring Waterworks District board slamming the door on this, reasoning public showers will drain St. Mary Lake? They have famously put a halt to any and all new housing in their "territory."

Whatever the reason, it has made life even more uncomfortable for those living rough and for backpackers that have bought into that whole Chamber of Commerce's seductive "Discover Yourself Here" tag line, only to find there is nowhere to shower and nowhere to wash clothes. Even tiny Bamfield (population 179) has coin-operated showers in its park.

In my opinion, this is a community problem and we as a community should make it right. It needs to be a collaborative effort involving the CRD, the Islands Trust, the Chamber of Commerce, the NSSWD, the

Lions, the Masons . . . anyone and everyone that has an island stake and thus a social responsibility to lend a hand to the down and out. And therein lies the sad punch line. "Collaborate" is not a term found in the Salt Spring lexicon, is it?

In a perfect world, either the derelict Shell station or the crumbling fire hall downtown would house a tourist centre with shower facilities. But as newcomers, old timers, visitors and vagabonds soon "discover," Salt Spring is not a perfect world.

Would replacing the current dysfunctional system with a municipality help? Could a mayor and council cut through the red tape? Bridle the oligarchs at the NSSWD? It certainly couldn't be worse than the present mixmaster of special interests, and in my opinion, a mayor and council could turn this sinking ship around. Either way, it could be years before there is an affordable place to grab a shower. And if the old adage of judging a society on how well they treat the poorest holds any water, we should all be ashamed.

The writer owns North End Fitness.

Editor's note: A survey is now underway to determine the demand for a new laundromat and shower facility. See page 19 of this issue of the paper for details.

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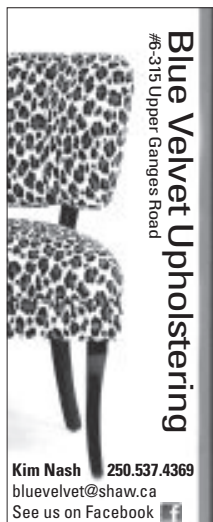
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Give due credit

I've lived on Salt Spring for over 25 years now and Gary Holman was one of the first people I met. In all the intervening years I've particularly admired Gary's hard work and deep commitment to affordable housing, both as a private citizen and as an elected representative.

When Gary was first elected as CRD director in 2002 he was keenly aware of the urgent need for more affordable housing and supported groups striving to improve the situation. He wisely opted Salt Spring into the Regional Housing Trust Fund, for which Murakami Gardens, the Land Bank's Dean Road house and the IWAV-Abbeyfield Cedars have all benefitted.

Later as our MLA, when president of Abbeyfield Housing Society, he was instrumental in the purchase of The Cedars in partnership with IWAV. As a fellow board member I witnessed first hand the time, resources and expertise Gary gave to structure a unique partnership and secure the required funding from BC Housing and other sources.

As our MLA, he's been working behind the scenes for almost a year to help break the logjam for affordable housing created by the community water moratorium. Thanks to Gary's pivotal role in hosting the water forum meetings, several affordable housing projects that were stalled — including the Croftonbrook expansion — are now able to proceed.

Gary's particular skills in these initiatives are those of understanding the issues, appreciating the sometimes conflicting priorities, helping to structure solutions that meet everyone's needs and ultimately getting results.

You won't often find Gary taking the credit. These were group efforts and his approach is to facilitate opportunities for

open conversations and to find solutions to complex issues. But I'd like to give credit where credit is due.

When I look beyond our island home, it's Gary I want working with us — and for us — to keep these coastal waters free of tankers and LNG pipelines. And when I walk the trails at Burgoyne, ride the bus or visit the library I think of Gary's work and how the fruits of his labour have made this community a better place to live.

OLIVE MANN,
SALT SPRING

Tree House thanks

We would like to thank Stephen Roberts for all his efforts in the transfer of the Ministry of Transportation portion of Manson Road to local control.

We would also like to thank Wayne McIntyre, Robin Williams, Darryl Martin, Karla Campbell and Peter Grove for all their efforts on this. They have all put in many hours trying to resolve this incredibly complex issue.

The transfer of this important piece of public land to local control seemed to be stuck in limbo with the provincial and federal governments, but Stephen got the issue to Todd Stone, the Minister of Transportation, and within a short period of time the CRD had a licence of occupation in place for the MoTI portion. The first few feet of the lane are now under CRD control, and negotiations are taking place to transfer the remaining portion, which is under DFO control (leased from the province), to CRD as well.

Stephen has proven himself to be someone who can get things done. If the past three years has taught us anything, it's that good intentions and good wishes don't achieve anything if you don't have someone who knows how the system works, and is willing to do the work until it gets done. If

Stephen can achieve this as a private citizen, we think he will be able to do much for us as our MLA.

MARK AND TERENA LECORRE,
TREE HOUSE CAFE

Greens and NDP

Most progressive Salt Spring voters agree that the current government has to go. Each of us has a list containing many of these problems and more: environmental damage, tanker traffic, unneeded mega-projects, patronage, corruption, failure to address housing issues, ignoring the needs of children living in poverty.

Clearly we must replace the Clark government. The question becomes whether to vote NDP or Green. We could debate policy issues forever — entertaining perhaps, but it won't matter a damn unless Clark is defeated.

So here are two specific reasons for Green supporters to vote NDP this time:

(1) The NDP has a very good chance to form the next government. The Greens don't. That's the fact. An election is about who is going to govern, not about who we like. If the Greens in our constituency and elsewhere split the progressive vote, we lose an important opportunity to unseat Clark. Current problems will get worse.

(2) The NDP promises a referendum on proportional representation, with 50% + 1 to win. PR has always been a high priority goal of Green policy, for all the right reasons. The NDP and the Greens agree on this. If 50% + 1 of voters agree, an NDP government will enact this transformational, shared goal. (And Greens will have much better prospects in future elections.)

It is up to us, NDP and Green voters together, to choose the government we need for the future we want.

JERRY BARENHOLTZ,
SALT SPRING

Join forces

After attending the all-candidates meeting at GISS, we were impressed in particular by both the NDP candidate Gary Holman and Green candidate Adam Olsen and the comforting fact of sharing some of their values.

For at least the last 20 years that we have known him, Holman has been vocally and effectively working to protect the environment on this particular island and worked on sustainable issues elsewhere. From saving Ford Lake to protecting 2,500 acres from Texada logging and development, from Salish Sea marine protection areas to rehabilitating Grace Islet, opposing the Lady Minto operating room closure by Island Health to initiating our successful and much-admired transportation system, Gary has been and continues to represent environmental and sustainable values on Salt Spring in distinctly measurable ways.

I implore voters to join forces at this critical time to vote for the candidate we already have in the legislature. To do otherwise most assuredly will split the vote and allow Christy Clark's way of doing business to continue unchecked.

The NDP promotion of proportional representation would most assuredly guarantee that more Green voices would be heard. The opportunity lies within our grasp. Let's make it happen.

RUTH AND SAM TARASOFF,
SALT SPRING

Notice to the Public

Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 11, 2017

2:15 pm to 4:45 pm

Lions Club Hall - 103 Bonnet Avenue

Meetings are open to the public.

For more information, please contact:

Harold Swierenga, Chair

Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee

Phone: 250-653-4950

or

Darin Guenette, Public Affairs Manager

BC Ferries

1-877-978-2385 (toll free) or

darin.guenette@bcferries.com



MORE LETTERS continued on 9

Progressive voters must be strategic

BY RONALD WRIGHT

INDEPTH

Voters in this riding once again face a hard choice. In the last provincial election only a handful of ballots separated the same three candidates who are running again on May 9: our excellent incumbent Gary Holman (NDP), the impressive Adam Olsen (Green) and the affable Stephen Roberts (BC Liberal).

As in the last federal election, progressive voters must think strategically to block the return of a ruthless hard-right.

Such is the flawed nature of our antiquated first-past-the-post voting system. Under a fairer system I would be happy with either an NDP or a Green win in this riding, and with some form of power sharing in Victoria that would allow the best policies of both those parties to thrive. But the ghost of Stephen Harper hovers over this B.C. election, and it can only be banished if we vote for the party best placed to form a government.

Like Stephen Harper's Conser-

vatives, Christy Clark views British Columbia as little more than a heap of assets to be sold off quickly and cheaply for the profit of giant corporations, mostly based in Asia and the U.S.A., and who (no coincidence!) are massive donors to her party. Clark has never seen a tree she wouldn't like to export, preferably as a job-killing raw log. She has never seen a river she wouldn't dam, a mountain she wouldn't mine, a body of water she wouldn't gladly expose to toxic tailings, Alberta bitumen and the undisclosed brew of chemicals used to frack natural gas.

Far from being genuine free-enterprisers and believers in small government, Clark's so-called Liberals are subsidizing foreign corporations with B.C. taxpayers' money to keep reckless projects such as LNG and the Site C dam alive.

Federally, I have twice voted for our outstanding Green MP Elizabeth May, who offered by far the best chance of winning this riding from the Conservatives. But the same cannot be said of the provincial Green Party, which is much too thinly spread across B.C. as a whole. It has no chance of forming a government, and may instead split the progressive vote. As prominent green activist Tzeporah Berman has recently warned, voting for the Greens could very well result in four more years of Christy Clark.

Only the New Democrats have the polling numbers to rid British Columbia of Clark's regime and Harper's ghost. The NDP need every seat they can get on May 9, including this one. The race is dangerously tight. I urge all progressive voters to re-elect Gary Holman.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident whose books include A Short History of Progress, the 2004 Massey Lectures.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 8

This time NDP

I've given it some consideration, and this time I'm voting NDP.

I've come to understand my vote is the strongest challenge I can make to protect the Salish Sea, the myriad creatures living above and below it with no voice or vote, and to honour the Douglas Treaty rights of the WSANEC peoples who have lived on its shores for millennia.

I stand with Grand Chief Stewart Phillip of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs to declare the Kinder Morgan pipeline will never be built. My vote is one action I am taking toward this outcome, an act to free our waters from corporate folly, from the plan to send hundreds of supertankers filled with toxic diluted bitumen through these islands each year and the certainty of a catastrophic spill.

My vote is also the best way I have to stop the Site C dam project, protecting irreplaceable farmland in the Peace River Valley, honouring the rights of First Nations to hunt and fish under the terms of Treaty 8 and to protect their sacred sites. It's a vote for freedom for all British Columbians from the colossal folly of Site C, which would play out over decades, a vote to resist one more deceit by the Liberal government to burden ratepayers with ballooning hydro costs in order to subsidize its fantasy of LNG.

On the local front, Gary Holman is the man. For over 20 years now he's been fighting for islanders — as an environmental economist, community activist and elected official.

Back in 2000, Gary helped seal the Texada Lands deal, protecting over a thousand acres of forest lands at Burgoyne Bay, now a BC Park and site for indigenous cultural education, becoming known by its traditional Cowichan name, Xwaaqw'um.

As a two-term CRD director

for Salt Spring, Gary set up the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission, which established island bus service in 2008, an award-winning partnership between the commission, BC Transit, the CRD and operator Ineke de Jong. During his directorship, Gary also found funding for community housing and numerous other island initiatives.

I've watched Gary over the years as our MLA — meeting with leaders of the WSANEC First Nations, listening deeply and building respectful relations. In 2014, Gary stood with us on Grace Islet, confronting Minister Steve Thomson and the RCMP for not enforcing laws against the desecration of the sacred site. A lawsuit brought by the property owner (subsequently dropped) naming two WSANEC chiefs, a CRD director, Joe Akerman, Gary and myself only strengthened Gary's commitment to social justice, indigenous rights and environmental protection.

Now, after four years as MLA, the self-described policy wonk is speaking from the heart. After four years of watching and listening to the parade of constituents coming through his office — casualties of Liberal government policies — he says he's more determined than ever to fight for their — and our — interests.

I believe him.
PHIL VERNON,
SALT SPRING

Aging with dignity

My recent visit to emergency at Victoria General Hospital will be on my mind when I vote on May 9.

Many of my fellow islanders waiting for help in emerg were elders, a similar scene to many hospitals across the province.

The reason is simple: it's harder than ever for seniors to get care at home and in their communities, and so they often end up in hospital when they otherwise wouldn't need — or want — to be there.

Over the past 15 years, access to public home support has dropped by 30 per cent, and public residential care and assisted living spaces have dropped by 20 per cent — all under the BC Liberal government. Not only does this make it hard for seniors to live well in their homes and communities, it's costly too — hospital and emergency services are the most expensive parts of our health-care system.

I want my grandmother, my parents and my friends to be able to age with the support they need. That's one of the main reasons I'm voting for Gary Holman and the NDP on Tuesday. They've committed to invest in seniors care, including increasing the number of hours per day for home support, and expanding services to include things that make it easier for folks to get by at home.

The numbers under the BC Liberals' watch speak for themselves: one in three senior women living alone are poor. Half of B.C.'s single seniors are living on \$25,000 or less per year. Seniors' poverty rose from a low of 2.2 per cent in 1996 to 12.7 per cent in 2014. So many of these folks can't afford the expensive private home and residential care facilities that have flourished under the Liberals.

That's not the way things should be in a "have" province that recently boasted a surplus budget. My hope for May 10 is a new NDP government that we can work with to make sure everyone can age with the dignity and respect we deserve.

JESSICA WOOD,
SALT SPRING

Fundraising party

For the past two years, Tours des Îles has connected the people of the Gulf Islands. This wonderful festival of very inexpensive boat transportation and five islands of festivities has brought our islands closer together.

Several decades ago, ferry

systems connected islanders by providing inter-island transportation. Then, in the name of fiscal priorities, service was cut back to the current twice a day service between Long Harbour and the four other islands. What is lacking is direct and frequent service between each island. The Tour des Îles is a passenger-only transport system. No cars, but space for bikes and pets.

On the three festival days, little boats connecting Mayne to Pender, Saturna to Pender, Pender to Galiano, Salt Spring to Pender, Saturna to Mayne, and Salt Spring to Galiano. Each route is a direct, non-stop run. You can experience several islands in one, two or three days. Ground transportation is made available (mostly for free) on each island.

The first thing you truly experience is that we are all islanders living in one of the most beautiful places in the world. Gulf Islanders are fun, creative, stimulating people who yearn to be self-reliant. First we are Gulf Islanders; second we are Salt Springers.

Each island welcomes its visitors during the Tour des Îles festival. There are special music, art and food experiences. Hiking club leaders will lead you to their special trails. Craftspeople will demonstrate their skills.

To put this together at a low price of \$5 per one-way boat trip, the Salish Sea Inter Island Transportation Society needs money. The CRD is a gold-level sponsor and contributes one third of the funds necessary. Tomorrow, Thursday, May 4, at Moby's we are hosting a fundraising party. For \$20 admission, you get a free beer; music by Everyday People; dancing; silent and live auction items including overnight stays on both Pender and Galiano islands. Join us and have fun helping our islands to be closer connected.

See you at the Tours des Îles Festival on June 23-25.

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SALT SPRING

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Emergency Prep

Radio purchases boost emergency communications capacity

UPDATE FROM LOCAL EMERGENCY PROGRAM

Salt Spring's Emergency Program has logged another activity-filled year.

"We're not quiet," said program coordinator Elizabeth Zook last week. "We're a busy program."

"There is tons of stuff going on behind the scenes," added Laurel Hanley, the deputy program coordinator.

One recent area of focus has been creation of the POD General Mobile Radio Service Emergency Network. Use of GMRS radios ensures people can communicate with each other within a POD area, from one POD to the neighbouring one, and with the Emergency Operations Centre in Ganges. Every POD on Salt Spring now has a pair of radios, thanks to a \$6,000 service-club contribution.

"We got a wonderful donation from the Lions Club," said Zook.

The emergency program is also creating a "POD relayer" communications position for each POD. That individual will have a GMRS radio and be responsible for communications issues related to their POD.

Salt Spring's program is also aiming to have a designated first-aid person in each POD. Hanley and Zook note that the island has a number of retired doctors and nurses who could fill those roles.

The overall aim, they say, is to build resilience in each POD.

Some other recent Salt Spring Emergency Program projects include critical infrastructure mapping, an incident mapping project and working with the Capital Regional District on water issues.

Creating a process to rapidly assess earthquake-caused damage is also underway.

Register for the Emergency Notification System at www.crd.bc.ca/ens

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SALT SPRING ISLAND EMERGENCY PR



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Preparedness Week

Emergency Support Services is another aspect of the program that focuses on helping people who have been evacuated from their homes due to emergencies or disasters. ESS volunteers man emergency reception centres, of which there are six on the island.

"The team is small, but we are always recruiting people to work in either Level 1 for house fires, or Level 2/3, reception centres," said Zook.

She stresses that emergency preparedness is undertaken by all responder agencies on Salt Spring, not just the emergency program. That includes the RCMP, Salt Spring Fire-Rescue, B.C. Ambulance Service, and both land and marine search and rescue organizations.

"It's a very good team," said Zook.

SSIEP POD NUMBERS

Island PODS:

58

POD LEADERS:

340

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR EXERCISE!

June 24 multi-agency exercise for a tour bus accident.

Bus passenger victims needed

Email:

ssiepc@crd.bc.ca to participate

STAY UP-TO-DATE

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Week

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CONCERTS

Concert Band gives grand send-off to director Hage

 Beyond Words at
 ArtSpring this Friday

 BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Concert Band promises an extra special experience at its spring concert this Friday, May 5 with a musical program at ArtSpring called Beyond Words that draws inspiration from fiction, poetry and prose.

"Beyond words" can also be taken to describe the way the band's long-time music director Dawn Hage is feeling as she prepares to say goodbye

to her community, friends and colleagues. After 18 years at the band's helm, this will be the last time before heading to a new life in Edmonton that she leads the players in bringing a theme to life.

Hage took on the job as the concert band's music director in 1999, when her youngest child Daniel was one year old. Now that he's grown up and heading to Vancouver to pursue his career as a musician, she is moving back to her home town to be closer to her aging parents, her sister and her adult daughter while focusing on a good final push to her working career.

"The band has become the community of my closest friends, as well as my job. It's probably the hardest thing to say goodbye to on the island," Hage said.

The Beyond Words concept is one Hage has always wanted to present. Audience members are promised a full sensory experience, with story and poetry readings and musical interpretations of the tales, enhanced with special visual and lighting effects by ArtSpring wiz Marv Coulthard.

The program includes music illuminating such great works as Moby Dick, Les Misérables and Shakespeare's As You Like It. The evening will also include evocative music from The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe, The Curse of Capistrano (Zorro), and the classic tale, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.

In addition, Hage will share some personal memories from her many seasons with the community band. Not surprisingly, there's a wide trove to select from — the only difficulty has been in choosing which of the band's experiences to discuss.

Their regular season of one fall and one spring concert plus a Canada Day show provided numerous highlights. Those include local



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring Concert Band director Dawn Hage at Monday night's rehearsal in advance of this Friday's Beyond Words concert set for ArtSpring.

dancers performing original choreography to Pachelbel's Canon, bagpipers sounding the charge inside the ArtSpring theatre, and students enacting the witch scene from Macbeth for a Halloween show. The concert band has also found itself in some unusual venues, from a barge in Ganges Harbour for one memorable Canada Day to The Fritz movie theatre, where the band played accompaniment to a program of silent films.

As a veteran professional musician with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Hage has tended toward less pop fare in her program selections than some community bands. Modern composers have perhaps been its mainstay, with "phenomenal" music written just for winds in recent years by artists such as Eric Whitacre, Frank Ticheli and Johan

de Meij providing a colourful palate.

"I don't mind popular music, but it has to be a really good arrangement and it has to move people in some way," she explained.

Hage also came to her position with a good understanding of what worked and what didn't in conducting styles. Being overly critical or arrogant, in her experience, does nothing but get musicians' backs up or make them nervous before a performance.

"I found the orchestra responded most to the conductors that were humble, kind and really believed in the group," Hage said of her time with the Edmonton symphony.

She therefore strived to produce solidarity and group vision. Her goal was "to find a direction where we're looking at the music and we're aim-

ing for a high standard for our music at our own means, that we'd do as one."

Hage found that even with more challenging works, if she let the core stronger players anchor a piece, those who were less strong could still find their place and a cohesive, successful sound could be achieved — as long as the underlying belief in the group was there.

Amazingly, a core group of 15 to 20 musicians has been in place throughout Hage's entire tenure. Members of the core are also instrumental in keeping the band's parent organization Bandemonium running smoothly.

"Thank goodness for them because they're the rock," Hage said. "And they're good, solid musicians."

Showtime for Beyond Words is at 7:30 p.m.

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ROOTS MUSIC

PitchFork season opens with Farris

Gospel roots award winner

Salt Spring audiences will have a rare opportunity to hear the 2015 Grammy Award winner for Best Roots Gospel Album perform live at PitchFork Social's 2017 season opener on Friday, May 19.

Described as a "musical renaissance man," Tennessee native Mike Farris was the leader of the blue-rock band Screamin' Cheetah Wheelies in the 1990s before filling in as Double Trouble's frontman after Stevie Ray Vaughn died. Reinventing himself by launching a gospel music career in 2002, his spirited, soul-gospel fusion had found an enthusiastic audience but was tempered by a lifetime spent battling his demons — he was a drug addict and an alcoholic by the time he was 15.

Farris made his breakthrough on the gospel and roots scene after winning an Americana Music Award for New/Emerging Artist in 2008, followed by a Dove Award in 2010. His live performances include stints at the Bonnaroo, South By Southwest, Hardly Strictly

Bluegrass festivals, plus opening for artists such as Patti LaBelle, Mavis Staples, Blind Boys of Alabama, Ricky Skaggs and Bruce Hornsby.

Concert invitations continued to roll in with performances at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's 16th Annual American Music Masters concert honouring Aretha Franklin, TEDx Nashville and the inaugural Austin City Limits Hall of Fame where Double Trouble was inducted.

After finally getting to the roots of his addiction issues and starting to move beyond with help from NA and AA in 2011, Farris recorded the Grammy award-winning Shine For All the People in 2014. As his website explains, the songs "bear witness to the determination of putting one foot in front of the other and to the power of music to get you there."

A pre-show dinner by Haidee Hart is available (not included in ticket price.) Dinner sales begin at 5:30 p.m. and the music starts at 7:30.

For more info about the 2017 PitchFork Social season, see www.pitchforksocial.com.

SSNAP The Salt Spring National Art Prize

Call for Artist Submissions
Deadline: May 31, 2017

Juried exhibition on Salt Spring Island
September 22 - October 22, 2017

Winners presented at
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- open to two and three-dimensional art
- open to Canadians + permanent residents
- \$30,000 in prize money

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www.saltspringartprize.ca



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BAND FULL OF SMILES:

Union Duke band members are set for a Saturday, May 6 show at ArtSpring, which is one of their Western Canadian tour stops. A Toronto folk quintet, Union Duke's explosive live show attracts sold-out crowds and gets them on "must-see" lists of outdoor festival acts. "Their enthusiasm is infectious and they leave every audience smiling," states their website. Saturday's show begins at 7:30 p.m. with tickets available through ArtSpring.

CONCERT PREVIEW

Musical partners get hall swinging

Singers, Swing Shift and Bill Henderson

BY JILL TARSWELL

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Salt Spring Singers and Swing Shift — what a combination! Add special guest Bill Henderson and you have the community event of the season.

'Swingin' Into Spring is a collaboration not to be missed, and months of planning and rehearsal have gone into a program of music from the '30s to the '80s with some Canadian content. Concert-goers will hear both the band and the choir individually, the band with Henderson, the band and choir together and, of course, Henderson, Swing Shift and Salt Spring Singers together.

Concert dates are Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 11, 12 and 13.

The choir and the band will be celebrating swing music, a style originating in 1920s jazz experimentations from New Orleans to Kansas City and New York. At an April workshop



COURTESY SS SINGERS

Salt Spring Singers director Don Conley, left, puts a finger in the ear of Swing Shift Big Band leader Derrick Milton in advance of their groups' collaboration next week at Fulford Hall.

the band worked with the choir on the tricky rhythms needed to achieve the swing sound. Popular through the '30s and into the '40s, the music is unmistakably upbeat, with a strong rhythm section supported by a more loose brass section, and a vocal section. With lots of room for improvisation, the 80 or so performers will be making a joyous sound.

Many of the concert pieces will be very familiar to those who lived through World War II or had parents or grandparents who sang hits of their youth. Fans of the likes of the Andrews Sisters, Duke Ellington, Oscar Peterson, Count Basie, Cole Porter and Glenn Miller will be excited by the 'Swingin' Into Spring repertoire.

Derrick Milton, Swing Shift's

musical director, said he had been mulling the idea of a choir and band concert for a couple of years and Salt Spring Singers, who have a long history of working with diverse talents in their productions, jumped at the chance. Keith Walton, a colleague of Milton's, had done an arrangement of Bill Henderson's 'Gone With the Wind' and was asked to fill it out for Swing Shift. When asked if he'd like to be involved, Henderson enthusiastically came on board and will be performing three brand new arrangements with the band and/or the choir by Walton, and by Salt Springers Mike Reveley and Keith Ollerenshaw.

With the big band sound of 'Swingin' Into Spring a big venue was needed and the welcoming Fulford Hall fits the bill as the concert venue. This promises to be a fabulous night out for music lovers on Salt Spring. As well as wonderful treats at the concession, there will be a cash bar. Seating is unreserved, so come early to get a good spot. Tickets are available at ArtSpring and the door, which opens at 7 p.m.

ART PRIZE

SSNAP entries rolling in as deadline nears

Island artists eligible for parallel show

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Submissions for the second Salt Spring National Art Prize are coming in apace, but there is still time to put work forward before the deadline hits on May 31.

Ron Crawford, the biennial art prize's founder and main coordinator, said there is a 25 per cent increase from where things stood this time two years ago, when the inaugural submission session was underway. The success of the 2015 event has been bolstered with a strong social-media presence, and word has clearly spread east with the largest number of entries coming from Ontario and Quebec so far this year.

With exhibitions to alternate with the new Salt Spring Ceramics Award each fall, SSNAP is poised to turn a typically slower period for artists into their potentially best season.

"We want to make October visual arts month on Salt Spring," Crawford said. "I think it's possible. If we can start attracting that arts tourism base, it could benefit all island artists."

Following the same format as last time around, approximately 50 finalists will be selected by an independent jury from across Canada to participate in the month-long exhibition at Mahon Hall. The finalists' works will not be revealed to the public until the gala opening night on Friday, Sept. 22.

The exhibition will be open daily from Sept. 23 through Oct. 22, with award winners announced at the gala

awards night on Saturday, Oct. 21. Artist talks and special events will be ongoing during the exhibition month.

Salt Spring artists Susan Huber and Nicola Wheston were among the major prize winners in 2015. This year there is even more incentive for locals to enter. A parallel exhibition running at ArtSpring will open during SSNAP's second week and will feature 40 to 50 artists selected from those who submitted work to the main show.

Crawford explained this is not a "refusal" show. Artists could be featured in both exhibition spaces, and the work shown at ArtSpring will not be SSNAP rejections but a selection of work chosen by the curators, Anthony Matthews and Matt Steffich.

More information on SSNAP submission guidelines, dates and events can be found at www.saltspringart-prize.ca.

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Dawn Hage
Music Director

Beyond Words

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what's on this week



Wed. May 3

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo. Hannah Brown, Suzanne Gay & the Sunny Siders Band perform songs by Billie Holiday and other female jazz singers. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2-10 p.m.
Shay Kuebler/Radical System Art. Glory, a dance piece for six performers, examines the complexities of violence and our media-drenched culture. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

B.C. General Election Advance Poll. Advance polling station at Salt Spring Elementary School open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters must prove their identity and home address before voting. More info: elections.bc.ca.
National Volunteer Week Coffee Coupons. Until May 7, volunteers can pick up and redeem a coupon for free coffee from their volunteer coordinator, the Legion or from the Volunteer and Community Resources office in Merchant Mews.
Bittancourt House Museum. Museum open at the Farmers' Institute every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday through June 30. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Youth Community Dinner. Salt Spring Community Services and the Core Inn host a dinner for B.C. Youth Week. Core Inn. 5 to 7 p.m.
End of the Reel Screening: Death by Joy. Salt Spring Hospice Society presents a film by Pender Island filmmaker Jim Cribb. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.
Songjam. Pub-style singalong to the soundtrack of our lives. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Thur. May 4

ACTIVITIES

B.C. General Election Advance Poll. See Wednesday's listing.
Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.
Local Trust Committee. Public hearing on Lot 15, Park Drive at 9:40 a.m., followed by regular business meeting. Reports and town hall session at 12 noon.
Light Saber Capture the Flag. May the 4th event for B.C. Youth Week for youth 12 years and up, or younger if accompanied by a parent, with a Star Wars movie to follow. Moutat Park. 5 to 8 p.m.
Susan Haigh Art Opening. At Salt Spring Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.
Tour des Îles Fundraiser. Fundraiser with door prizes, auction and local rock band Everyday People. Moby's Pub. 6 to 10 p.m.
Poetry Open Mic featuring Steven Price. Join author of two award-winning poetry books and the Giller Prize long-listed novel, By Gaslight. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m. Reader sign-up at 6:45.
SparkFest. Fun-filled night celebrating SVOVA's Pass It On program with Savvie, Tom Vandeursen, JP Maurice and local artists and youth performers. Plus silent auction and treats. Barb's Bakery & Bistro. 7 p.m.
Intro to Squash. Free sessions continue for the month of May. Bring non-marking shoes and appropriate clothing. Salt Spring Island Golf Club. 7:30 p.m.
National Theatre Live: Hedda Gabler. At The Fritz. 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. See info below.

Fri. May 5

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

C.R. Avery. HoneyBee Productions presents Vancouver musician/poet. 191 Walkers Hook Rd. Doors open 6:30 p.m., music starts at 7. RSVP for tickets to meghanmckillop191@gmail.com.
The Marsh King's Daughter. Original musical theatre performance by children's group Real Play Productions. Mahon Hall. 7 p.m.
Salt Spring Concert Band: Beyond Words. An evening of music drawn from fiction, poetry and prose, drawn from such great works such as Moby Dick, Les Misérables, and Shakespeare's As You Like It. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.
The Ballantynes. Six-piece band plays live soul music. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

B.C. General Election Advance Poll. See Wednesday's listing.
Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.
Free Youth Swim. Friday Night Madness is free for BC Youth Week. Rainbow Road Pool. 6:30 to 8 p.m.
SS Forum: Dr. Daniel Pauly. World-renowned fisheries scientist speaks on how global overfishing and massive under-reporting of catches are putting world fish populations in peril. Beaver Point Hall. 7:30 p.m.

salt spring
forum

Sat. May 6

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Marsh King's Daughter. See Friday's listing.
Union Duke. Toronto folk quintet bridges soulful indie rock, bluegrass and country. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.
La Familia Latin Band. Live music at the Legion starting 7:30 p.m.
Soul Shakedown. Live music at Moby's. 9 p.m.



ACTIVITIES

B.C. General Election Advance Poll. See Wednesday's listing.
Saturday Market in the Park. Locally produced crafts, foods and produce at famous event in Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Family StoryTime in the Park. Join Salt Spring Public Library program for ages 3 to 6 at the gazebo at Centennial Park. Parental supervision required. 12 noon to 12:45 p.m.
Maybe Tomorrow Art Opening. Opening reception for photo show by Christopher Brayshaw. Fault Line Projects. 5 to 7 p.m.

Sun. May 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Marsh King's Daughter. See Friday's listing, except time is 2 p.m.
Children's Dance Workshop: A Celebration of Dance. Students in Kristen Lewis' Children's Dance Workshop perform their original choreographic creations. ArtSpring. 4 to 5:30 p.m.
Mike and Rachelle. Live jazz at Moby's. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Ruckle Heritage Farm Day. Heritage farming and crafts side-by-side with nature in the beautiful Ruckle Farm setting. Educational booths demonstrating old crafts, tools and equipment, farm product displays, animals, food and entertainment. Ruckle Park. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Phoenix Elementary Car Wash Fundraiser. Intermediate class raises funds for trip to Camp Homewood. Country Grocer parking lot. 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Dare to Let a Kid Cut Your Hair. Students from the Salt Spring Centre School raise money for the Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association with hair cuts. John Bateman and Jim Raddysch among cutters. Rainbow Road Pool. 2 to 4 p.m.

Mon. May 8

ACTIVITIES

Beginner Golf Lessons. For all ages. Presented by Salt Spring Golf Club members on the second Monday of each month from 4 until 5:45 p.m.

Tue. May 9

ACTIVITIES

B.C. General Election. Polls open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at ArtSpring, Community Gospel Chapel, Fernwood Elementary School and Fulford Elementary School. Voters must prove their identity and home address before voting. More info: elections.bc.ca.
Intro to Squash. Free sessions continue for the month of May. Bring non-marking shoes and appropriate clothing. Salt Spring Island Golf Club. 9 to 10:30 a.m.
Way of Council. Introduction to a communication process that facilitates inclusivity, promotes compassionate connection, and creates a sense of partnership. Tuesday evenings in May at Salt Spring Wellness Centre. 7 p.m. Info: neithriving@gmail.com.

Wed. May 10

ACTIVITIES

Health Day StoryWalk. A special StoryWalk for Move for Health Day, featuring The Yoga Game in the Garden picture book. Walk from the library through Moutat Park to Rainbow Road Pool. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
SS Historical Society: The 1954 British Empire & Commonwealth Games. Jason Beck, curator and facility director of the BC Sports Hall of Fame, gives multimedia presentation. Central Hall. 2 p.m.



End of the Reel Film Screening. Salt Spring Hospice Society presents Advance Care Planning: My Voice. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.
Bittancourt House Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.
Songjam. See last Wednesday's listing.



The Barley Bros. at Ruckle Farm Day.
JEN MACLELLAN FILE PHOTO

THE FRITZ CINEMA
901 North End Rd. 250-537-4656 Movie info: www.thefritz.ca

JOHN WICK 2
Keanu Reeves
122 min
Rating: 14A
May 5th to 9th Fri. to Tues. 7pm Please note there is NO Sunday matinee.

National Theatre Live
HEDDA GABLER
by Henrik Ibsen
One day only Thur. May 4th 3pm matinee and 7pm
Email thefritz@hotmail.ca to reserve seats

driftwoodgulfislands media.com/calendar/

VIEW OUR ONLINE COMPREHENSIVE INTERACTIVE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS LISTINGS

Salt Spring Singers present

Swingin' Into Spring
with Swing Shift Big Band

May 11th, 12th and 13th
Fulford Hall at 7pm

THRIFTY FOODS

Ganges, Moutat's Centre • 7:30am to 9pm • Customer Service 250 537 1522

CINEMA

• **John Wick Chapter 2** — In this second chapter, John Wick (Keanu Reeves) is forced out of retirement, travelling to Rome to square off against some of the world's deadliest killers.

• **National Theatre Live's Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen** — Hedda and Tesman have just returned from their honeymoon and they are already in trouble. Trapped, Hedda tries to control everyone, only to see her own world unravel. Runs Thursday, May 4 only, with shows at 3 p.m. matinee and 7 p.m. Email thefritz@hotmail.ca to reserve seats.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Salt Spring Gallery** welcomes newest member **Susan Haigh**, with a reception for new show of flower paintings called Enchantment this Thursday, May 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. The show runs until May 14.

• **Christopher Brayshaw** shows his exhibit titled Maybe Tomorrow at **Fault Line Projects** through May, beginning with an opening event on Saturday, May 6 from 5 to 8 p.m.

• **Gallery 8** celebrates eight years with a Symbolically 8 anniversary show of work by gallery artists daily through May 8.

• Distant Glimpses, new pastels by **Susan Benson**, is at the **Duthie Gallery** on Churchill Road until May 7. Hours are Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment at 250-537-9606.

• **Elaine Potter's** acrylic and gouache paintings are at **Kizmit Galeria and Cafe** through May.

• **Sam Lightman** shows his imaginative photomontage treatments of shells in his See Shells exhibit in the **ArtSpring** lobby through May.

• Wildlife wood carvings by **Jim Dearing** are in the display case in the **ArtSpring** lobby during the month of May.

• **Julia Lucich** shows paintings in the **Library Program Room** through May.

• **M.C. Benmore** shows photographs in her Salt Spring Goddess series in the hallway at the **Salt Spring Coffee Co. Cafe**.

• **Judy McPhee** shows photographs with a theme of automobiles at **Embe Bakery's** sandwich shop.

www.driftwoodgulfislandsmedia.com/calendar/

D.W. Salty
is looking for material for his column,
Streets of Salt Spring Island.

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at:
250-537-9933 or
dwsalty@driftwoodgimmedia.com

people&community

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, **Streets of Salt Spring Island**

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgmedia.com



ISLAND HISTORY

Patterson family prepares for BC Ferries handover

Fulford store history recalled

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Members of a longtime island family are preparing to let go of an important piece of their Fulford village past, with a deal to transfer the old Patterson house to BC Ferries pending.

Bruce Patterson lived for 27 years of his adult life in the small house that grips the very edge of Fulford Harbour immediately beside the ferry terminal. While he feels the property's sale will aid the community by allowing BC Ferries to eventually increase its terminal space and thereby get waiting cars off the road, he has mixed emotions about the home's removal.

"Right now, the building being torn down is a necessity and something I anticipated was going to happen eventually. Personally, I've really struggled," Patterson said. "I'm selling something I'm not using anymore, but the other side is emotional."

Patterson moved into the house that had belonged to his grandparents around six months after his grandfather William Patterson left for extended hospital care in 1987. (He broke his hip at 99 but lived another five years, hanging on until just a few days short of his 105th birthday.)

As a resident, Bruce Patterson inherited the kinds of challenges that probably seemed normal when his grandparents bought the house in 1930: no insulation whatsoever,



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

The Fulford house, set for transfer to BC Ferries later this month, that was the first village location of the long-running Patterson's Store.

archaic wiring and a single electrical outlet upstairs. It cost hundreds and hundreds of dollars to heat the house in the winter using a variety of devices.

"The only reason I could live there was I understood the house. It was a very complex system," Patterson said.

Nonetheless, for him it also carried the warmth of childhood memories.

Patterson's grandparents started a Salt Spring business empire when they opened a general store at Beaver Point Wharf in 1915, adding a post office in 1918. They later added a feed shed on the Fulford dock to supply farmers and in 1930 bought the Fulford house built by Adolph Trage.

Patterson figures his grandfather's competitive spirit was ignited when Fred Cudmore set up a shop where

the Rock Salt Café is now located. He opened a satellite store in the front of the Fulford house that was open several days a week. This became the main store after the Beaver Point Wharf was decommissioned in 1951. Meanwhile, Bob and Nancy Patterson moved back to the island from Victoria after the Second World War. They took over the business when it moved across the road in 1966 (in the building now home to Salt Spring Mercantile).

Patterson said in its early days, the store provided residents mainly with nonperishables and dry goods. Most people had their gardens for produce and supplied meat through their own livestock, fishing and hunting. The store did stock large bulk items such as 50-pound wheels of cheese and huge bricks of dates.

"You would come into the store and essentially hand my grandfather a shopping list and he would fill your list," Patterson said.

As a boy, Patterson helped with home deliveries to Isabella Point, Fulford and the Burgoyne Valley, opening and closing gates while his grandfather drove the truck.

Most days after school he stopped at his grandparents' house to have tea before rushing off to get into trouble with his school friends, or to return home to light the wood stove and start dinner prep. His parents were busy working; his father Bob running the Pattersons' store in Fulford village and his mother Nancy running Nan's Coffee Bar or the concessions on board the Cy Peck and Motor Princess ferries.

"So that house for me was prob-

ably more a sense of home than the actual house I grew up in," Patterson said. "It was a nurturing place."

With the sale to BC Ferries set to clear later this month, Patterson has been distributing items from the house and garden that can still be used. He's been encouraging neighbours to take the flowers and plants.

"This gives me the feeling my grandmother's garden will perpetuate on, so I feel very good about that," he said.

A garage sale of Patterson items is set for this Saturday, May 6, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.



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250-537-0735 or
toll-free 1-877-435-7544

Women's Outreach Services

250-537-0717 or
toll-free 1-877-537-0717

Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women

250-538-5568

Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling

250-538-5569

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FARMING HERITAGE

Ruckle Heritage Farm Day returns Sunday

Education and fun at family-friendly event

BY MARJORIE LANE
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Ruckle Heritage Farm Day is a long-standing educational family day for the community and visitors alike.

Scheduled for Sunday, May 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., this event displays heritage farming and crafts side-by-side with nature in the beautiful Ruckle Farm's setting. As few free family events remain, this day has proven in the past to bring out a large crowd to experience the beauty of this magnificent park, made particularly unique and special with the "oldest operating family farm in B.C." tucked right into the middle.

The day is geared toward children and educational farm-related themes, for free family fun. This event invites participation on every level, be it volunteering, attending or taking part in the day's many hands-on activities. Previous years' events were accomplished thanks to over 100 volunteers giving their time. With 2016's farm day being cancelled, we hope to see everyone back again for another great day

of fun at the farm.

Typically, the day and event will look something like this: Educational booths are located in the heritage farm area demonstrating old crafts such as spinning and weaving, basket making, quilting and others. The blacksmithing group is alongside the old forge building, and ice cream and butter are being churned fresh at the milk house with the brown Swiss cow nearby. The Salt Spring 4-H Club provides their information and animals for display as well as selling baked goods. The Lions Club is making barbecued burgers and hotdogs while the kids are getting their faces painted or trying their hand at log sawing, nail hammering, the fish pond or the tug-of-war.

Alongside the old heritage barn are farm product displays such as wool, hide items and antique tools. The quilters are busy on a project while other finished works are displayed around the barn for viewing. Inside the barn the old farm equipment is on display while a film of The Making of Ruckle Park, featuring interviews with Lotus Ruckle and other local farmers, is being shown. Later, the farm manager runs his border collies through their paces doing a sheep-herding demonstration.



FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Ruckle Heritage Farm border collie meets a fan at a past Ruckle Farm day.

Also on hand are the farm's turkeys, bottle-fed lambs and the 4-H animals. The fire department displays its old fire truck and we have "then and now" tractors for all to see. Local acoustic music offers added entertainment. Folks can walk all over the grounds enjoying a day at the farm. Don't forget to look inside the white heritage house for another peek into the past.

Anyone who would like to volunteer this Sunday should contact Marjorie Lane at 250-653-4071 or rucklefarm@shaw.ca.

MAY IS HEARING AWARENESS MONTH.

BATTERIES HALF PRICE
for the month of May.



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Send your submissions to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or drop them off at the Driftwood office. Published in the first Driftwood of each month! Brought to you by Pattison Subaru.

WEDNESDAY

SALT SPRING GENEALOGY GROUP meets on the last Wednesday of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Mormon church. Info: cloude48@gmail.com
SALT SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Harbour House Hotel Crofton Room.
SOUTH SALT SPRING SENIORS meet on the last Wednesday of each month at Fulford Hall at 2 p.m.
STITCH DIMENSION QUILT GUILD meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Salt Spring Island Baptist Church, around the back.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

BOOMERFIT FULFORD HALL. Focus is on the Boomer demographic, covering all aspects of fitness with a mindful approach, offering a safe and injury-free environment for all fitness levels. 9 to 10 a.m. Trisha Moroz-Barstead, CPT. Contact: trisha.synergify@gmail.com, 250-653-4656
CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP for people caring for individuals with Alzheimers and others. Every Wednesday at Salt Spring Seniors (379 Lower Ganges Rd.) at 11 a.m. Info: Margaret Monro, 250-537-5004.
COMPUTER HELP — Free help with computer, tablet, smartphone problems at Salt Spring Library. By appointment at the library centre at 126 Hereford Ave. or by calling 250-537-9717 or emailing coordinator@saltspringlibrary.org.
DUPLICATE BRIDGE group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 12:45 a.m. (for 1 p.m. start)
GAMES AFTERNOON at Salt Spring Seniors. 1 to 3 p.m.
HOT HATHA yoga class at The Nest Hot Yoga. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
KIRITAN at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 7:30 p.m.
LOW-IMPACT EXERCISE at the Legion. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
MEDITATION GROUP suitable for beginners meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10:10 to 11 a.m. Everyone welcome. Info: Deb Stevenson, 250-930-5333
MEDITATION MEETINGS and teachings with the Salt Spring Vipassana Society. The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. Teachings offered by donation with Insight Meditation teacher Heather Martin. 7 to 8:30 p.m.
MEN'S BRIDGE at Salt Spring Seniors at 7 p.m.
PEPPER WALK WITH MOVEMENT INTELLIGENCE CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd. This innovative movement class features the work of John Pepper and is suitable for people with neurological conditions that are highly motivated to learn solutions for movement difficulties. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Info: Anna Haltetrecht, 250-537-5681, anna@bonesforever.com
PILATES CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd. 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Info/register: anna@bonesforever.com Pilates is a body conditioning system that builds flexibility and long, lean muscles, strength and endurance.
SSI ROTARY CLUB meets each Wednesday for a deliciously prepared lunch with community focused speakers and presentations at the Harbour House Hotel from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.
SENIORS YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
SWING DANCE at SS Elementary School gym. East-Coast, West-Coast, and Lindy Hop. Everyone welcome. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call Larry Nelson or Wendy Hartnett at 250-537-4118.
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
YOGA - Mixed levels with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
YOGA with Dorothy Price. Hatha flow at The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. 9 to 10:30 a.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

ZEN MEDITATION at 210 Cedar Lane at 7 p.m. Call 250-653-2411 for details. Newcomers always welcome.
ZUMBA TONING with Lee Sigmund at SSI Wellness Centre. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

BOOK CLUB meets on the second Thursday at Salt Spring Seniors in the lounge at 1:30 p.m.
CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets on the first Thursday of the month at SS Wellness Centre. 1 to 2 p.m. Info: Claire at 778-353-0029 or clairebaron@yahoo.com.
LIBRARY BOOK CLUB open to all meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at the library. 1 to 3 p.m.
OPEN MIC POETRY NIGHT at the Salt Spring Library Program Room on the first Thursday of the month. Sign-up at 6:45 p.m.; one poem per reader; event begins at 7 p.m. Guest poets read at 7:30.
TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION — Group meditations for all who have learned TM. Last Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. Call 778-353-3014 for address and more information. Free introductory lectures by appointment.

EVERY THURSDAY

AL-ANON for friends and families of alcoholics meets at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church rear annex. 12 noon.
BADMINTON - Friendly games for adults and high-school players run at the GISS gym from 8 to 10 p.m. until school is out. Bring own racquets and non-marking gym shoes. Info: Gail, 250-653-4613.
DANCE FOR HEALTH at SS Wellness Centre. 3 to 4 p.m.
DANCE TEMPLE at Beaver Point Hall from 7 to 9 p.m.
FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com.
INTRO TO SQUASH - free sessions at the Salt Spring Squash Court on the golf club property. Non-marking shoes and appropriate clothing required. Equipment available to borrow. 7:30 to 9 p.m. www.saltspringsquash.ca or 250-538-7438
LUNCH at Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 12 to 1 p.m.
MEN'S YOGA with Ken Katz at SS Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
MOKSHA INSPIRED all levels yoga class at The Nest Hot Yoga. 5:30 p.m.
NIA at Antler Ridge Dance Studio, 211 Horel Rd. 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. See Tuesday NIA description. Chairs are available for those dealing with movement challenges. Info/registration: Arleen, movingtoheal@me.com
PICKLEBALL at Fernwood Elementary School gym. 6 to 9 p.m. No experience necessary.
PROBUS group for retired professionals/business people meets on the second Thursday of each month at Meaden Hall at 10 a.m. with special guest speakers each time. Info: probus.ssi@gmail.com
SALTY WHEELS SQUARE DANCE CLUB meets at 734 Upper Ganges Road. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Info: Marilynne, 250-537-5356.
SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB beginners class at 210 Cedar Lane. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667.
STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 12:30 to 3 p.m.
TAOIST TAI CHI for beginners at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with beginners until noon. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at SS Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 6 p.m.
YOGA WITH JIM DICKINSON at Salt Spring Seniors. 2 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

AIKIDO for kids and adults at the SSI Wellness Centre. Kids 5 to 6 p.m.; adults 6 to 7:30 p.m. Info: Alan, 250-538-5549; alanwardroper@gmail.com.
BRIDGE GAMES run at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:30 p.m.
COFFEE TIME for seniors is at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
DRUM CIRCLE meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 4 to 6 p.m.
ELEMENTARY BRIDGE COACHING. Beginning bridge lessons (but also with more advanced coaching available) at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
EVERYBODY STRETCH — Everyday stretches for the everyday body to classical music with Catherine Bennett. SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 10 to 11 a.m. Move with less pain and stress by learning how to make any activity more effective and more enjoyable. Info/register: anna@bonesforever.com.
FRIDAY ADVENTURE CAMP for ages 6 to 12 years runs every Friday that school is not in session. SS Elementary School gym. Info/registration through PARC: 250-537-4448.
GAMES NIGHT at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. Facilitator Bryan Dubien brings his vast collection of board games, or you can bring your own. 6 to 9 p.m.
MAH JONGG players gather at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:15 p.m.
MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 p.m.
STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

EVERY SATURDAY

ALL LEVELS Vinyasa yoga class at The Nest Hot Yoga. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
DAD 'N' ME PANCAKE BREAKFAST at Family Place. For dads and kids aged 0 to 6. 8:30 to 10 a.m.
LIFE DRAWING on the third floor of the Core Inn. 2:30-4:30 p.m. Info: Martin, 250-537-8493.
MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 p.m.
PICKLEBALL at SS Elementary School gymnasium. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
STORYTIME IN THE PARK. Stories, songs, games and more. Best for ages 3 to 6 with caregivers. Centennial Park Gazebo. 12 to 12:45 p.m.
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Open practice. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
TODDLER TIME for children aged one to three and their caregivers. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 a.m.
ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS with Lee Sigmund at the Wellness Centre from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

SUNDAY

OPEN STAGE OLD TIMEY CAFE. On the last Sunday of every month at Fulford Hall OAP annex. 7 to 11 p.m. Everyone welcome to alcohol-free event with good music and munchies. Info: 260-653-9856

EVERY SUNDAY

BADMINTON - Friendly games for adults and high-school players run at the GISS gym from 7 to 9 p.m. until school is out. Bring own racquets and non-marking gym shoes. Info: Gail, 250-653-4613.
KUNDALINI YOGA with Jaya Levesque at SS Wellness Centre. 10 to 11:15 a.m.

EVERY SUNDAY

PICKLEBALL at SS Elementary School gymnasium. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
POKER at the Legion. 1 p.m.
SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB — All styles at 210 Cedar Lane. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667
SUNDAY SATSANG at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 3:30 p.m.

MONDAY

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC on the last Monday of each month at SS Seniors. 10 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
SSI FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT board of trustees meets on the third Monday of each month at SSI United Church at 7 p.m.
SSI PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION usually meets on the third Monday of each month at the SS Library Program Room. 4 to 6 p.m. Public welcome. Confirm meeting date at 250-537-4448.
SSI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the SS Library Program Room. 4 to 6 p.m. Public welcome.

EVERY MONDAY

ACTIVE LEARNING group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 2:30 to 4 p.m.
BOOMERFIT BEAVER POINT HALL. Focus is on the Boomer demographic, covering all aspects of fitness with a mindful approach, offering a safe and injury-free environment for all fitness levels. 9 to 10 a.m. Trisha Moroz-Barstead, CPT. Contact: trisha.synergify@gmail.com, 250-653-4656
CHESS GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
DUPLICATE BRIDGE meets every Monday at 6:45 p.m. at Salt Spring Seniors Services. Info: George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.
EVERYBODY STRETCH — Everyday stretches for the everyday body to classical music with Catherine Bennett. SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2 p.m.
FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse, 190 Reynolds Rd., 9 to 10:30 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com.
LOW-IMPACT EXERCISE at the Legion. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
MIXED BASKETBALL at the GISS gym. 8 p.m.
READERS' THEATRE meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
SALT SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB holds casual coffee mornings for its members at Penny's On the Green at 10 a.m.
SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB — Yang style long form at 210 Cedar Lane. 4 to 5:30 p.m. and Push Hands & Applications from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. With beginners until 8 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
TECH TUTORING WITH CONRAD at the Salt Spring library. iPad, Tablet and eReader tutoring with Conrad Koke. Sign-up sheets are found in the Info Desk Programs binder.
Sessions are available every Monday at 12 and 1 p.m.
TOASTMASTERS is a dedicated band of public speaking learners and enthusiasts meeting at the Shared Space Community Hub, Unit #1 Merchant Mews, 315 Upper Ganges Rd. every Monday (except for statutory holidays). 7 to 9 p.m. Guests are always welcome.
THE CLINIC by OPT: Options for Sexual Health is open every Monday at the Core Inn 2nd floor. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. 250-537-8786.

EVERY MONDAY

VINYASA FOUNDATIONS at The Nest Hot Yoga. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
YOGA WITH CELESTE MALLET JASON at SSI Wellness Centre (yoga studio). Mixed Levels - 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.; Level 1 - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
YOGA WITH JAYA LEVESQUE - Mixed Levels at SSI Wellness Centre. 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.
YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 4:30 to 6 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

AIKIDO MARTIAL ARTS classes for kids and adults at the SSI Wellness Centre. Kids from 4 to 6 p.m., and adults from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Info: Alan, 250-538-5549; alanwardroper@gmail.com.
ART GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors at 1 p.m.
CHESS GROUP plays games at Salt Spring Seniors. 6:30 p.m.
FLOOR HOCKEY. Drop in at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m. Required: hockey stick and runners.
INTRO TO SQUASH - free sessions at the Salt Spring Squash Court on the golf club property. Non-marking shoes and appropriate clothing required. Equipment available to borrow. 9 to 10:30 a.m. www.saltspringsquash.ca or 250-538-7438
LOST CHORDS seniors choir practices at Salt Spring Seniors. 10:30 a.m.
MEN'S GROUP - Speak openly about inmost subjects. 138 Castle Cross Road from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Info: Tristan, 604-200-7333, reinless@mender.ca or meetup.com/reinless
MOKSHA INSPIRED Level-2 yoga class at The Nest Hot Yoga. 5:30 to 7 p.m.
MOKSHA INSPIRED all levels yoga class at The Nest Hot Yoga. 7:30 p.m.
NIA at Salt Spring United Church Hall. The expressive fun of dance, the power of martial arts, the mindfulness of yoga and a most welcoming community of women. Info/registration: Arleen, movingtoheal@me.com.
NIA at Antler Ridge Studio. 6:15 to 7:30 p.m.
PICKLEBALL at Fulford Hall. 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and at Fernwood Elementary from 7 to 9 p.m.
SS SEARCH & RESCUE - Learn ground survival, search and rescue techniques at the SAR Hall. 7 to 9 p.m. Or phone Chuck Hamilton, 250-537-6601.
STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 12:30 to 3 p.m.
SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB — Yang Style at 210 Cedar Lane. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667.
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
THE WAY OF COUNCIL meets at the SSI Wellness Centre from 7 to 9 p.m. The Way of Council is a communication process that facilitates inclusivity, promotes compassionate connection, and creates a sense of partnership. Email neiththriving@gmail.com for info.
UBUNTU sacred chants with Barb Slater. SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2:30 p.m.
YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE — All Levels at SSI Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.; and Slow Flow at SS Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.

NO ROAD IS TOO NARROW FOR CROSSTREK

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YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Haircut fundraiser sets up shop



COURTESY SS CENTRE SCHOOL

From left, Salt Spring Centre School students Violet Fox, Sisaye Patterson, Veronica Floritto, Evan Baukol and Flynn Shugar promote their haircut fundraiser with school principal Carol Bremner.

Centre School kids get snipping Sunday

BY SSCS LEADERSHIP CLASS

Do you have the courage to get your hair cut by a kid?

Well, on Sunday, May 7, at the Rainbow Road Pool, you will have a chance to prove it! Five students from the Salt Spring Centre School have come up with a plan to raise money for the Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association.

From 2 to 4 p.m., you can sit down, choose a "stylist," and get either a trim or let the kids get creative. Each hair cut will be a minimum donation of \$5 and all the money goes to the Therapeutic Riding Association.

And why should you trust kids to cut your hair? "You shouldn't!" jokes student stylist Violet Fox. "But it's for a good cause and you will be looking great after that!"

Each person participating will get a lollipop, and lemonade is for sale.

School parent Charlotte Bowman volunteered to let the students prac-

tise on her. The students asked her if it was scary having her hair cut by a kid.

"Not at all!" replied Bowman. "It turned out excellent, and everyone was very gentle."

Even if you don't want to have your hair cut yourself, you can come and watch Salt Springers John Bate-man and Jim Raddysch go under the blades and come out looking ready for spring.

Contact teacher Kate Richer at katericher@shaw.ca for more information.

FUNDRAISER

Riders, walkers hit the trail

SSTRA group marks a fraction of nation's birthday

The Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association's 15th annual fundraising Ride and Walk-a-thon hits the trails on Sunday, May 14, and everyone in the community is welcome to participate.

SSTRA is celebrating one-tenth of Canada's 150th birthday, marking 15 years of providing therapeutic riding and equine-based therapeutic services for persons with disabilities on the island just as the nation turns 150. The dynamic program welcomes riders and vol-

unteers each week to share a love of horses, a commitment to inclusive communities, and a belief in human potential.

The fundraising event starts and ends at the SSTRA farm at 1860 Fulford-Ganges Rd. Riders and walkers will leave at 11 a.m. for a walk along the forest trail and continue on to Burgoyne Bay.

People who don't have horses can walk the trail. A guide will be provided. Anyone wanting to attend should contact program coordinator Erika Ponsford at 250-653-9925 or info@sstra.ca.

Entry forms and pledge sheets are available at www.sstra.ca.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Fertile scores mark Easter games

Laundry-Clement duo on top twice

BY JILL EVANS

DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

April 17 was Easter Monday. Where did the word "Easter" come from?

Well, in the 7th century the Venerable Bede had an idea — it came from a goddess named Eostre, representing spring and fertility (see "estrus," ladies), and celebrated by pagans in the Old English Eosturmonath, now known as April. And in modern times we have these fertile

BRIDGETRICKS

bunnies and eggs, so maybe the old Bede was on to something.

Five full tables of hopefuls showed up on that day, and it was creative George Laundry and Terry Clement who produced the most points. Second in fecundity were Al Wilke and Nadene McCoy, with Jeff Bell and Prem Margolese collecting the third best amount and Trinlay MacPhee with Ted Bartrim next in gathering good scores.

April 24 had nothing to do with Easter, and four full tables made it to Seniors with Laundry-Clement scoring highest again. Next were Ted Baldwinson and Catherine Gardiner, then the Bell-Margolese pair repeated their third place.

Meanwhile it seems the blogspot has laid an enormous egg and expired at the effort, poor thing, so there will be a new one to come online and all will be notified as to the URL.

For info about these games, contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorage@shaw.ca.

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or call 250-537-1697 for a ride to vote



Authorised by Gary Holman, Member of Parliament for Nanaimo, B.C. 2011-2015



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT

NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

IS AT

WATER CONSERVATION LEVEL 2

Per Bylaw 274

Water Conservation Level 2 Overview

Water Conservation Level 2 - Every Other Day Watering - May, June, July, August

Odd numbered civic addresses may water on odd numbered days and even numbered civic addresses may water on even numbered days during the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for no more than two (2) hours in duration per period with a maximum of four (4) hours of total allocated watering per day. Vegetable gardens, shrubs, trees and flowers are restricted to a hand held container or a hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle if watered outside of the times permitted for no more than one (1) hour in duration per watering day.

Vehicle and Boat Washing

Vehicles, RVs, and boats may be washed using a hand held container or hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle.

Driveways, Sidewalks, Parking Lots and Buildings

No person shall use District supplied potable water to wash sidewalks, driveways or parking lots and exterior building surfaces, except as necessary for applying a product such as paint, sealers, preservative and stucco, or preparing a surface prior to paving or brickwork.

Wading Pools, Hot Tubs, Swimming Pools, Garden Ponds and Water Features

Wading pools and hot tubs may be filled with water. Swimming pools, garden ponds and water features may be filled with water upon application for and approval/receipt of a filling permit from the District. (Filling permits are \$200.00 and valid for two weeks from date of issue.)

Public Parks, Open Space, and Sports Fields

Public parks, open space, and sports fields may be watered upon application for and approval of a special watering permit.



Every Drop Counts

For the complete details, penalties and exemptions view Bylaw 274 on our website in the Documents section.
www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca
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Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.
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DEATHS

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IN MEMORIAM

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

PERSONAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL SERVICES

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

COMPUTER SERVICES

JOSEPH BRIAN MCININCH MD

1944 - 2017



On April 7, Brian died in Lady Minto Hospital of cancer related causes.

Loving spouse of Fran, devoted father of Ayla and attentive grandfather of Codi and Uma, Brian will be deeply missed by his family and friends. Brian was also a loving brother to Margo McGee (John) in Edmonton and Jim McIninch (Mary) in Ottawa.

His deep love of learning, music and poetry, his kind, thoughtful and calm personality, his intelligence and playfulness endeared him to us all. His strength, courage, resilience and even humor through all the chemo, radiation and endless scans were impressive. We shall always carry his memory in our hearts.

Memorial donations can be made to the Green Party of Canada or Doctors without Borders. Condolences may be made at www.haywardsfuneral.com.

DR. ERNEST JARMAN'S
Celebration of Life
Saturday June 17, 2017
Fuller Hall
12-4:00pm
INFO: 250-653-4847
Cathy

JOHN COTTRELL'S
Celebration of Life
May 6th, 2017
2:00pm - 5:00 pm
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saltspringhospice.org

LEGALS

LEGALS

Land and Water Act:

Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land and Allocation of Water

Take notice that Port Browning Marina Resort Ltd. of Pender Island, BC, intends to make application to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), West Coast Region for a Licence and Lease Project - Commercial Marina and Water Licence situated on Provincial Crown land located at Bedwell Harbour Road East, Pender Island.

A Water Licence application has also been submitted for Commercial Marina and Water Licence located on Bedwell Harbour Road for the quantity of 35 m3/d. The Land File Number that has been established for this application is File 1414530, 0275026 and the Water File Number is File 1003649. Written comments regarding this application should be directed to the Section Head at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 or emailed to: AuthorizingAgency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca. Comments will be received by MFLNRO until June 2, 2017. MFLNRO may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please visit our website at <http://arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/index.jsp> for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FDI Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regional office."

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EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

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SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 19

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

HELP WANTED

salt spring arts council

The Salt Spring Arts Council is hiring an Outreach & Program Assistant. The successful candidate must be a returning full-time student aged 16-30. Position is subject to funding. This is a full-time summer position, June 5 - Sept 1.

Full posting details:
<http://ssartscouncil.com/ssac-hiring-summer-student/>

Deadline for application:
Monday, May 15, 4pm.

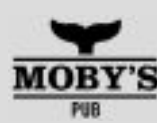
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Salt Spring Island Historical Society

AGM Meeting

2:00 pm Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at CENTRAL HALL

JASON BECK Curator and Facility Director BC Sports Hall of Fame
"The 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games"
What is the connection to SSI?
Bannister & Lundy or Toynbee & Campbell

Place place your shopping tapes in Box 131 at Country Grocer to support the Archives.

Please donate online at: saltspringarchives.com or in person to Box 256 Ganges PO, V8K 2V9

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association

Thursday, May 18, 10am
At Meadowbrook Lounge, 121 Atkins Rd.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Laundromat, shower survey launched

Needs assessment underway

The Copper Kettle Community Partnership group is spearheading a drive to get a public laundromat and shower facility on Salt Spring once again.

"Young families, seniors, WWOOFers, liveaboards, visit-

ing boaters, and single people living in small places are all suffering the effects of being unable to do their laundry and keep clean," group spokesperson Cherie Geauvreau said Monday. "We feel strongly that these services are vital to the public health of the island, as well as being a basic human need."

Copper Kettle is assessing demand for a facility by distributing a survey throughout the island.

They would like people to answer the following questions:

1) Do you or you and your family need laundromat and/or shower services?

2) How many people are in your household?

3) Would you use a laundromat, shower, or both?

4) How frequently would you use this service?

Answers can be emailed to Copper Kettle at copperkettle.ssi@gmail.com or people can phone 250-537-5863 for over-the-phone service.

People are asked to reply by Friday, May 12.

HISTORY

Empire Games rowers in focus at May 10 talk

Sports Hall of Fame curator leads post-AGM presentation

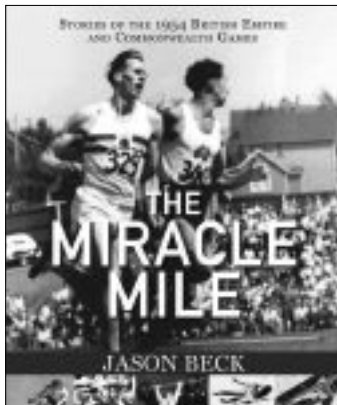
On Wednesday, May 10, the Salt Spring Historical Society will present a special program that explores the tales of glory and grief of the 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games.

The event will be led by Jason Beck, B.C. Sports Hall of Fame curator and facility director.

The presentation has an important connection to the island as it was home to two gold-medal athletes, Tom Toynbee and Doug McDonald, of the Canadian eights rowing team.

"Staged over nine unforgettable summer days in Vancouver, the 1954 Games changed both B.C. and world sport forever," information from the historical society explains. "The Games will always be remembered for the Miracle Mile, the showdown between the first two men to break the four-minute barrier, England's Roger Bannister and Australia's John Landy.

"While Bannister and Landy unforget-



Book cover of Jason Beck's book called The Miracle Mile. Beck is the May 10 guest speaker at the Salt Spring Historical Society meeting.

tably duelled in a race for the ages, an even more dramatic story seared itself into the memories of all who witnessed it.

Just minutes after the Mile of the Century, England's Jim Peters, the world record holder in the marathon, entered Empire Stadium's gates at the end of a brutal 26-mile run, 17 minutes ahead of the next runner. The once- raucous crowd was shocked into deathly silence, as Peters collapsed before reaching the finish line."

Another amazing feat that happened that summer involved two young Salt Spring Island rowers. Toynbee and McDonald helped an underdog novice Canadian eights rowing crew pull off the biggest upset in Games history by winning a gold medal for Canada.

Visiting presenter Beck is a leading sports historian and author of the best-seller The Miracle Mile. He will use rare archival photos and video to discuss the inside story of the Games and describe its organization, the venues built, including Empire Stadium, and some of the controversies that erupted. He will also delve into the stories of some of the key athletes, including Toynbee and McDonald.

The program takes place after the historical society AGM, and starts at 2 p.m. at Central Hall. All are welcome.

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THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastrlogy.com • Sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com • 1.250.352.6871

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) All the main lights are green now and the forward flow is apparent. Now it is time to get busy. Attending to several fronts requires time management. What to do first and where to start are questions. It all has to get done so anything applies as long as it is featured in your plans. Avoid idle distractions and rock and roll.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20) A busy time both in front and behind the scenes is likely now. You are in an ambitious mood. Proceeding with full confidence remains somewhat challenging. Circumstances and certain players destined to make you have to be strategic and patient are indicated. Trust and confidence are keywords.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Are you seeking adventure, escape or a combination of both? Exploring new territory is likely and this includes meeting new people. A proactive and spontaneous mood prevails. You are happy to be the one to make the first move, especially if you are in unfamiliar places. Otherwise, you may hand back and explore virtually and/or imaginatively.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) A soul-searching journey continues but now it is also time to express new facets of your individuality. It all amounts to deciphering who you feel you truly are and what constitutes your true purpose, a path with heart. This may come amidst the needs of the moment. Focus on identifying this deeper need as you manage outer responsibilities.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Navigating through tricky waters has kept you busy the past several weeks. Things should be getting clearer now. The urge to break into new territory remains strong and this could apply psychologically as well as physically. Your focus will get progressively stronger yet this week and you will be busy.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22) A philosophical mood prevails. You are seeking answers. The process may be leaving you feeling less social. What you want new is new knowledge, answers and the confidence of know how. Many new realizations and even profound insights are igniting in your mind. Record them somehow, you will be glad you did later.

Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22) Rich and powerful exchanges with others have been keeping you busy. Deciphering who has what you want and need and who needs what you have. Pushing through opposition and indecision is featured as you move towards the higher ground. It is natural to want the advantage and you do.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) A steady process of giving and take with others continues. You may feel as though you must give more that feels fair. This theme will continue for a while yet. Directing a sharp focus to matters is an asset for all concerned, yet it may also be hard to take. Your attitude is critical and resolve is bold challenging others to keep up.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) The clouds are clearing, finally. Yet despite the inspiration to play, the need to work may be stronger. Either way, you will take a sporting approach. A spirit of victory will keep your spirits high. A competitive edge is also present and it could cause animosity and spoil the fun, so be aware and temper your attitude accordingly.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) A creative and playful mood is keeping you busy, especially close to home. You want to take new initiatives and at least uplift the atmosphere by way of spring cleaning. Yet introducing a new style and feel altogether is also likely. Your energy levels are running high now so this is the time. If you delay now, the project could drag on for months even.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Thinking new thoughts and entertaining the possibilities is keeping you busy of late. This process of thinking out of the box may prove refreshing yet a little intimidating as well. Big moves and even renovations are indicated. Seeing a bigger picture remains important to support taking what may well amount to a big leap of faith.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20) A mix of ambition and curiosity are leading you to consider alternate approaches. A process of deep negotiations with significant others has been underway for many months even. But now it is time to take more deliberate action. This will require a strategic plan and fortunately, you are in a good headspace to do just that. Cooperate for best results.

sports&recreation

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, Streets of Salt Spring Island

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com



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September 11, 2017

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Meet on the Putting Green.
Clubs available or bring your own.
Hosted by SSGC members.

RUNNING

Local runners tackle Victoria TC 10K

Road racing booms on Salt Spring

On Sunday, April 30, upwards of 27 Salt Spring runners, representing three teams and eight unaffiliated runners, completed the 2017 Times Colonist 10K in decidedly blustery conditions. Five runners achieved personal best times for the distance.

Leading the pack was Salt Spring Sneakers coach and mentor Susan Gordon, who finished in 180th position of the over 6,500 who finished the race. She achieved a personal best time of 42 minutes, two seconds, breaking her previous best time by 38 seconds and finishing first in the women's 55-59 age group and 25th among the over 4,000 women who finished.

The second Salt Springer to finish was Alex De Carle, an unaffiliated runner, who finished 358th overall and 30th of 169 in his men's 20-24 age group in a time of 44:32.

The third Salt Springer to finish was Lise Fraser. Her personal best time of 46:08 earned her 482nd place and first of 116 in her women's 60-64 age group.

The next four Salt Springers to finish were all members of the "Thirst Place" team. Dean Crouse's 49:36 was a personal best time by four minutes and earned him 76th place out of 277 in his men's 45-49 age group. Dale Lundy's time of 51:11 was a personal best



PHOTO COURTESY SS SNEAKERS

Susan Gordon with the plaque she won as the fastest woman in her 55-59 age category in the Times Colonist 10K.

by three minutes and earned a 56th place out of 220 in his men's 50-54 age group. Jason Donaldson's 52:19 earned him 103rd of 275 in his men's 40-44 age group. Ray Colleran's time of 52:38 was good for 104th of 277 in the men's 45-49 age group. The fifth runner on their team, Clare Nuyen, finished in 55:09, for 59th place among

402 in the women's 40-44 age category.

Unaffiliated runner Ted Grand finished in a time of 54:19, a personal best by 18 minutes for this distance, earning him 125th place out of 277 men in the men's 45-49 age group.

Salt Spring Sneaker Pat Peron was the next Salt Springer to

finish. Pushing his granddaughter in a stroller, he finished in 54:51, slower than his usual time for this distance, earning him 34th of 151 in his men's 60-64 age group. His son Adam, in the same time, earned 174th out of 356 in his men's 30-34 age group. Pat's partner, officially Doreen, completed the Peron team competition in 1:05:43, earning an 84th place out of 342 in the women's 55-59 age group.

Other Salt Spring times and finishes were:

Drew Stotesbury, 55:19, 70th out of 174 in men's 55-59; Conrad Bowden, 1:00:57, 68th of 121 in men's 60-64; Karen Clark, 1:05:43, 70th of 174 in women's 60-64; Mike De Carle, 59:49, 170th out of 277 in men's 45-49; Susan Stoffelsma, 1:13:58, 70th of 201 in women's 60-64; Sandra Didrikson Locke, 1:20:48, 11th out of 68 in women's 70-74; Shawnee Labonte, 1:41:01, 475th of 530 in women's 25-29; Mary Lou Bevier, 1:55:35, 184th of 201 in women's 60-64; Jim Mortensen, 1:55:36, 144th of 151 in men's 60-64.

The Holistic Fitness on Salt Spring team marshalled five runners for the competition. Their results were: Scout Upex, 1:40:31, 228th of 342 in women's 55-59; Linda Lee, 1:40:31, 265th of 322 in women's 50-54; Tanja Akerman, 1:40:32, 350th of 402 in women's 40-44; Michele Severn, 1:50:23, 330th of 356 in women's 45-49; Carol Bremner, 1:50:26, 292nd of 342 in women's 55-59.

GOLF

Beginners lessons offered at club

New season gets underway

GOLFTEES

BY MARCIA HOGAN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It's not golf as usual on Salt Spring this year.

The club is changing things up to provide opportunities for islanders of all ages. We will be offering fun golf activities including tournaments, clinics, free golf lessons for

beginners, family golf nights, skills contests and more.

It begins with free lessons for new golfers: those who are interested in playing golf but don't know how to get started or are reluctant to join experienced golfers. This is an opportunity to get hands-on instruction and practice with a group of fel-

low beginners at no cost. The beginner golf lessons are presented by club members and repeated on the second Monday of each month from 4 until 5:45 p.m., beginning May 8.

Lessons cover the correct grip and stance for the three main shots of driving, chipping and putting, and an introduction to the fundamentals of this great game in a social setting. To register, call 250-653-4690 or e-mail golf@saltspring.com or drop in.

TENNIS

May 13 is Tennis Day at Portlock Park

Free sessions for all ages

Everyone is invited to come out and try the sport of tennis at Portlock Park tennis courts on Saturday, May 13.

Three different age categories are set up for the event. From 9 to 10 a.m., kids aged six to 11 can try tennis. From 10 to 11 a.m., youth aged 12 through 17 will take the courts. From 11 a.m. to 12 noon, people aged 18 through

adult will have a turn.

Three certified tennis coaches and tennis-playing volunteers will be on hand to organize skills and drills. Participants should bring a racquet if they have one, but racquets will also be on hand for people to use.

The event is free, but people should email baseline tennis@telus.net to reserve a spot, making sure to include their age. A confirmation email will be returned.

What you put
down the drain matters!



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