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PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

VICTORY STANCE: Farley Cannon hoists the cup Sunday night after Salt Spring's Sons of Pitches team wins the men's competitive division at the 34th annual Challenge Cup tourney, with tournament volunteer and cup presenter Tami Moulton sharing in the cheer. The hard-fought game against a Cowichan team ended in a late-evening shoot-out following a one-one tie in regular time.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

CREST information questioned

VHF tower applicant gathering site analysis data

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders concerned about a very high frequency radio tower proposed for the Salt Spring Legion property have zeroed in on the public consultation process as a possible means of action.

A request for a statement of concurrence with the tower location has been considered by the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee, which voted April 30 to get more information from the Capital Region Emergency Service Telecommunications Inc. before making a decision.

Salt Spring lawyer John Davies submitted a letter to the Local Trust Committee last week stating he believes CREST failed to comply with the process laid out by Innovation, Science and Economic Development

Canada, which means the local government is obliged to deny concurrence.

"It is my considered opinion that the ISED public communications procedure establishes in law a duty of care and a duty to mitigate harm, and is lawfully binding upon the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee in any exercise of its mandate affecting individual Salt Spring Island residents in ISED matters. What I have seen of ISED's response to citizen inquiries and their dispute resolution process emphasizes the gravitas of the conduct of the matter," Davies wrote.

The federal regulations state that telecom companies "must consult openly and transparently with communities on the location of towers and make sure that residents know about the consultations" when new sites are being considered. Where the land

use authority does not have an established process, companies are to follow ISED's default.

Davies and other critics of CREST's public engagement have noted that the initial flyers sent out to neighbours of the site did not comprise the full information package specified in the ISEC guidelines.

"The flyer did not have the required wording on its face, notifying residents they were living within a specific radius of a proposed antenna system," observed tower critic Paula Johansson. "Inside it asked, 'What exactly is being installed above the fire hall?,' revealing it was a copy and paste production with content that did not apply to Salt Spring."

CREST continued on 2

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MAY 2019 HNP Z+8

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
22	0151	2.7	8.9	26	0713	2.2	7.2
	0519	2.9	9.5		0816	2.2	7.2
WE	1259	0.4	1.3	SU	1554	1.2	3.9
ME	2126	3.3	10.8	DI			
23	0311	2.6	8.5	27	0008	3.2	10.5
	0548	2.7	8.9		0734	2.0	6.6
TH	1341	0.6	2.0	MO	1038	2.1	6.9
JE	2212	3.3	10.8	LU	1648	1.5	4.9
24	0442	2.5	8.2	28	0038	3.1	10.2
	0614	2.6	8.5		0756	1.8	5.9
FR	1422	0.8	2.6	TU	1248	2.1	6.9
VE	2255	3.3	10.8	MA	1749	1.7	5.6
25	1506	1.0	3.3	29	0106	3.1	10.2
	2333	3.2	10.5		0819	1.5	4.9
SA				WE	1425	2.3	7.5
SA				ME	1851	1.9	6.2

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CREST's criteria to be explained

CREST continued from 1

Johansson said other details not included on the initial flyer were the precise geographic coordinates; information on why that specific site is needed, why other sites were not selected, and a list of where those sites were; information on environmental and Health Canada compliance; and a closing date for the submission of written comments.

Planning staff have recommended the LTC issue a statement of concurrence based in part on successful fulfillment of the public consultation requirement. Most of the information requirements that ISEC outlines were provided at a public meeting held on Dec. 1 and published on a website created for the project. Details of the event and the website were both printed on the initial flyer. The meeting was advertised in local media outlets, including the Driftwood.

Speaking this week, trustee Peter Grove said the consultation aspect of the application was not an issue for him.

"It seems to me they could not have anything much more than they did," Grove said.

The area the LTC has identified as lacking in CREST's application is discussion of site options, including locations other than the Legion.

"I'm hoping for some information from the applicant, some rigorous investigation into the options and alternatives and some robust analysis of those. That's what I think was missing at the last meeting," Grove said.

CREST manager Gordon Horth said the organization has a system of rating potential sites according to six criteria. The Legion was selected as the best option for being close enough to Ganges to cover an existing communication gap, having a mature stand of firs that will soften the aesthetic effect

of the 44-metre high monopole, and because the Legion is already used for public safety equipment storage and as an emergency centre.

The site lease is another contributing factor.

"Often it's preferred that we pay that to a community organization that's putting that money back into the community rather than a private landowner," Horth said.

Horth said he is putting together a comprehensive overview of the sites that CREST considered, and working on getting information on some other locations the LTC had suggested at the April 30 meeting. This involves having the topographic features and other data run through software in Calgary to create a radiowave broadcasting model.

Horth is hoping to have that available in time for the next LTC meeting on May 28, but if not it should be ready in the coming weeks.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Foundation approves ER design funds

First phase of hospital foundation project can proceed

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Planning for a new Lady Minto Hospital emergency department got a boost last week with a commitment from the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation to spend funds needed for the project's schematic design and design development stages.

At an extraordinary general meeting held Thursday, Lady Minto Hospital Foundation Society members approved using \$1.5 million from the foundation's endowment fund in order to get the project rolling. The motion passed by a 23-2 vote.

Emergency department expansion will see a 5,400-square-foot addition to the hospital at a preliminary estimated cost of between \$8 and \$10 million.

"This is an important step forward for a project that Salt Spring Islanders need and want," said LMHF chair Derek Fry after the meeting. "The existing ED is too cramped to meet the emergency and urgent care needs of a community of 10,000 permanent residents plus our summer visitors."

While Island Health has stated it will fund the operating costs for an expanded emergency department, it has committed no funding for the capital costs. Other major projects on Vancouver Island have taken precedence.

However, the Lady Minto Hospital ED expansion has been deemed a priority by the hospital foundation and its board is confident the required funds can be provided. The foundation currently has \$6.5 million in its endowment fund and plans to raise more as needed.

At Thursday's meeting, board members explained that Salt Spring can either wait indefinitely for its emergency department to be improved by Island Health and Capital Regional Health District funding or commit to covering the capital costs itself.

"Are we going to wait while some of the bigger projects are out of the way or are we going to step up and do it?" asked Fry.

"It's not [Island Health's] priority but it's our priority and we can't afford to wait," said board member Paul Oliphant.

The CRHD traditionally provides up to 30 per cent of the cost of a capital project in its region but stipulates Island Health must be a capital funding partner in order for it to contribute.

Salt Spring CRD director Gary Holman told the meeting that he and others are pursuing an exception to that policy, especially considering that Salt Spring contributes some \$900,000 annually to the CRHD in property tax dollars.

"I am confident the CRD will end up making a significant contribution to this," said Fry.

Not everyone in the room was pleased with the memo-

**"This is an important
step forward for a
project that Salt Spring
Islanders need and
want."**

DEREK FRY
*Lady Minto Hospital
Foundation chair*

andum of understanding arrangement that currently sees the foundation put up all of the money without a commensurate amount of control.

"Everything is left open-ended when it comes to the finances and I find it a very upsetting situation," said Bob Brewer, who is a former LMHFS board member.

He proposed and members accepted an amendment to the original motion. It states that the

foundation's endowment fund will not drop below \$4 million without approval of society members. Brewer had wanted to set the level at \$5 million, which would cover the \$1.5 million estimated for design purposes and no more, but board treasurer Brettney Webb explained that could result in cash flow problems and conflict with Canada Revenue Agency rules about annual disbursement of funds.

To assure people that Island Health wouldn't be able to drain hospital foundation resources, Fry stressed that his group will be signing off on all expenditures.

A joint Island Health/foundation working group will be set up to oversee the project.

Kelly Hyslop, who was foundation board chair in 2017, said the original memorandum of understanding about the project presented to the board by Island Health was so appalling that its contents caused "either nausea or laughter." He felt the current MOU was very similar and, like Brewer, criticized the open-ended nature of some clauses and the lack of control granted to the foundation.

Fry said he had seen the previous MOU and the current one and felt "there are marked differences."

Hyslop also recalled how the foundation had provided \$780,000 for an operating room upgrade completed in 2004 and then Island Health withdrew financial support for a surgeon, support staff and required equipment sterilization in 2010.

Fry responded that those foundation funds were committed for a number of items besides general surgical services, including the palliative care suite, which still exist. He also said that 80 per cent of procedures taking place in the operating room were endoscopies and that those are still done in the facility.

But Hyslop still expressed need for vigilance when dealing with Island Health.

"We have to keep some heat on the feet of [Island Health], who spend \$2.3 billion per year and can't afford our emergency room."

NEWS BRIEFS

Ferry woes hit island

Ferry travellers coming through Swartz Bay Tuesday morning faced delays as a result with BC Ferries' ticketing system.

Both foot passenger and vehicle ticket booths were affected, impacting passengers on their way to Salt Spring, the Southern Gulf Islands and Tsawwassen.

Heavy volumes of traffic may have also made travel difficult for some travellers over the long weekend. Among those affected were a team of BC Ferries executives who were headed to Salt Spring on Friday afternoon for their semi-annual meeting with the island's ferry advisory committee. The meeting was cancelled after the team was unable to get on the 1 p.m. sailing from Swartz Bay to Fulford.

The meeting may be rescheduled this week. Watch the Driftwood's Facebook page for an update.

Trust Council heads to Galiano

The Islands Trust Council's next quarterly business meeting will be held on Galiano Island June 18-20 at the Galiano South Community Hall.

Members of the community are encouraged to attend a town hall session on Wednesday, June 19, starting at 1:30 p.m. Designed to promote dialogue between islanders and trustees, the session is an opportunity for the public to ask questions and make suggestions about the work of Trust Council. Trust Council welcomes input about how the Islands Trust can improve on delivery of its mandate.

Persons or organizations wishing to make a formal delegation are asked to send their request in writing at least three weeks before the meeting. The topic, speaker's name, and contact information must be sent to Lori Foster (lfoster@islandstrust.bc.ca) by Thursday, May 30. Guidelines for presentations to council can be viewed online at <http://islandstrust.bc.ca/talkto-council>.

The full agenda package and schedule for the meeting will be posted to the Trust's online meeting calendar by June 10.

TECHNOLOGY

New rules govern public drone use

All operators must register drones and pass test

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A new suite of rules around drone operations comes into effect on June 1 that will affect pilots, aircraft and airspace.

Drone operators will now be required to pass an exam before they are allowed to fly any drone that weighs more than 250 grams. Two types of test will be available. Amateur drone pilots must pass a basic test and register their drones with Transport Canada. Commercial operators will be required to take a more substantive test and be subject to a flight test supervised by a qualified reviewer.

The new rules come as a result of industry consultation, and have been re-written to catch up with the exponential growth within the unmanned aircraft industry. Transport Canada consulted with organizations like Unmanned Systems Canada and Flyy (a professional drone alliance) to develop the rules.

Unmanned Systems Canada board member and Salt Spring resident Philip Reece explained the rules will give new freedoms to drone pilots who register.

"They're a great improvement on what we had before. The industry had outgrown itself," Reece said. "They allow a lot of freedom to pilots who are prepared to go through the training... We have a lot more freedoms here under Transport Canada's regulations provided that we build the knowledge and demonstrate that we have the knowledge to be able to fly."

Since all drone operators will need to register their drones and take the exams, Reece believes that people will start to consider how they will use their drones before taking to the skies.

"There's a lot more thought that needs to go into it now ... it's not a matter of going down, buying it, taking it out of



PHOTO COURTESY INDRO ROBOTICS

An airspace map of Salt Spring shows where people can and cannot fly a drone around Salt Spring.

the package and going to fly."

Some of the new standards include night flights, which before now have been possible for some organizations who have special flight operations certificates. Under the new regulations, drones must be flown at least 30 metres away from anyone who is not involved in the operation of the drone. They must stay within visual line of sight of the operator, be flown within uncontrolled airspace, under 400 feet, and must be at least 5.6 km from airports, or 1.8 km from heliports.

"All UAVs have to give way to manned aircraft at all times," Reece explained.

Salt Spring has one designated airport in Ganges Harbour and one in Long Harbour. Four heliports are also listed on the island. Most of the airspace around Salt Spring is Class G, which is airspace uncontrolled. Any aircraft may fly in this airspace. A small portion of the island on the south end is classified as Class C. This airspace refers to a control zone that

surrounds a large airport for 10 nautical miles (18.5 km) and is under air traffic control.

Other rules may apply as well. Flights in national parks are not allowed by Parks Canada, and limitations exist around flying near wildlife. Drone use near any disaster zone like wildfires is prohibited. Transport Canada inspectors as well as RCMP have the authority to issue fines of \$1,000 to \$25,000 per infraction, and the Canada Criminal Code may be applicable for privacy concerns.

Pilots who are registered with Model Aeronautics Association of Canada will still be able to fly on MAAC fields. Salt Spring has one such field, located off Sunset Drive.

UAV training courses are available on Salt Spring, as well as flight testing. More information on testing is available at <https://indrorobotics.ca/training>. Information about registering drones and pilot tests is available on the Transport Canada website.

EDUCATION

SD64 begins consultation on reconfiguration

Roadmap to process set out at Saturna meeting

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands School District has begun the consultation phase of its reconfiguration project.

A public statement of intent to consult was presented by the board at their May 8 meeting on Saturna Island. The statement and a draft strategy document discussed at the meeting marked the start of a process that looks at how the school district can best serve the community.

Superintendent Scott Benwell described the process as "an opportunity for a real open conversation across our district."

"Essentially we're asking the question: 'Are we doing

things optimally to serve student learning?' I think it's healthy for any organization to pause and calmly and without pressure go out and have a conversation with parents, students, staff to answer that fundamental question," he added.

Still in a draft stage, the Reconfiguration Consultation Strategy document is a roadmap to the process. Plans include engagement with the community through meetings and an online feedback process as well as consultation with students and staff.

"The design of the consultation is very invitational and is asking people to be involved in a conversation, to share their voice and share their ideas," Benwell said.

No distinct timeline has been set for the process, though the first public meetings are expected for early in the 2019-20 school year.

"People may very well conclude that our current configuration is what we want. That's as powerful as anything else"

SCOTT BENWELL
SD64 Superintendent

Reconfiguration studies are a normal part of school board operations, though they do not happen often. The last time SD64 had a full-on reconfiguration was 25 years ago with the construction of Gulf Islands Secondary School. Another change was the implementation of the four-day school week, though this was a change at the instruc-

tional level.

"Any substantial configuration is quite old ... Our assumptions about learning are different now than they were 25 years ago," Benwell said. "People may very well conclude that our current configuration is what we want. That's as powerful as anything else. It's a confirmation and an opportunity to adjust if necessary."

Initiated by the previous board of trustees in October of last year, this process is seen as a way to ensure the school district is as up to date as possible. Benwell explained that he foresaw no problems or desired outcomes.

"I don't want people to feel that there's something afoot. It's really just a question. There's nothing driving it other than wanting to be current and responsive and wanting to serve learners, families and our community," he said.

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PHOTO AT LEFT BY GAIL SIJBERG; PHOTO AT RIGHT BY MAGGIE SQUIRES

FIRE SMART: Members of the Garner-Caprice POD clear broom and dry wood from the side of Garner Road thanks to help from a FireSmart Canada grant, encouraged by Salt Spring Fire Rescue members. The grant covered FireSmart instruction, chipping costs, signage and more to help make a neighbourhood more FireSmart. Left: Firefighters Warren Nuyens, left and Mitchell Sherrin are seen along with Garner Road neighbours Brent Simpson, Stefan Grzybowski, Hudson Oakes, Robyn Oakes and Woodrow Oakes. Right: neighbourhood signage advertizing the event, which was covered by the grant.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CEDC pushes for grant inclusion

CRD Electoral Areas to be added to Islands Coastal Economic Trust

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Community Economic Development Commission is asking the Capital Regional District board to request federal government approval to include Salt Spring and the Southern Gulf Islands in the Community Futures service boundaries.

Inclusion would give the two electoral districts a chance to be part of the Community Futures Network of Canada. Community Futures is a business financing organization that supports small businesses in rural B.C., funded through Western Economic Diversification Canada.

"It seems like there is a resistance to include us," said CEDC chair Francine Carlin during a commission meeting last Monday. "I want to advocate for us to be treated fairly on this. I really strongly ask that the commission support the CRD moving this forward more aggressively with regard to Community Futures."

The Cowichan branch of Community Futures is based in Duncan and serves, among other areas, Chemainus, Crofton and Thetis and Penelakut Islands. Salt Spring and Gulf Islands businesses have at times applied for some funding, but the region has not been included in the network.

"Individuals going and seeking support from the Cowichan Valley Community Futures is not good enough," Carlin said. "Our community needs to be included in the boundaries so that we're part of the service area, not a

one-off that comes off the Vesuvius ferry and says 'Can I please have some service.'"

In addition to small business loans, Community Futures represents a network of rural communities and the expertise behind them. Programs like the export navigator, which helps businesses grow outside of their communities, are a part of that network. More programs could also be available.

"This is all we know, it doesn't include what we don't know," said commissioner Janice Harkley.

Also presented at the meeting was an update on the islands' rural definition, as well as the Western Diversification process. Carlin explained that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing had committed to an Order in Council that would amend the provincial legislation governing the Islands Coastal Economic Trust (ICET) to include the CRD electoral areas.

"We missed over \$50 million of grant funding that we could have applied to," Carlin said about potential grant money that was available through ICET. "It's huge amounts of money that we just haven't been able to access and use for our communities... It's an important part of our ability to be economically sustainable for the area."

"It's a slap in the face to our region to not be included in the Community Futures family," she added.

Advocating for inclusion in these various programs has been a goal of the CEDC for several years.

Commissioner Darryl Martin said, "We have been moving with some success since about four years ago. This is a process of getting in where we should have been 20 years ago."

FIRE

South-end fire contained to garage area

Main house saved

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue responded to an early morning structure fire in the 100 block of Thomas Road on Friday.

Salt Spring Fire Chief Arjuna George said the initial call came in at 4:37 a.m. and crews were finished at the scene at 8 a.m.

George said 25 firefighters responded with 19 on scene, plus four fire trucks and three support vehicles along with BC Ambulance and BC Hydro personnel.

"On arrival, firefighters faced a fully involved detached garage structure

fire threatening the main house," said George in a press release. "Due to the fast response and aggressive attack, the fire was held to the garage only. The garage suffered severe damage with the main home receiving only slight exterior damage."

He said two people were home at the time and were alerted of the fire by a neighbour.

"If it was not for the attentive neighbour, the result of this fire could have been far worse," said George.

No injuries were reported, and the cause of the fire is still under investigation.



PHOTO COURTESY SALT SPRING FIRE RESCUE

Salt Spring Fire Rescue on scene at a structure fire on Thomas Road early Friday morning.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Gearing up for Bike to Work Week

Younger riders a focus for this year's event

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders are preparing to ride their bikes to work and school to take part in the eighth edition of Bike to Work Week on Salt Spring from May 27 to June 2.

The event is designed to give people a chance to ride their bikes to work, to promote a healthy lifestyle and a more environmentally friendly way to travel. The idea is simple: people are invited to ride their bikes to work or school, logging their kilometres on the event's website. People who log rides during the event will be entered in a draw to win a cycling vacation. "Celebration stations" will be set up around the island to help encourage people to join in and island businesses will offer special incentives to people who ride their bikes.

Event coordinator Robin Jenkinson explained they hope to get more people out on bikes, even if it is for one week, as it increases people's awareness of alternative forms of travel.

"When [drivers] start seeing people on bikes all over the place, even just for a one-week duration, they can realize that they need to be not looking at their phone and aware of the other people whose tax dollars are going to make these transportation routes that are not only for cars," she said.

This year's event will have a special focus on younger riders. Based on last year's successful bike rodeo at Salt Spring Elementary School, Jenkinson and the other organizers saw that when kids ride their bikes to school, it promotes the activity for the whole



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Islanders enjoy a break after cycling to a 2018 Bike to Work Week Celebration Station hosted by Outspokin' Bike Shop.

family. This year, two bike rodeos will be held, one at SSE on Tuesday morning and one at Fernwood Elementary on Wednesday morning. Kids will get the chance to have their bikes checked over by a mechanic, and Island Pathways will run a \$10 helmet program for kids.

"Kids love to ride their bikes, and this gives them more opportunities to do so," Jenkinson said. "[The SSE Bike Rodeo] was a great way to reach more people and celebrate cycling."

Friday will have bike skills workshops at the Mouat Park bike park, and there will be a celebration station and e-bike demo at Outspokin' Bikes on Saturday morning.

Jenkinson hopes that the week-long event will convince people that riding on Salt Spring is possible, and can be

done safely.

"I think that it's just as important to get people out on bikes as it is to make cars more aware of bikes," she said. "Part of the reason that it's good to do an intensive week where everyone gets out on bikes is that it can really raise awareness for drivers when they start seeing more than one person on a bike."

Bike To Work Week was started in 1995 in Victoria with 500 participants. It came to Salt Spring eight years ago, and last year over 80 riders on Salt Spring took part in the event.

Those interested in participating can sign up at www.biketowork.ca/salt-spring-other-gulf-islands. Workplace teams are encouraged and are a great way to challenge each other to ride more.

CANNABIS

Island operation receives outdoor license

Health Canada approval may be first in nation

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Good Buds Company Inc. announced last week it has been awarded an outdoor cultivation license for its Salt Spring Island property, and believes it is the first company in the nation to receive the authorization.

A press release states that Good Buds was founded by brothers Tyler and Alex Rumi, and has quickly grown into a family of professionals with a focus on quality and sustainable cultivation. The brand is guided by the principles of artisanal quality and craft growing and extraction techniques.

"We're thrilled to have been awarded an outdoor cultivation license, and are grateful to Health Canada for approving our outdoor grow area in only four months," said founder and CEO, Tyler Rumi. "Our outdoor license places us in a great position to keep expanding our business organically. We want passionate cannabis enthusiasts to trust us and stand with Good Buds for the long-term, so we're committed to growing only the most potent and flavourful cannabis."

Good Buds already has Health Canada-licensed indoor cultivation space on North End Road. Adding outdoor growing ability is expected to dramatically lower capital and production costs when compared to indoor and greenhouse-grown crops.

"More importantly, outdoor cannabis is a more sustainable way to cultivate as outdoor cultivation dramatically decreases the carbon footprint caused by traditional syn-

thetic cannabis cultivation," the press release states.

The Good Buds company had another first in Canada in receiving the first ever joint cultivation-oils license. The company extracts cannabis oils using only solvent-free extraction techniques.

The brothers said they homed in on Salt Spring for their business because the climate is perfectly suited for outdoor growing. Plants respond well to the bright sunlight, mild ocean breezes and pristine water quality unique to Salt Spring Island which provides an advantage over other locations.

They plan on building on the region's reputation for natural beauty and agriculture to create a company that is synonymous with ideals such as family, quality, attention to detail and sustainability.

"We believe that if we stay focused on growing the purest cannabis, we'll end up with the purest extractions. Whenever you're extracting cannabis, quality-in equals quality-out," Alex Rumi, Good Buds' chief strategy officer, stated in the press release.

"That's why we grow only in recycled living organic soils. We don't want to produce a flavourless commodity, rather, we want to produce terpene rich products that celebrate the quality and uniqueness of our sun-grown cannabis."

Good Buds states its small-batch indoor cultivation operations are already powered by more than 90 per cent renewable energy sources.

It is not known whether the company has received authorizations required by other authorities, including a Capital Regional District building permit and groundwater licensing with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, that were previously unfulfilled.

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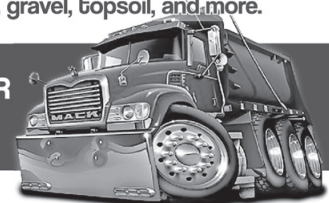
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OPINION



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Gold - Best Feature Series (Elizabeth Nolan) | Silver - Best All-Round | Bronze - Best Editorial



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EDITORIAL

Two wheel challenge

Bike to Work week is a way for Salt Spring Islanders to show they're serious about the environment.

We take pride in our commitment to the environment, it is part of islanders' identities. We are represented by the Green party both federally and provincially, we have been called unicorn riders based on our opposition to the proposed twinning of the Trans Mountain pipeline, we have the most electric vehicles per capita in Canada and our local government has declared a climate emergency in and around the islands.

Meanwhile, gas prices have been breaking records for so long that it is no longer surprising to see them over \$1.60. Bike to Work Week is the perfect time to save some money and park the gas guzzlers.

THE ISSUE: Climate crisis

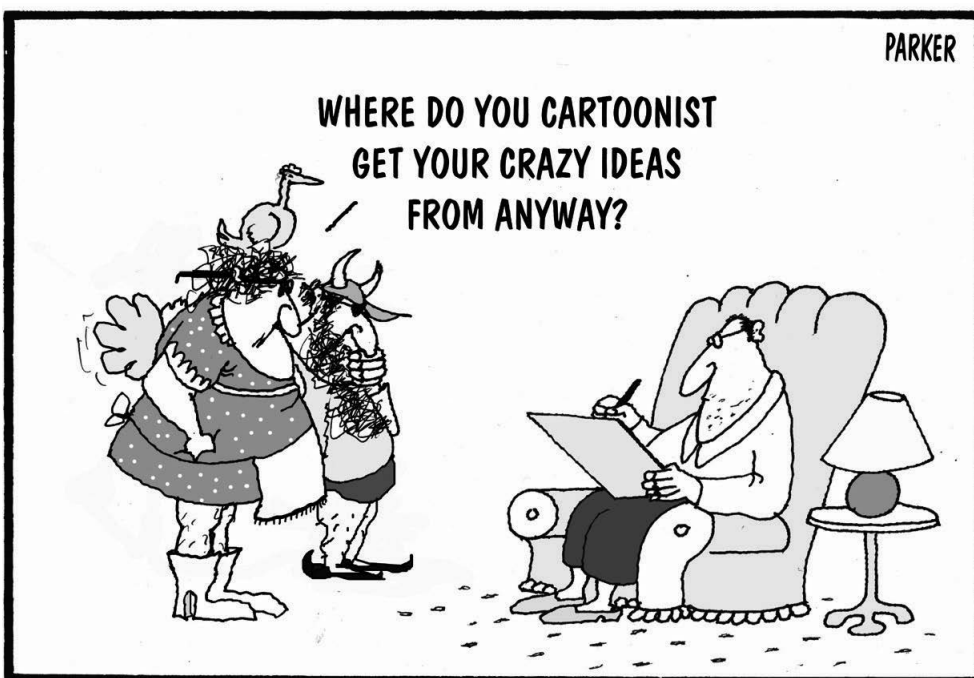
WE SAY: Cycling is a simple solution

even a small fraction of these were done by bike, the impact would be incredible. Cycling is one of the only transportation options that has zero environmental impact.

Though it may be a long ride from Fulford to Ganges, it is not an impossible feat. A casual rider takes a little under an hour to make the trek. Modern bikes and e-bikes make hills seem like nothing, and a good bicycle costs far less to purchase and maintain than even a used car. Non-major routes are a great alternative without many cars, and the danger of riding on Salt Spring's roads is lessened when more people do it.

If you are able to do your part and help promote cycling during Bike to Work Week, this helps create a healthy lifestyle on the island, and hopefully word will spread to our neighbouring cycling-friendly communities. Studies from Canada and the U.S. show that when communities embrace bicycle tourism, business revenues go up. Nobody is more willing to spend money than a group of hungry cyclists.

Bike to Work week should be seen as a challenge to Salt Springers to live up to our environmentally-friendly claims.



Pathways cost not tallied

BY JENNY MCCLEAN

In response to the budget debates going back and forth in the Driftwood, I would like to say the following:

The North Ganges Transportation Plan, aside from the successful part that was built before the 2014 taxation referendum (that took another million out of Salt Spring property owners, above the war chest that was already held by the CRD and also a separate taxation that contributes to the bus), has not succeeded in its plan.

Two studies were commissioned and that was the JE Anderson report and the James report. Island Pathways, which receives CRD funding, joined in with plans to create a pathway loop around town going along Rainbow to Atkins, along Lower Ganges and back to town. At the time it was obvious that a certain idea would not work.

Better ideas presented from the public included the suggestion that people could already use Swanson Road instead of the unmanageable hill they have to tackle to go on Atkins. Years went by with so much effort going

VIEWPOINT

into this one rigid design idea.

In the meanwhile some good projects did get built. For example, the path by Churchill Road that goes into town is quite nice and useful.

However, with the ideas to take over road shoulders and convert them into paths in areas that were already walkable (for example, by the upper part of the Farmers' Institute and also the pullover outside Phoenix Secondary), it was just a waste of time and money. That money continues to go out each year as the upkeep costs are paid for by property taxes. The CRD has an annual budget of \$40,000 for pathways maintenance.

I attended the budget presentation by Gary Holman. That was the same presentation that the Driftwood attended.

Gary Holman stated at that public meeting that the arrangement between the CRD and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for the land transfer from MoTI to the CRD to enable the "paths" to be built was that the

CRD (local taxes) would pay for the upkeep of the paths in perpetuity.

For many that does not matter and is just business as usual. However, when I asked at that time about the maintenance budget as it was openly known that it did have a cost, the CRD would not admit it was a budget item. The reason this matters is that those who may want a different type of design, or those who have already given money in lieu of land to Islands Trust, may wish to have some input on the design. Islands Trust collected money for a sidewalk from a property owner, yet there were no sidewalk plans.

At that time I did not understand the politics here at all. The divisiveness was fanned by the unwillingness to listen to the public. It was not considered that the pathways cost any money at all. However, the North Ganges Transportation Plan, which includes pathways, has been quite expensive, including the \$1 million extra property taxes approved in the 2014 referendum.

The writer is a Salt Spring Island resident.

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Does downtown Ganges need a citizens' patrol?

☐ Yes ☐ No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should the speed limit be lowered to 70 km/h on Fulford-Ganges Rd.?

161 210
YES NO

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

OPINION { QUOTE OF THE WEEK: }

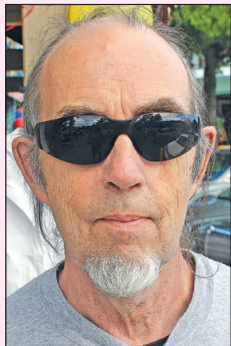
"It's a slap in the face to our region to not be included in the Community Futures family."

FRANCINE CARLIN, CEDC CHAIR

SALT SPRING SAYS

WE ASKED: *How has increased ferry traffic affected you?*

ARCHIE MCGILLIVRAY



It hasn't that much because we don't leave the island much. I expect it would affect people who are commuting a lot more than us. It is part of the highway system and there should be more sailings.

JIMMY JOBI



When you go to get on the Fulford ferry and can't even drive all the way down, it's hard as a walk-on because you have to walk a lot further after you get dropped off.

JOHN LANG



I was a walk-on and had no issues. There really weren't too many people on Thursday afternoon.

PATRICIA BREEN



Since I come here quite frequently it definitely has. I've had family who couldn't even claim a reservation coming from Tsawwassen. It is difficult.

SUZY WRIGHT



I don't know if it has yet, we'll see what happens over the weekend.

LETTERS to the editor

Circus delights

On Saturday, May 11, I spent the best \$10 this year on a ticket to the Salt Spring Island Middle School's Tsunami's Circus: Beyond Time. Talk about value for money!

From the moment the lights went down, I was entranced. Mesmerized, even. The jugglers, acrobats, trapeze artists, aerial silk acrobats and dancers were all amazing. I was so impressed with their expertise and professionalism. The costumes were whimsical and wonderful. The music was such an eclectic mix of the old and the new. The choreography was perfect. This was a visual smorgasbord!

I cannot imagine the hours of practice that went into rehearsing for this performance. It was obvious that the kids really enjoyed performing their parts. They just looked so happy to be dancing, singing or up on the silks, cube and trapeze. This was a far cry from my school days, decades ago, when a recorder recital was considered par-

ents' entertainment!

Bravo and thank you, SIMS kids, teachers, coaches, and all those behind the scenes in Beyond Time.

CLARE STORRIE,
CAMPBELL RIVER

Stop clear-cutting

I have been shocked by the number of trucks I am seeing on the roads of Salt Spring, at the ferry terminals and parked here and there on pullouts. Trucks loaded with logs. Logs that used to be trees, that were a part of a functioning forest ecosystem, home to various living things, protection for our watersheds and stabilizer of precious wetlands and vulnerable high-erosion areas.

As I drive around the island, once again, I am horrified and almost speechless to see large tracts of land denuded of trees, signs of devastation everywhere, and I wonder why this is allowed to happen anymore ... in 2019, in the midst of an acknowledged climate crisis. Where are those who are to "Preserve and Protect?"

This action is so much a part

of an old, outdated mindset where anything and everything can and should be recognized only for its monetary value. In the face of a climate emergency, water shortages and rapid loss of biodiversity, we all need to understand that there is something bigger and more valuable than money. It's critical that we recognize the interconnectedness of all living things on this planet and how our time of unconscious consumerism, devastation of natural resources and unending greed must quickly come to an end.

We must stand together to recognize those aspects of life here, on this island, that allow us to continue to live a healthy, peaceful life ... to hold these things dear and to work together to make a change that supports nature over greed, wholeness over arbitrary fractured decisions and recognition of the vulnerable state of our world.

I would be interested to hear from those on Salt Spring who have been affected by clear-cutting.

D. FAY,
SALT SPRING

Road safety

Last year a crew was on Salt Spring re-painting the traffic separation lines on several of our roads, an important safety concern, especially during the darker winter months. However, one busy road was somehow left off the list of those needing work and it continues to be hazardous. Stewart Road is an arterial connecting the north and south ends of this island and is frequently also busy with traffic in a hurry to get to (or home from) the Fulford ferry terminal.

Yesterday, while I was driving along Stewart Road, and coming to a blind corner, I was suddenly faced with a large SUV coming at me and taking up most of the middle of the road. I had to swerve onto the shoulder to get out of the way.

With better weather on our doorstep, it's time to get that centre line re-painted before there's a serious accident on Stewart Road.

CAROL PERRY,
SALT SPRING ISLAND

Vacation rentals not the enemy

BY SALT SPRING ACCOMMODATIONS GROUP

Does anyone really doubt that Salt Spring's economy, and infrastructure isn't tied inextricably to tourism? If not, what is it tied to? Manufacturing? No. Farming? And who are the farmers going to sell to at the Tuesday and Saturday markets if tourism is driven away from Salt Spring? Just the locals? Could locals alone sustain the farm output on the island? Highly unlikely!

Simply put, without a strong local tourist economy, businesses will shutter, services to retirees will be reduced and jobs will decline, and as a result, the need for low income housing will be dramatically reduced or disappear. Is this the Island Trust's solution to curing the low-income housing problem? One might think so by the recent actions of the bylaw enforcement officers.

As for long-term rentals, many have gone off the market of late due to our provincial government's new rule disallowing any fixed-term on long-term rentals, which is particularly problematic in vacation home areas such as the Gulf Islands.

But to vilify owners who are bringing needed accommodation and dollars to the island by renting short term is not the solution to the long-term rental shortage, no matter how convenient it is to do so. Let's make cottages legal for long-term rental and increase the zones that are able to have secondary suites.

An outdated, poorly written and overly restrictive interpretation of existing Bylaw 355 is perhaps the most significant component of the short-term accommodation problem. Part of this is the artificial distinction between short term vacation rentals (unmentioned in the bylaw) and bed and

GUEST COLUMN

breakfasts. In reality, the only difference between the two is the serving of breakfast in some form or other. As we see it, homeowners have a right to make supplemental income renting their legal units for whatever length they choose. The Salt Spring Accommodation Group, which represents over 65 accommodation members and over 150 associate members that supply the tourism industry, supports a reasonable revision of Bylaw 355 including the following provisions:

Homeowners that live on their property have a right to make a supplemental income and owners should only be able to rent out one unit on the island, (unless zoned to accommodate more than that number). Sufficient parking should be available for STVR use.

Further, our provincial government actually will contribute directly towards affordable housing: the Gulf Islands will implement a new MRDT tax (occupancy tax) later this year, collecting an additional two per cent tax on tourist stays. One hundred per cent of the Provincial Sales Tax (seven per cent tax) as well as the new MRDT tax (two per cent) from Airbnb (and other platforms in the future) will go to low-income housing.

The continuing vendetta by the bylaw officers as illustrated in the recent Driftwood Viewpoint by Miles Drew ("Trust enforces STVR rules," May 8), to shutter STVRs, or treat them as commercial enterprises, is absurd. It hurts real contributing members of the local community, who live on their own property making a supplemental income and letting either house or

cottage.

The bylaw must reflect a clear set of reasonable parameters that would allow owners to reside full time in their houses or cottages, and rent the other without percentage restriction. We also support some form of certification or approval process to guarantee compliance with an updated bylaw.

We take exception to several points raised in the Driftwood article. Issuing fines to guests that visit this island is a serious overreach by bylaw enforcement and is legally questionable. This sends a message that tourists are not welcome on Salt Spring and could quickly spread via social media, viral posts, blogs and the mainstream media to seriously damage the welcoming reputation that Salt Spring has developed over decades.

The article states "Properties that rent out their entire cottage or suite are not bed and breakfasts" and the bylaw enforcement officers have indicated to our members that kitchens are not permitted in seasonal cottages. Quite the reverse is in fact true. Seasonal cottages have to be in dwelling units and are self-contained, can be part of a B&B and are required to have a kitchen. There is no section of the bylaw that further restricts the existence or use of the kitchen in a seasonal cottage.

There is no empirical evidence that STVRs use more water than long-term rentals, in fact quite the reverse is the case. STVRs are typically occupied for a shorter period of time, typically between June and September.

We urge the Trust to revise the bylaw and create a situation in which tourism can flourish.

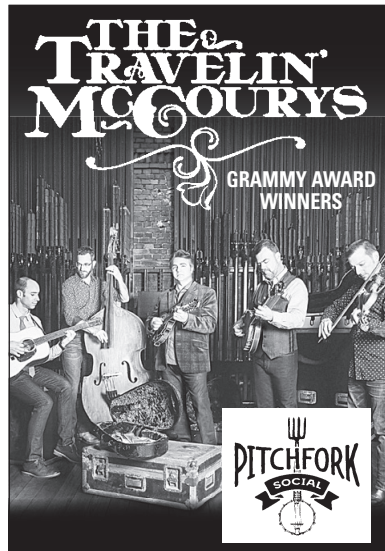


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PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

TOP OF THE CLASS:

A Gulf Islands Secondary School dance class rehearses for their end of semester show, which runs for two nights at ArtSpring on May 29 and 30.



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AMERICANA/ROOTS MUSIC

Pitchfork Social moves south

Opening show at Fulford Hall
set for June 4

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

David Youngson and PitchFork Social fans may have lost their prized Bullock Lake Farm location for the 2019 season, but that doesn't mean islanders won't be treated to some world-class music once again.

PitchFork Social has 11 concerts set to run from June 4 to Sept. 30 at Fulford Community Hall.

The season-opening band on June 4 is The Travellin' McCourys, who won a Grammy Award for the Best Bluegrass Album of the Year in 2018. The band was formed out of the famous Del McCoury Band, and consists of brothers Ronnie McCoury, Rob McCoury (Del McCoury's sons), Alan Bartram, Jason Carter and Cody Kilby.

Youngson saw the band in Nashville and was blown away by their music, even though bluegrass is not his favourite musical genre. As a result of Youngson's request for them to perform at PitchFork Social, they are now playing at various venues in the United States' Pacific Northwest.

"They built a tour around coming to Salt Spring Island," said Youngson.

The rest of the schedule is as follows: July 13, Harry Manx with Kevin Breit; July 21, Willie Watson; July 25, Sam Lewis with Dimpker; July 30, Steve Poltz, Aug. 15, Heather Maloney with the Yaletown String Quartet; Aug. 18, Colter Wall; Aug. 19, Gretchen Peters; Aug. 29, Mike Farris; Sept. 7, Honey Dewdrops; Sept. 30, Jeffrey Foucault.

As happened with other Youngson concerts, tickets are selling like crazy for per-

formers that have a quasi "cult" following in the region. One of those is Wall, a country-style musician from Saskatchewan who is also the son of former premier Brad Wall.

Tickets for all concerts are available through the www.pitchforksocial.com website with the Brown Paper Tickets platform used. Season tickets can be purchased as well, and are transferable.

While Fulford Hall wasn't Youngson's first choice as a place to present concerts, he recognizes the strengths of the venue, including the fact it can accommodate picnic tables outside for the dinner and social part of things.

The hall is still set in a beautiful rural environment and Drummond Park is also only a five minute walk from the hall where people can also eat and hang out before the concert begins.

"It's not like we're on the 401," he quipped.

Ultimately, PitchFork Social patrons are music fans first and foremost, and ones who appreciate the quality acts Youngson brings to the island.

"The music is always good and it always wins out."

Youngson adds that permanently mounted acoustic baffles have been added to further enhance the sound quality at the hall, which is also home to the Salt Spring Folk Club concert series.

Various complications resulted in the Bullock Lake Farm site being off limits to PitchFork Social after it held concert series at the site in 2017 and 2018. PitchFork Social evolved from its originating incarnation — Southend Grooveyard — which was based in a garage on Youngson's property beginning in 2012.

CERAMIC ARTS

Fired Up! group has 35th show

Contemporary ceramics event runs May 24-26

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As a Vancouver Island institution in contemporary ceramics, Fired Up!, gets ready to host its 35th annual show this weekend at Metchosin Community Hall, Salt Spring will be celebrating an ongoing connection to the venture.

Island potter Pat Webber is a founding member of the group and has participated annually throughout the 35-year exhibition history. Fellow islander Denys James has been a core member in the past, and Alwyn O'Brien is one of this year's guest artists. Other Salt Spring ceramicists have who shown with Fired Up! through the years include Judy Weeden, Melissa Searcy and Julie MacKinnon.

The core group has always represented ceramic artists of all varieties, with those working in low fire to high fire kilns, and from wheel through to hand-built to cast pieces. Aside from the regional base, their unifying factor is a commitment to excellence in the contemporary setting. That's created a highly successful show that continues to win fans after three and a half decades in business.

"We could all produce really nice pots if we didn't take risks; I think encouraging people to try things keeps the interest in what we do," Webber said. "If you did the same thing year after year, who's want to come?"

The original members of Fired Up! had an important objective: to connect community with the diverse world of ceramics. Over the years, their mission gained success.

Though the Vancouver Island region is now well known for its ceramics art, Webber said the collective came together during a time that was not so good for potters' sales.

"People were coming to shows, but it was not easy to make a living," she said.

A book produced for Fired Up's 25th anniversary recalls that acclaimed potter Robin Hopper and his wife Judi Dyelle came home to Victoria in 1984 after a year away in Montreal, where they had experienced a vibrant art and craft scene. Faced with a dismal local economy and little government support for the arts, island artists



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Award-winning work by Salt Spring artist Pat Webber, who is a founding and continuing member of the Fired Up! group.

ists were "suffering greatly with low sales, excessive inventory and rampant negativity."

Hopper's solution was to put together a strong group of exhibitions that would focus on new, contemporary work. He invited the most diverse and professional artists from the region. The resulting event would include a public education component and would elevate the entire ceramics scene on and around southern Vancouver Island.

For the first few years the show actually took place in Hopper's studio gardens, but the spring timing meant they were rained out more than once. Fired Up! then moved to the Metchosin Community Hall and has returned annually ever since, having been embraced by the local community and ceramic lovers from all over.

"I must say we've had very enthusiastic people who have come through the years. Now they're bringing their kids and their grandkids," Webber said.

In addition to a core group of around 10 or 11 members, some three to five guest artist are invited to the show each year. Members bring examples of work from people they'd like to invite and the group as a whole votes on the matter.

Webber said one reason Fired Up! may have such staying power is despite getting new people from time

to time, the group has maintained its cohesive focus and its spirit of cooperation. The members work well together to carry out all the aspects of the show before and during the event. They also meet the day after it finishes for a post-mortem to discuss what needs to change the following year.

The reliable high quality work and exciting focus has also led to recognition beyond the signature show. The Fired Up! group has been invited to feature exhibitions at the NCECA Conference, the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, the Circle Craft Gallery and the BC Gallery of Ceramics, plus a couple of airports.

Participating Fired Up! 2019 artists are Vin Arora, Samantha Dickie, Sandra Dolph, Sandy Harquail, Gordon Hutchens, Cathi Jefferson, Meira Mathison, Kinichi Shigeno and Webber. (Members Alan Burgess and Mary Fox are on sabbatical.) Guest artists are O'Brien, Elaine Brewer-White, Peter Flanagan, Bob Kingsmill, and Clive Tucker.

This year that show will also include a side exhibition featuring as many core members as possible from over the 35-year history, showing one piece each. James is part of this exhibition.

This weekend's show starts with an opening gala on Friday, May 24 from 6 to 9 p.m. and continues from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

EXHIBITIONS

Salish Sea art on tap at Salt Spring Gallery

Evelyn Russell exhibits new work

Former islander Evelyn Russell will return to Salt Spring for The Far Shore, an exhibition of new work opening Friday, May 31 at the Salt Spring Gallery.

The Far Shore is a collection of hand-printed works dedicated to the Salish Sea, Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands and the Sunshine Coast. The series includes arbutus trees, whitecaps, orca whales, pebble beaches, rain forests and harvest moons.

"The show is a wake-up call, to step up protect and defend this Salish Sea," Russell explains in a press release.

A portion of the proceeds from sales will go to charities that uphold environmental conservancy in the area.

An artist's reception is set for 5 to 7 p.m. on May 31. The show continues through to June 12.



Salish Sea artwork by Evelyn Russell.

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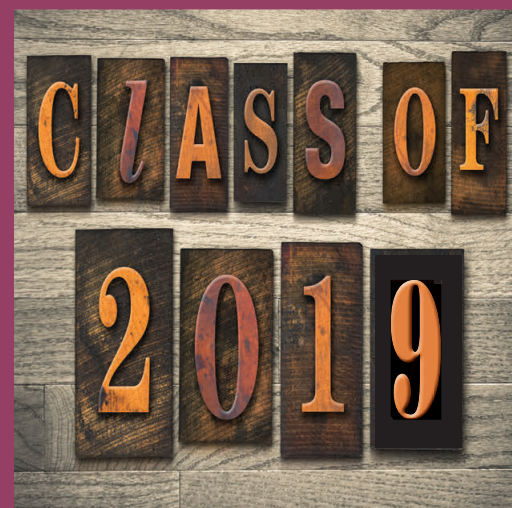
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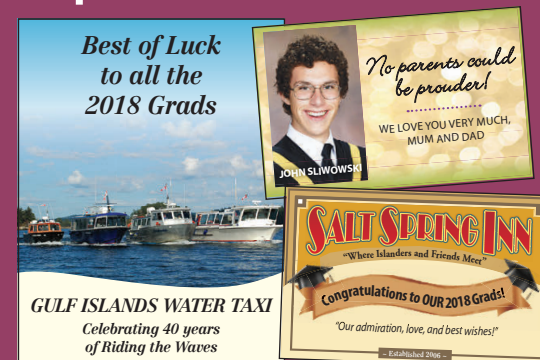
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D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, **Streets of Salt Spring Island**

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



FUNDRAISER

Islanders rally for Cougar Annie



PHOTO COURTESY JEAN GELWICKS

Salt Spring volunteers on a working visit to Cougar Annie's Garden in Clayoquot Sound, from left, are Jim Standen, Sheri Standen, Jean Gelwicks and Katharine Atkins.

Rainforest study centre on garden site

BY ANDREW HAIGH
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Cougar Annie's Garden, an amazing five-acre garden at the head of Hesquiat Harbour in the heart of Clayoquot Sound, is opening for a series of six to eight back-to-back fundraising trips in late June and July. Salt Spring has been given the first chance to book these trips because so many Salt Springers have helped to preserve this magical place over the last decade.

Ada Annie Rae-Arthur came to Boat

Basin in Vancouver Island's Clayoquot Sound, as a pioneer settler to make a new life for herself and her family in the early 1900s. She set to work clearing the land on her remote homestead which is accessible only by sea. A garden of strange, meandering beauty slowly emerged from the deep rainforest. Cougars prowled nearby, sensing easy prey. Ada Annie trapped and shot scores of them and became known as Cougar Annie, one of B.C.'s most famous pioneers.

Wily and ingenious, for decades she ran a mail order nursery garden, a general store and a post office from her wilderness home. She bore eight of her 11

children at Boat Basin and outlasted and outworked four husbands. She left her garden in 1983 at the age of 95.

Against all odds, this garden has been restored, maintained and still blooms in the wilderness. Far from any town, this bush garden stands as a reminder of the courage of Canadian settlers like Cougar Annie who overcame immense challenges to raise their families and live out their dreams. Volunteers with the Boat Basin Foundation currently maintain the garden, many of them travelling from Salt Spring over the years to put in hours of maintenance and upkeep.

This summer's trips are being organized by the Boat Basin Foundation as a fundraiser to keep the garden and facilities going. By doing multiple trips, flight costs from Tofino can be reduced and the prices for these trips become the lowest the foundation has been able to offer.

Each trip can take 12 people and range from three to seven nights. Participants will sleep two per cabin in one of the six beautiful, cedar cabins, complete with unique, private outhouses, which are part of the Temperate Rainforest Field Study Centre, which is located on the hillside behind the garden. The surrounding area has 800- to 1,000-year-old trees, fantastic shore, beach and trail walking, artistic boardwalks through the forests and vistas everywhere you look.

Tax receipts will be issued for a portion of each trip. To learn more, and to see pictures of the garden and study centre, please visit boatbasin.org. To participate in these trips, and get the discounted fundraising prices, call Andrew Haigh at 250-538-0185 or email to ahaigh@uniserve.com.

SALT SPRING **Star** of the WEEK



Malcolm Legg

Malcolm Legg is the president of the Salt Spring United Soccer Association and has been a strong proponent for the sport for decades. He started up the successful annual May long weekend Challenge Cup soccer tourney, which had its 34th edition this past weekend and saw 20 men's and women's teams compete in competitive and recreational categories. Malcolm says the tournament used to attract even more teams to the island before high ferry costs and lack of accommodations made it difficult for visiting teams. The tournament started at Portlock Park, moved to the field beside Salt Spring Middle School and then expanded to the high school as the main base after that school was constructed 25 years ago.

Malcolm continues to referee games and to organize events and fields for Salt Spring United youth and adult soccer games throughout the year.

expert ADVICE

CALL 250-537-9933
TO BE A PART OF THIS POPULAR FEATURE!

Financial Advice

Charitable Giving #1

I'm considering donating to a local charity. Any insight on the tax implications of this?

First off, good on you for thinking about doing something like this.

As you know, the real purpose of charitable giving is generally to support causes that are aligned with our values, principles or beliefs. As government support is not a constant, many organizations rely on the generosity of the community in order to carry out their programs. In recognition of this, governments, both provincial and federal, provide tax credits to encourage giving.

There are a few criteria that the donation and the receiving organization must meet, such as being a registered charity. If this is done, then you the donor will receive a tax receipt for the value of your donation. For the first \$200 that you donate, you will get non-refundable tax credits of about 20%. Anything over that will receive a credit for about 45%.

There are annual maximums and other things to consider, depending on what you want to donate and to whom. However, if you can do a good thing and reduce your taxes a bit in the process, then that seems like a pretty good combination to me. I'd be happy to discuss it with you and point you to some other good resources!



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Real Estate

Buyers: How to compare prices and value?

Comparing homes with similar attributes can provide valuable insights. Consider the age of the: roof, decks, septic field, appliances and "deferred maintenance". How dated are the bathrooms and kitchen and flooring? Would you want to replace them? The cost of replacing each of these items could be considerable. Make up a comparison chart accounting for these differences.

When planning a second viewing, ASK FOR AN INFO PACKAGE & PERMISSION TO TAKE PHOTOS. Take notes. Identify chattels that you may wish to have included such as: window coverings, appliances and their brand name, built in vacuum and/or hot tub accessories, shelving, firewood on hand, riding lawn mower, water filters, garden sheds, building plans, etc. Note what items are excluded on the feature sheet to assist you in making plans for replacing. Then you will likely conclude that...

The most affordable home is rarely the lowest priced home!

Jan Macpherson, M.E.S., R.I.(B.C.) - GOLD AWARD 2018 (VREB)

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JAN
MACPHERSON

Mechanic

How do I get my vehicle ready for summer holidays?

If you are planning a trip of any length, or just several shorter jaunts locally, your vehicle needs to be ready to handle a wide range of conditions.

Hot dry weather puts extra strain on the engine cooling system, air conditioning, brakes and tires. Cooling system components and drive belts need to be thoroughly checked. Your antifreeze has an anti-boil component as well, and must be at the proper concentration to be effective. Try your air conditioning through its full range on a hot day and have it inspected for leaks and serviced if it's not performing properly.

Rain after an extended dry spell will make for a slippery road surface that worn or under-inflated tires will not grip safely. Have tires replaced as required. New windshield wipers and properly operating washers can make a huge difference to safe visibility.

As always, a complete vehicle inspection while changing oil and filter will spot problems you may not have noticed yet. This will give you and your technician an opportunity to repair worn brakes, steering, and suspension and bring other vehicle systems back normal before leaving on a trip.

Drive Safe, Gyle



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SALT SPRING AUTO SERVICE **Tread Shed**

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Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

COMMUNITY OF CARE:

Staff and participants from the Choices day program, who are raising funds to provide recreational activities for adults with special needs. Coming up is their 17th annual golf tournament on Saturday, June 1 at the Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club. Novice and expert players are welcome to register by May 30; contact the golf club for details.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Sarah Grindler launches book

The Reading Room is a new column about children's literature issues. For this week's column, our interview is with Sarah Grindler, a first-time author and illustrator raised on Salt Spring Island. Her picture book, *Seaside Treasures: A Guidebook for Little Beachcombers*, shares the wonder of beachcombing with young readers.



Lavonne
Leong
READING
ROOM

How did you become an author/illustrator?

My dad was a children's book illustrator and wildlife artist, Douglas Penhale, and I grew up in a house where he was always creating art. I was always visual, and I also really loved writing. It wasn't until high school that I thought, 'Oh, doing kids' books would be really fun.' I took a year off, then went to Camosun College [for art], keeping in mind that I really wanted to do kids' books.

And how did you become a beachcomber?

The ocean is very much a part of our family. We beachcombed all the time when we were little. We lived fairly close to my school [Fernwood Elementary]. My dad would sometimes walk to school to pick us up, and we'd go back home along the beach, and we'd turn all the rocks over and look at the crabs.

What's your favorite thing about beachcombing?

You don't know what you might be able to find. It's a really fun treasure hunt, but you're really close to nature and you're close to where the land meets the sea. It's teeming with life. It's

like a beautiful adventure. Beachcombing as a child made me think so much about history. Finding an old spoon or something, you really wonder: 'Who used this spoon? How many hands touched this spoon?' The sea glass: what was that, at one time? Was it off a shipwreck?

What's next for you, art-wise?

My goal now is doing characters. It can be challenging when you need to know

what they look like from every single angle, and you need to make sure that it's still the same character. I have so much to learn, but that's what I really want to work on now. My cat Puss-Puss hangs out at my art desk; she's knocking things over all the time. I have this idea about a cat who's always destroying the artwork of the artist, but they end up selling the art because it's touched by little paw prints!

Any advice for parents about helping kids build a seaside treasure collection?

A lot of what I find, I give back to the beach. You can only have so many shells. When I'm leaving the beach, I think, 'How much of this do I actually need?' And I take maybe one thing home. Pick and choose your favorite piece, and leave the rest for nature to enjoy.

The Salt Spring Library will host a family-friendly book launch for *Seaside Treasures* on May 25 at 1:30 pm. Sarah will also appear at the library's World Oceans Day celebration, which takes place on June 8 starting at 1 p.m.

END OF LIFE

Hospice offers free advance care planning

Workshop scheduled for May 28

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING HOSPICE SOCIETY

They say that the only two certainties in life are death and taxes.

Every year we prepare for our taxes, but when do we prepare for our death? Have you thought about yours? Do you know what your options will be? Do you know your rights? Do your loved ones know what your wishes are regarding the kinds of treatment you do or do not want if you are not able to make your own decisions? These are questions that potentially affect people at any age, not just at the end of life.

We all hope to live a long and healthy life and die peacefully at home in our own beds, but that has become a rarity these days. Most people give little or no thought to what will happen if they get a critical illness, or a terminal diagnosis, or if they are brought unconscious to the hospital after an accident or a stroke and are no longer able to

make decisions about their care.

The answer is to do an advance care plan where your wishes and values concerning future medical care are clearly laid out. By filling out certain forms, your wishes will be available to the medical team managing your care in case of an emergency or situation where you cannot speak for yourself. And none of us know what the future holds for us, so the time to do it is now.

The most important step is to talk about your wishes with your family and other loved ones and decide who will speak on your behalf if necessary. Talking about death can be tricky, so to help guide you through the process, Salt Spring's Hospice Society is offering another of its free public education sessions about ACP at the library on Tuesday, May 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. The more we talk about it openly, the easier it gets. It no longer seems morbid or frightening. In fact, hospice volunteers find that becoming comfortable with death makes them appreciate life more.

The session will cover a range of scenarios, offer tips on how to approach them, and provide the opportunity for

people to explore their own options.

As one of the founding members of Salt Spring's Hospice Society over three decades ago, and leader of the ACP programme, Pat Desbottes has seen many changes in how death is handled.

She explains: "It has become hard to talk openly about death and dying, especially with our nearest and dearest, because we don't want to upset them. But it will be far more upsetting for them if they are called to the emergency room or the Intensive Care Unit and asked to make decisions for you without really knowing what you want. If you have prepared them, it brings everyone peace of mind."

In the future, the society expects to provide more practical help to those wishing to die in their own homes, and to their families, as Island Health moves towards its goal of building a network of community-based and virtual medical services to support end of life care at home.

To register for the (free) workshop, please contact the Hospice Society at 250-537-2770, or email office@saltspringhospice.org.

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastronomy.com | sunstarastronomy@gmail.com

TIP OF THE WEEK: READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Jupiter in Sagittarius plays an important role in this week's planetary alignment. All the planets are always involved, yet each shares varying and ever-changing degrees of influence. Since Jupiter is in Sagittarius, the sign it rules, it is also in a position of honor. The visionary, expansive, philosophical spirit of the Jupiter archetype is stronger than usual. In fact, this influence has been underway for the past several weeks. Of course, the planets are always in motion so the influences and the general mood is ever-changing, like the weather. Mars in Cancer meanwhile is currently 'out-of-bounds'. This occurs when a planet is beyond 23.27 degrees. This activates the planetary energy to be expressed in 'extreme' measures. Mars in Cancer is complicated, so be on the alert for radical, emotional outbursts, for example, especially among family members. A planet out-of-bounds in one's Natal Chart reveals a lifetime theme of tendencies to be extreme, according to the overall status of the out-of-bounds planet.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

You want answers. You need to know why one choice is more important than another. The knowledge you seek may not be terribly profound but is important enough. Financial considerations linked to changes you want to make close to home are featured. While creating more beauty is indicated, making key repairs are also a priority.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

This is a busy time of year for many and especially you and especially this year. Plans made some time ago are now ready to be implemented. Building, beautifying, repairing, renovating... are all likely themes. Your sights are set on investments as well. Adverse to short-term solutions, you want to do things right and once so the results are enduring.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

The Sun and Mercury in your sign indicate a go-ahead cycle. This includes both an increase in your social activities as well as paying more attention to your health and lifestyle. Exercising your ability to be flexible and open-minded is more important than ever. Seeing things differently than you do already seldom comes easy, but is important now.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

You have and likely continue to be making new assertions. Currently, the emphasis is on learning and perhaps teaching. Much of the focus stands to be behind the scenes or with very select people and groups. Your confidence levels may be wavering but you are determined to take risks, at least calculated ones.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

Stimulating new associations is a central theme now. With much shifting and changing in your public and professional life, you have reason to be focused. Generally, your mood is positive and optimistic. Opportunity is knocking but you need to identify it and take action. Learning new skills and acquiring specific, needed tools is indicated.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

Seeing yourself and the world and in the world in new ways continue. This is a call to think differently about how to best make a positive impression yet with the kind of results you truly want and need. Slowly but surely you are experiencing a steady rise in your confidence levels. The key to perpetuating this momentum is to get more focused and industrious.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

Creatively assessing your need, value, desire, and worth is underway. This is all part of a larger process of prioritizing as a means of making important decisions. Do you stay and persevere or have you had enough already and are keen to try a different approach? The latter questions may rest upon your ability to get clear on a new direction.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

The Sun in Gemini indicates a complex period for you. On one hand, you may feel quite at home and empowered. Alternately, you must contend with conflicting desires ranging from higher to lower roads of approach. One thing you are clear about is that you want to increase your lot. Yet, you know you have to be more disciplined somehow.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

An expansive cycle continues and includes an increase in your social network. Positively, this will prove to be a very satisfying period due to a variety of fresh experiences and opportunities. Yet, it remains that you have to give more to receive or returns and/or pay your dues. This includes some form of learning or training. Changes in your lifestyle are featured.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

You are in the mood to be healthier and fit. This could also include getting clear on certain fronts or is that clearing the clutter. Spring cleaning comes to mind and includes the emphasis on establishing a whole new level of organization. This type of activity stands to boost your energy and confidence levels. Focus to create a smoother flow.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

Changes are sweeping through on the home front. This includes creating a more aesthetically pleasing environment. Meanwhile, a social and creative cycle is inspiring you to take new initiatives. The reverse could also be true whereby you are meeting new people due to initiatives taken. Either way, deliberate effort is required.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

You have entered an important learning curve cycle. It implies 'homework'. This could well manifest literally as with working on your home but it could also indicate working more from or at home. Your focus is on investing your time to stimulate new flows of return, including income. It is important that you think outside of your usual box.

what's on this week



What's On - the go!
Scan this barcode with
your smartphone to
download, instructions
below.

Wed. May 22

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Dan Smith.
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Parent-Child Mother Goose.
Free drop-in on Wednesdays for parents, caregivers and young children, birth to 6 years old, to focus on the pleasure and power of sharing rhymes, songs and stories. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Bittancourt House Museum.
Open Wednesdays through Fridays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., until June 28.

Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing.
Salt Spring Local Trust Committee holds Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing on rezoning application for 154 Kings Lane - Meadowlane seniors housing. Lions Hall. Info session from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. Public hearing to follow.

Salt Spring Garden Club.
This month The Garden Club welcomes back a favourite speaker, Jeff de Jong, a horticulture instructor in the Continuing Education Department at the University of Victoria and garden designer. Meaden Hall. 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.



Thu. May 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tom Hooper.
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ArtSpring Presents Don Conley and Dylan Phillips.
Program for two-pianos four-hands featuring Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven and Rachmaninoff. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Open Mic at Moby's.
Thursdays at Moby's Pub. 8:30 to 11:45 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Early Morning Birding.
Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club hosts Burgoyne Bay outings with expert birder and naturalist, Peter McAllister, who will lead people through the meadows, forests and out onto the shore of the bay. Meet at 6 a.m. in Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park, parking on the road, near the barns. (Note the change back to the original 6 a.m. time.)

Bittancourt House Museum.
See Wednesday listing.



Fri. May 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Marianne Grittani.
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

Fri. May 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Caleb Hart Album Release.
Caleb Hart releases his sixth album 11' featuring Track7 with special guests Josh Sahunta and Xavier Edwardz. Moby's. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum.
See Wednesday listing.

Family Movie Matinee.
Fridays in May at the library for kids 6 and up. 2:30 p.m.

Karaoke at the Legion.
Lots of fun with great hosts. Salt Spring Legion. 7:30 p.m.

Sat. May 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Sharon Bailey.
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

Deep Sea Gypsies.
Energetic rock and roll band at Moby's. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Saturday Market. Famous market of arts and crafts vendors, food and farmers in Centennial Park every Saturday through October. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Seaside Treasures Book Launch.
Local author/illustrator Sarah Grindler presents her first children's book, about the joys of beachcombing. Salt Spring Public Library. 1:30 p.m.

Sat. May 25

ACTIVITIES

Reiki Share Group.
Open to those who have any level of training in Reiki, or just a keen interest. Twisted Oak Studio. 3 to 5 p.m.

Salt Spring Forum: Josie Osborne, Mayor of Tofino.
Join the Salt Spring Forum for a discussion about thriving and sustainable small communities with Josie Osborne, the Mayor of the District of Tofino, who was recently re-elected to a third term. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Sun. May 26

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Alan Moberg.
Live music at the Tree House cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Island Garden Club Workshop: Great Garden Photography.
Workshop led by Simon Henson. Lions Hall. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Pre-register at ssigardenclub.ca or call Charley Miller at 250-931-7335

Family Adventures in Nature.
This Sunday's program is The Cedar Tree - The Tree of Life. Clay activity and journalling. Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve. Drop-in program for ages 6-12 and adult caregivers. 1 to 4 p.m.

Mon. May 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

David Carl.
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bike to Work Week Breakfast Station.
Islands Trust offers free coffee, fruit and pastries for bike riders at 500 Lower Ganges Rd. as part of Bike to Work Week. 8 to 9:30 a.m.

SS Community Alliance.
Discussing the topic Climate Change - Touching Our Grief Together. Lions Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.

SSI Fire Protection District Meeting.
Public welcome to board of trustees meeting. Ganges Fire Hall. 7 p.m.

Tue. May 28

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic with David Jaquest.
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bike to Work Week Bike Rodeo.
Bike to Work Week event at Salt Spring Elementary has kids bring their bikes to ride the circuit! With free bike tune-ups, coffee and snacks, plus prizes. 7:45 to 8:25 a.m.

LGBTQ+ Coffee Meet-up.
Weekly event sponsored by DAISSI. Every Tuesday from 1 to 2 p.m. at Barb's Bakery.

Tue. May 28

ACTIVITIES

Advance Care Planning Workshop.
Free workshop offered by SaltSpring Hospice Society. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 to 9 p.m. Register at 250-537-2770, or email office@saltspringhospice.org.

Trivia Tuesday.
Every Tuesday at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Wed. May 29

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Terry Warbey.
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

GISS Dance.
GISS Dance presents its ever popular end-of-semester show that includes a variety of dance styles and genres, and will be suitable for families. ArtSpring. 7:30 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bike to Work Week Bike Rodeo.
Bike to Work Week event at Fernwood Elementary has kids bring their bikes to ride the circuit! With free bike tune-ups, coffee and snacks, plus prizes. 7:45 to 8:25 a.m.

Parent-Child Mother Goose. See last Wednesday's listing.

Bittancourt House Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.

Music Bingo.
See last Wednesday's listing.

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@driftwood
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Driftwood



THE FRITZ CINEMA

• **Avengers: Endgame** — held over. Shows at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 22 to Thursday, May 30 plus an additional matinee Sunday at 3 p.m. Rated PG. 180 minutes.

For more movie info go to www.thefritz.ca.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Jeff Lederman** shows large-scale abstract expressionist paintings with accompanying poetry written for the works by Chicago poet and author **Margaret Sullivan**. At the **ArtSpring Gallery**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily from Friday, May 24 to June 12.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Anh Le** presents **INSIGNIA**, her first solo exhibit of work on Salt Spring, at the **Salt Spring Gallery** until May 29. **INSIGNIA** is comprised of more than 20 works of drawing and painting exploring the artist's interest in typography, calligraphy and tattoos as insignia.
- Woodturner **Bob McKay** and painter **Chintan Bolliger** have a show at **Kizmit Galeria** this month.
- **Karin Millson** and **Bernadette Mertens-McAllister** present **In/From/Of - the Forest** in the **ArtSpring** lobby for the month of May.
- **The Horses That Were My Teachers**, an exhibit of work by **Susan Gordon**, is at the **Salt Spring Public Library Program Room** through May.

Games Night

Free weekly drop-in games night
at the SS Public Library
**Every Friday
beginning at 6 p.m.**

THRIFTY FOODS

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

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE CALENDAR EMAIL:
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

This Week's
Noroscope by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastrology.com
sunstarastrology@gmail.com
1.250.352.2936

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Obituaries**Obituaries****DIANA (Diane) Lynn Nicol**

June 10, 1953 – Aug 17, 2018

Diane has passed away after an 11-year war with cancer (the doctors predicted 2 1/2yrs in 2007).

She was well known on Salt Spring as the owner of Boardwalk Greens, the attractive garden décor store that was in downtown Ganges. She also worked for the Federal Government at the Pacific Forestry Center. Diane is survived by her two children Jesse and Melanie, and her husband Bob Patterson. She is also survived by her brothers and sister Chris, Tom, and Tracy and her uncles David, Les and Paul.

A Celebration of Diane's Life will be held May 25, 2019 at the Royal Canadian Legion (upstairs), 120 Blain Rd, Salt Spring Island from 1:00 – 3:00pm.

**Coming Events****Coming Events**

Salt Spring
Recreational Holdings Ltd
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The 2019 annual general meeting of shareholders of Salt Spring Recreational Holdings Ltd will be held as follows:
Date: May 29, 2019
Time: 2:30 PM
Location: Salt Spring Golf and Country

**Information****Information**

artist in the class
proudly sponsored by the
salt spring arts council

The Artist in the Class Program is looking for literary, performing and visual artists who have the passion and skill to share their knowledge with students in our school community. Our purpose is to give the arts a stronger presence in the everyday lives of students by bringing the artists of Salt Spring Island into the classroom to share their skills and to create an awareness of arts in our community. Interested? For more information go to <https://ssartscouncil.com/artist-in-the-class/> and fill out our new online form to apply. Note: all returning Artists in the Classroom need to fill out our new online form. **Deadline for applications is May 31, 2019.** For more info please contact class@ssartscouncil.com.

Medical/Dental**Dental Receptionist Position Available**

Our Dental Practice on Salt Spring Island is looking for a friendly F/T Dental Receptionist to work approximately 32hrs per week. The ideal candidate would have office and/or dental experience and be willing to learn and grow with our practice. We are open to those with experience or a new CDA grad student looking for a new & exciting career. Training provided. We are looking for someone willing to work flexible shifts and hours, between Monday and Saturday. Starting wage depends on experience in the range of \$18-24 per/hr. If you are interested please submit your cover letter and resume to dental5222@shaw.ca.

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Education/Trade Schools

APPLY NOW: A \$2,500 Penny Wise scholarship is available for a woman entering the Journalism Certificate Program at Langara College in Vancouver. Application deadline June 30, 2019 Send applications to fbula@langara.ca. Details at <https://langara.ca/programs-and-courses/programs/journalism/scholarships.html>

Travel

JOIN 300+ CANADA FANS AT THE WORLD JUNIORS in Czech Republic. Flight, hotel, sight-seeing, tickets and more. Info www.azorcan.net/WJ2020 or call 780.906.7110 or email paul@azorcan.net.

Business Opportunities

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In Memoriam**In Memoriam**

*Celebration of Life for
Melissa Selena Weigel*
A Beautiful Life

Why is it that we measure our lives by time.....be it hours, days, one year, twelve years, forty three years, or one hundred and three years. Forever is never long enough to be with the ones we love. So what if we were to measure our lives by moments rather than minutes?

We invite our community, that is rich with moments shared and memories created by Melissa who touched so many of us with her beautiful open heart. Let her smile reach back up and touch you as you take pause to reflect on the moments that you will keep forever safe in your own heart. This vibrant being has sadly left us wanting another lifetime of minutes and yet generously left so many of us with a lifetime of beautiful moments.

Beaver Point Hall, June 8th, 2019, 2pm till 5pm
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**In Memoriam**

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BOOK READING

Writer reports on The End of Ice

Author Dahr Jamail speaks at Meaden Hall June 3

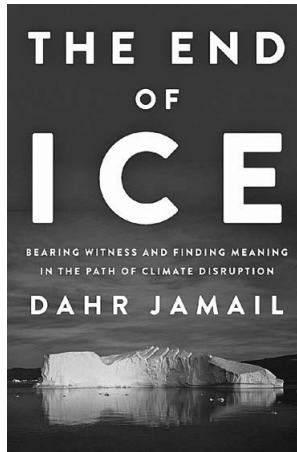
Award-winning climate reporter and former war correspondent Dahr Jamail is coming to Salt Spring to share his new book on Monday, June 3.

A press release explains that as one of the few unembedded journalists during the war in Iraq, Jamail won praise from writer and activists like Howard Zinn and Naomi Klein. Since then he has been reporting from the front lines of climate disruption — from the heights of Alaska's Denali peaks to the windswept islands of the Bering Sea,

from the Great Barrier Reef and Amazon rainforest to Florida's flooding coastline.

His new book, *The End of Ice: Bearing Witness and Finding Meaning in the Path of Climate Disruption*, is described as "a passionate ode to the wonders of our endangered planet and to those who spend their lives trying to save it."

"Climbing and diving alongside leading researchers, Jamail finds beauty as well as devastation. Consulting with scientists, local inhabitants, and the natural world itself, he stands in full heartbroken relationship with each wounded place. His reporting is indispensable for understanding what lies ahead for the planet, and



for ourselves."

Just as indispensable is how the author engages the crucial, existential question of our times — how do we bear witness and find meaning in the path of climate disruption?

What, he asks, is the face of hope in a time of mass extinction? And activism in a time of global crisis?

At a time when so many are stricken by grief, Jamail offers a path forward. As he writes, "Grief is something I move through, to territory on the other side. This means falling in love with Earth in a way I never thought possible. It also means opening to the innate intelligence of the heart. I am grieving and yet I have never felt more alive."

Jamail will read from *The End of Ice*, describe his journey and engage in dialogue with the audience starting at 7 p.m. on June 3. Admission is by donation. Doors open at 6:30.

What is this? Where is it?



Can you identify this spot on Salt Spring? Send your answer to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or send a note to us on Facebook. The first person to submit the right answer gets their name published in this space.

LAST WEEK: Gretta Hildebrandt was the first person to recognize this planter outside the OMG shop on Fulford-Ganges Road after we posted this pic on our Facebook page: facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood.



Remember WHEN

Five years ago

Opposition to construction of a private residence on a First Nations burial islet in Ganges Harbour reached the B.C. Legislature thanks to Saanich-Gulf Islands NDP MLA Gary Holman and interim-leader of the Green Party of B.C., Adam Olsen. Olsen presented a petition to Holman, who in turn presented the document in the legislature. Petitioners wanted the provincial government to designate Grace Islet as a heritage site and compensate the owner for any loss of real estate value. By the time it was submitted, over 600 people had signed the petition.

Ten years ago

Ferry passengers felt the chaos at terminals over the weekend, as the Skeena Queen was undergoing a refit and the Bowen Queen unable to meet the demands of the May long weekend travellers. BC Ferries made

the decision to disregard the schedule and shuttle passengers between Swartz Bay and Fulford Harbour, causing unexpected waits as well as missed bus and ferry connections. "For people coming to the island it was a benefit, but for people leaving the island it caused major confusion," said Bruce Patterson of Patterson's Market in Fulford.

Twenty years ago

The community rallied quickly to help a local family after their home caught fire. The fire started in the evening on a Wednesday, likely caused by an ember from the chimney landing on the house's shake roof. Five Salt Spring Fire Department trucks arrived and took two hours to douse the blaze. While some prized musical instruments were saved in the fire, the house itself was uninsured and friends set up an account at Island Savings to help the family rebuild. By Saturday, islanders arrived at the charred house with hammers in hand to rebuild the roof. "It certainly helps make this type of thing easier to take when you

are surrounded by family and friends," said Lisa Erck, who owned the home. "One thing for sure, we're getting a tin roof this time."

Thirty years ago

A well-known local got a shot at the silver screen, but it was not who you'd expect. The BC Ferries Corporation vessel the Queen of Burnaby was decked out with an American flag and letters indicating it was a Great Lakes vessel while motoring up Trincomali Channel past Galiano Island as part of the shooting of the film *Bird on a Wire* starring Goldie Hawn and Mel Gibson. The budget for the film (in 1989) was \$26 million. It was largely filmed in Victoria, where up to 1,000 curious gawkers gathered in Market Square to watch the filming of a chase scene in Fan Tan Alley. "Lots of bucks" is the only way B.C. Ferries Corporation spokesman Ron Davis would describe how much the chartered ferry would cost for the day.

Forty years ago

Under-age children were not allowed in schools, as a Galiano resident found out after asking permission to send a child to kindergarten months ahead of eligibility. The request was denied. The

youngster had attended a French-language playschool for two years before the request, and his birthdate of Jan. 26 meant that he missed a whole year of school by just less than a month. Children born before the end of the year were eligible to start school in September, but those born after Jan. 1 were ineligible until the following year. Trustees were sympathetic, but their hands were tied. When asked what he would do if he found out the child had been admitted ahead of time, Superintendent Bob Huestis said "I'm not answering that! It's not even legal!"

Fifty years ago

The Wagon Wheels Square Dance group from Salt Spring became firefighters on Galiano as they saved Montague Marine Park from what could have been a nasty fire. Some Galiano-based dancers were present when the group found a fire burning in the woods away from the designated campfire area. While Gerry Keeping called the fire department, David Weatherell — who brought the group over to Galiano on his boat — rowed out to get some buckets. By the time the fire engine arrived, the square dancers had the scene under control, and the fire was nearly out.

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THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 11

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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



Challenge Cup Soccer tourney 2019



PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Salt Spring youth were strong contributors to this year's Challenge Cup teams. Left: The Young Bloods (in red jerseys) fight for control of the ball in the women's competitive division on Sunday morning. Centre: WDB FC player Owen Norgard takes the ball as Davin Norgard lends support in the men's recreational division final. Right: WDB celebrates a goal in a tough final against the Castaways, which they narrowly lost in tie-breaking shoot-outs.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Local youth hits racing trails

Sam Dinsdale earns island sponsorship

SUBMITTED BY CYCLING SALT SPRING

Local student Sam Dinsdale is representing Salt Spring at Vancouver Island's 2019 Island Cup Mountain Bike Race Series.

The 11-year-old, grade 6 student is signed up to race in several Enduro races, including Nanaimo, Mount Tzualem, Cobble Hill, Hornby Island, Maple Mountain and more.

Enduro is a form of mountain bike racing that involves getting to the top of a mountain or trail, then timing the descent to the bottom. In general, modern enduro races involve anywhere from three to six timed stages. The timed portions of the race are mostly downhill but can vary in steepness, length and difficulty depending on location.

Sam is getting to test his skills on the race circuit thanks to a sponsorship from Salt Spring's Outspokin' Bike Shop. Owner Sean Mulligan heard the young rider was racing and wanted to support him.

"Sam came into the shop for service on a bike that really was not going to help him excel in his sport. it was very heavy, with low grade parts," Mulligan explained. "We know Sam well, and know that he is a complete bike nerd and a dedicated rider who could go pro one day with dedication and support from shops and brands. I thought it would be cool to get Sam a bike that would help him perform to the best of his abilities."

On May 15, Sam got his new Norco Fluid FS 26 — a high end bike for youth. In return he will become a youth ambas-



PHOTO COURTESY OUTSPOKIN' BIKE SHOP

Sam Dinsdale, left, accepts a new Norco bike from Sean Mulligan of Outspokin' Bike Shop for his upcoming race series.

sador for the local business.

"He was shaking like a dog waiting for a treat ... could barely contain his excitement. We were stoked to help him out," Mulligan said.

Sam first started biking when he was five.

"When I first started riding there were lots of tears. It took me a while to learn how to ride. But once I got it I loved it," he said. "Mountain biking is super fun, there is a great sense of reward when I climb a steep hill and finally get it, or land a jump that challenges my fears a bit."

Mountain biking, though very popular on Vancouver Island in places like Comox, Duncan and Parksville, has fewer participants on Salt Spring. Insiders say the trend is changing, though.

"A lot of my friends are starting to ride," Sam said. "But we need some trails."

"We get mountain bikers in the shop every day in the summer asking where they can ride ... and really there is nowhere for them to go," Mulligan confirmed. "Most visitors find this shocking as they come from communities that have completely embraced mountain biking. So, many will end up riding in places where they shouldn't, such as the Maxwell watershed and Mount Erskine."

Salt Spring biking enthusiasts would like to have some actual demo trails developed on the island, where kids and families can go and get some good fun exercise out in the woods. They want to get kids off the screens and onto trails.

Asked about his strategy for his next race, Sam said: "I don't care how I place. I just want to have fun."

That's the right attitude, Mulligan said.

"Just have fun; the skills and results will follow."

NEWS

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SAILING

Fickle winds tease 2019 Round Salt Spring race

Will o' Wisp takes trophies

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING SAILING CLUB

The 2019 edition of the Round Salt Spring Race is in the bag. Prizes have been divvied up, stories have been told, the need for coffee (and other stuff) has been satiated, and the racers have headed for home and a well deserved snooze.

It was the usual Round Salt Spring Race, but it was also an unusual Round Salt Spring Race. The winds were fickle and the currents capricious like everyone expected. But both were dealt out to the racers at unexpected times. The very light winds at the start did not give way to the expected nice afternoon breezes. The choice of direction as counter-clockwise did not result in the door to Sansum Narrows being firmly shut to racers at dinner-time. And instead of totally shutting down for the night under the gorgeous full moon, light breezes continued to move the fleet along from sunset until just before dawn.

In the end there were 42 finishers out of the 105 boats that started on Saturday morning — a better than expected tally given how little progress the whole fleet of boats had made by late Saturday afternoon. But there were good sailors out there, and the wily ones managed to find the right combination of right place and right time to keep their boat moving.

The first racing boat to finish was Jeff Eckhart's Will o' Wisp, a venerable, but still fast after all these years Peterson 41 sailing for the Royal Victoria Yacht Club. Peterson crossed the finish line just before 3 a.m. and finished with an elapsed time of 16 hours, five minutes. Based on time correction handicaps, Will o' Wisp was the Winner Overall and was awarded the Marshall Sharp Trophy. She also won the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation Trophy as the first racing boat to finish.

The other main trophy up for grabs was the Doug Thomas Memorial Trophy for the first Salt Spring Island

Sailing Club boat to finish based on time handicaps. In his first year in a new boat (to him), Gyle Keating's J-36 Shingebiss was the winner of the Doug Thomas Trophy and Division 3.

In a cruel case of irony, one of Vancouver Island's most recognized sailors, Alex Fox in his classic 26 foot Thunderbird Scooter, managed to beat the time limit by two minutes and win third place in Division 6. But he also took home to Royal Victoria Yacht Club the Tar and Feathers Trophy for last boat to finish on elapsed time.

The UK Sails Team Challenge was won by Nanaimo Yacht Club with their team consisting of Bill Allan's Lawndart, Greg Keel's Dream Chaser and Keith Cleminhaga's Dilligaf.

Other winners of the coveted prize baskets loaded with local Salt Spring products were:

Division 1: Will o' Wisp - Jeff Eckhart, baad kitty! - Ben Power, Kairos - Ron Jewula

Division 2: Moonlight Mile - John Vassallo, Legacy - John Peterson, Excalibur - Jason Vandergaag

Division 3: Shingebiss- Gyle Keating*, The Fugitive - Ben Rummen, Sorcery X - Greg Slakov*

Division 4: Mad Dash - David Jackson, Godzilla - Allan Ip, Dilligaf - Keith Cleminhaga

Division 5: Prime - Murray Swayze, Terna III - Bill Kitchen, Kitsita II - Mark Wallace* (sailing a classic wooden 6 metre yacht)

Division 6: Cahoots - Jim Cameron, Jaguar - Clay Mills, Scooter - Alex Fox

Division 7: Flight - Brian Robinson

MultiHull: Dream Chaser - Greg Keel

Island Time Cruisers: Motu - Roger Ball

Environmental Awareness Awarded - Ultraman III - Jason Sanderson for stopping to pick up trash from the ocean.

* local members of the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club



PHOTO COURTESY SALT SPRING SAILING CLUB

Saturday morning at the Round Salt Spring starting line.



Thank You!

The Saltspring Island Sailing Club wants to thank the community, and especially our generous local sponsors and supporters, for making the 46th annual Round Saltspring Race a success!

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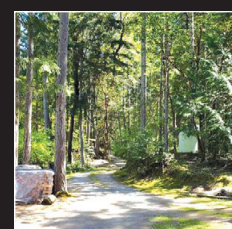
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