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Driftwood

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Wednesday, OCT. 16, 2019

59th year
Issue 42

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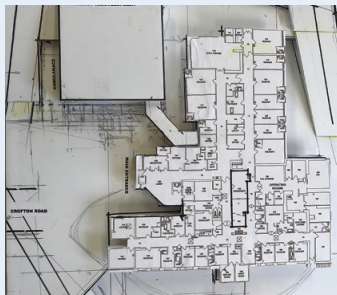
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PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DECISION TIME: Aidan Cassie gets ready to vote on the first day of advance polls at Gulf Islands Secondary School on Friday. The final chance to vote is on official election day, this Monday, Oct. 21, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. People should check their voters card or www.elections.ca for details. An all-candidates meeting is set for today (Oct. 16) at GISS at 3 p.m.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Proposed CRD tax hike: 4.6 per cent

Preliminary 2020 budgets approved

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Preliminary budgets for the Capital Regional District's three electoral areas were approved by the Electoral Areas Committee and CRD Board last Wednesday, setting the stage for the regional district's draft financial plan presentation at the end of the month.

The amount of money the CRD aims to collect through property taxes is set to rise by 6.08 per cent in 2020, although with a 4.42 per cent decrease to the Capital Regional Hospital District rate, the total increase comes to 4.6 per cent on average. Subscribers to some local water services on Salt Spring will actually see decreases to their service rates, including members of the Highland, Cedar Lane and Fulford water systems.

Key drivers for the Salt Spring budget increase include an added \$35,000 to the Salt Spring Public Library contribution, \$9,000 more toward transit, \$20,000 more for public arts, a \$198,000 increase to community parks and facilities operations, and a \$60,000 increase for septage hauling/composting expenditures.

Not included in the budget at this point is a proposed safety service for Salt Spring, which director Gary Holman has suggested would start with a budget of \$35,000 if approved by local residents. A meeting on the service was planned for Tuesday, Oct. 15. (See next week's Driftwood for the report.)

Holman and CRD staff will host a CRD budget information meeting at Lions Hall on Thursday, Oct. 17 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Major capital project contributions for 2020 include \$1.095 million to complete the North Ganges Transportation Plan, \$1 million toward the Fulford-Ganges Road resurfacing project (contingent on public approval), and \$415,000 for park, pool and trail improvements.

Other notable changes for 2020 include a 10.45 per cent increase to CRD regional services, which incorporates a 26 per cent hike for legislative and general government services.

CRD BUDGET continued on 5

Zen Master Wolfgang says:
"It takes about 20 years for a Liberal to become a Conservative without changing a single idea."

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SD64

District preps for emergency

Student safety main priority

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Going into another winter season with the potential for bad weather, the Gulf Islands School District has set up an emergency preparation plan based on lessons learned from last year's weather events.

District staff met with stakeholders, including the various fire departments in the islands, to discuss future responses to emergencies.

"After the windstorm, we talked about the challenges and issues we had throughout our district. That's what we're trying to address now," said facilities and transportation director Richard Frost during last week's school board meeting on Pender Island. "You have an issue or an incident, you see your flaws and you see what's missing and you take measures to fix those things. That way, if it happens again, we're better prepared."

One of the main issues brought up was the perception that schools would act as muster points for the community. On Salt Spring, some schools are seen as designated places to gather in the case of emergency. The same is not true for all of the other Gulf Islands. Frost and district superintendent Scott Benwell both stressed that the district has a responsibility to first make sure the students are safe. After

personnel are finished turning students over to parents, the schools can be used for emergency shelter purposes, but the schools' mandate is to take care of students first.

"We had a good discussion and looked at what is what when it comes to student responsibility," Frost said. "That was a big conversation where we had to draw the line and let them know what we're responsible for, from the school district and ministry, with our children."

Due to the confusion of whether or not a school is considered a "place of refuge," in addition to the confusing situations that arise in emergency scenarios, trustee Shelley Lawson suggested that the district find a way to inform people "when the role of the school is a school, and when the building's role as a shelter starts."

"Not having that clarity in the community added that piece of confusion [last winter]," she added.

However, after meetings with district staff and emergency responders were held, the fact that schools must deal with the children in their care first is understood.

To help with the coordination of an emergency response at the school level, a flip chart has been created by district staff for each school, showing the proper response for each type of emergency, as well as the proper communication channels to ensure effective links are maintained. The charts cover everything from major earthquakes and disasters to "stranger danger" scenarios.

EDUCATION

SD64 configuration input requested

Meetings to be held on each island

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands School District began the feedback portion of its reconfiguration process at a community meeting held on Pender Island last week.

About 20 community members attended the meeting at Pender Island school. Attendees included school staff, parents, students and community members. The meeting was the first of a series being organized by the district and also marked the launch of its online engagement platform. Over the next month and a half, the district hopes to get meaningful information from the public about how education works in SD64.

"What I heard from the parents at Pender School, which is what I hope to hear, is that they're pretty happy with the way things are and that they don't really see the need for anything to stop happening. They just want more things to happen," said school board chair Rob Pingle.

Talk of reconfiguration started a year ago, when the previous board asked their replacements to start the review process. While they are open to any potential changes, the district has to be mindful of its financial situation as well.

"That's a challenge for us because we're in [Education Ministry] funding protection and there's going to be some reduction in service somewhere," Pingle said. "If it came from the community as to what that reduction could be . . . we didn't hear it on Pender. I'm not upset about that, it's just that part of the process."

The Pender meeting was the first in a series to be

held on each island in the district's purview. Other places and dates are as follows: Galiano on Oct. 30 at 4:30 p.m.; Saturna Rec Centre on Nov. 5 at 9:30 a.m.; Gulf Islands Secondary School on Nov. 6 at 6:30 p.m.; Fernwood elementary on Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m.; Mayne Island on Nov. 13 at 5 p.m.; Fulford elementary on Nov. 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Trustees explained the configuration process and rationale to those attending the meeting. After answering questions about the process, the room was broken up into groups that allowed for a table-talk style discussion. Four areas of discussion were presented: facilities, transportation, grade configuration and programs.

"There were interesting perspectives at all the tables," Pingle said. "The principals, who are new, saw it as a great opportunity to hear what people are curious about. A lot of the stuff wasn't necessarily configuration-related, but that's okay. It was interesting to see what people needed to know."

In addition to the meetings, the district has set up an online engagement tool using Thought Exchange. The tool allows people to identify as either students, staff, community members or parents, to give feedback anonymously and rank other comments based on their agreement. The Thought Exchange platform will be open until the end of November.

After the feedback period is over, the district will compile the information and use it to determine future action. While the district's goal to implement whatever change is necessary by September 2020 is not being mandated by anyone, a January decision will give them time to prepare and work towards implementation by the start of the next school year.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Page & Cassie win Victoria literary prizes

Two Salt Spring authors continue to be in the lime-light, as Kathy Page and Aidan Cassie were honoured with awards from the City of Victoria.

Page won the Butler Book Prize for her novel *Dear Evelyn*, which explores how two different people come together to shape and reshape each other over a lifetime. The novel also won the Rogers Writers' Trust Award for fiction last year.

Cassie is the recipient of the Victoria Children's Book Prize for her book *Sterling, Best Dog Ever*, which is about a dog who has always wanted a home, but no home wanted him. However, he finds an ingenious way to be delivered right to the family who needs him most.

The awards were presented at a gala in Victoria last Wednesday.

Great ShakeOut

The Great British Columbia ShakeOut is coming back on Thursday, Oct. 17, with businesses, schools and emergency service groups participating in this year's drill.

ShakeOut BC earthquake drills help people practise how to be safe during an earthquake and are an opportunity for people to improve their overall preparedness. Those interested in participating can sign up at shakeoutbc.ca and then "Drop, Cover and Hold On" at 10:17 a.m. Sample drills, practice broadcasts and tips are available on the web-site.

Dinter speaks at garden club

The Salt Spring Garden Club's featured speaker at their Oct. 23 meeting will be Bernie Dinter, owner of Dinter's Nursery in the Cowichan Valley.

Dinter's talk is called *Flowering Bulbs: Nature's Gift that Keeps on Giving*, which he presented earlier this year at the sold-out American Rhododendron Society's fall conference in Parksville.

The meeting is at Meaden Hall, starting at 6:45 p.m. with social time, followed by a business meeting from 7:15 to 7:45. Dinter's talk will follow. Non-members are welcome to attend.

HEALTH CARE

Health needs confirmed

Mental health services top local gap

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A health needs assessment of Salt Spring being released this week has determined mental health is the most pressing health-related issue on the island, with only half the people who need services able to access them.

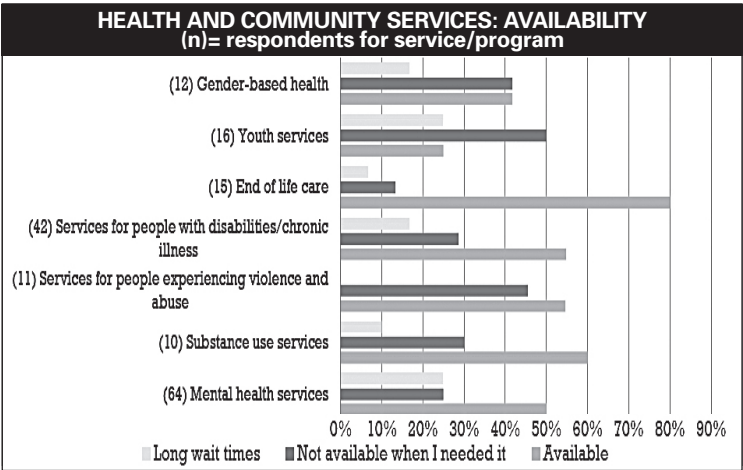
The Salt Spring Island Community Health Needs Assessment was carried out from May through July 2019 by Fay Weller of Wave Consulting Ltd. for the Salt Spring Island Community Health Society. Community members were asked to identify the needs they felt were most important for the health and well-being of the community and for themselves.

The survey netted 562 respondents. Additional information was drawn from in-person interviews and focus groups.

The assessment results show islanders feel well-served by Lady Minto Hospital, and with the arrival of three new doctors a year ago, Salt Spring is now one of the few communities in British Columbia deemed not to have a shortage of family physicians.

"Despite this, the needs assessment shows many islanders cannot get needed health services when they need them, and some people cannot find them at all," said Community Health Society president Jennifer Williams.

With 50 per cent of those who indicated they needed mental health services stating they were not able to access them due to availability and affordability, this easily stood out as the top community need.



"The report tells us that we need to focus on helping to address the needs of people who experience significant barriers to accessing health care on Salt Spring," said Martha Taylor, the community health needs assessment project lead. "And the area of greatest need, across all age groups, is mental health. This is the area we want to focus on first."

Dementia care and youth services were also unavailable to the majority of those needing the service. Access to specialists and diagnostic testing was another challenge for many, due to the need to go off-island for services as well as long wait times.

While many respondents commented positively about access to emergency care and the quality of care from local doctors, paramedics and hospital staff, changes to the health care system and service structure were recommended. Many people suggested a clinic with walk-in service and/or a community health centre with co-location of services. A team-based approach to primary care has been suggested as the best way to improve access to

specialists, diagnostic tests, monitoring and complementary care such as social services.

When asked what would improve personal, household and community well-being, respondents further identified affordable dental care; access to basic needs such as shelter, healthy food, transportation and affordable medication; access to affordable supports for seniors; and more access to preventative measures like education, inclusivity and physical exercise.

The community health centre idea has been raised before as a potential solution for local health needs, but the society has not announced plans to initiate a building campaign at this point.

"A bricks-and-mortar health centre will be nice to have," Taylor said. "But we can take action while it's still in the planning stages by offering outreach services, for example, by going out into the community to help people get what they need."

The full report can be found online at saltspringcommunity-health.ca. A printed hard copy will also be available at the library.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Fall events underway

Salty Awards voting and Sip and Savour on Chamber of Commerce calendar

The Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce is having a busy fall season, with two of its signature community events on the menu.

Voting for the annual Salty Awards is now underway, with two branches for business and community categories once again being offered. A record number of nominations were submitted this year.

"Over 475 entries were received for 20 business award categories, with a total of 1055 unique nominations received," the chamber reported. "For the nine community awards, we received 213 entries for a total of 339 unique nominations."

It appears that excellence is abundant on Salt Spring, with

58 nominations for young entrepreneurs, and over 60 nominations for the new category for entrepreneurs over 40. Ninety-eight businesses were nominated for excellent customer service and 109 nominations were received for Greatest Tradesperson. As well, 45 restaurants and food trucks were nominated, along with almost 100 favourite menu items. There are more than 60 businesses to choose from for Greatest Business overall.

Online voting continues through the chamber website, www.saltspringchamber.com, through Oct. 25. The Salty Awards will be presented at a gala dinner on Nov. 14 at the Harbour House Hotel.

Also on the calendar for this month is the eighth annual Sip and Savour tasting event. Tickets are sold out for the B.C. food and drink tasting extravaganza, which runs from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Farmers' Institute on Saturday, Oct. 19.

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District Configuration

PUBLIC NOTICE



The Board of Education for SD64 (Gulf Islands) invites stakeholders and the general public to attend an open forum to review current school district configuration and discuss possibilities for organizing learning and resources to best serve students. Please join us on:

Consultation Meetings Schedule:

Galiano Public Library October 30, 4:30 pm
Saturna Recreation Centre November 5, 9:30 am
Gulf Islands Secondary School November 6, 6:30 pm
Fernwood Elementary School November 7, 6:30 pm
Mayne Island School November 13, 5:00 pm
Fulford Elementary School November 19, 6:30 pm

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BUILDING INSPECTION

CRD office prepares for change

Building Inspection open
house on Oct. 23

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring contractors will have the opportunity to meet the new faces of building inspection and learn about some changes to local and provincial policy during an open house hosted by the Capital Regional District on Oct. 23. The CRD will host a lunchtime session with sandwiches and refreshments starting at 11 a.m. in the meeting room next to the Salt Spring Building Inspection office. Regional inspection manager Robert Gutierrez said there will be a lot to catch up on, with the retirement of Salt Spring's longtime head building inspector Darryl Janyk, and additions to the B.C. Building Code in several areas.

"We just want to get everybody on board. That will make it easier for people to do their job," Gutierrez said. "What my firm belief is, you should always give everybody everything you have so their work can be approved."

The open house session will include Salt Spring's auxiliary inspection officers Reid Cassidy and Roy Thomassen, who may be on the island more frequently after Janyk's retirement on Oct. 16. Gutierrez reported the Salt Spring position

has also been posted.

Not having Janyk around will be a big change for everybody, Gutierrez agreed. The former contractor started part-time inspection work with the CRD in 2002. He advanced to positions as Builder Inspector 3 and Plumbing Inspector 2 — the highest levels — through coursework with the CRD and the Building Officials Association of B.C.

Gutierrez said B.C. building standards have changed quite a bit during the 30 years he's been on the job, and climate change is meaning additional measures have been added to ensure buildings are airtight. Seismic requirements are also evolving, while a new policy within the regional district means CRD building permits must pass through the hands of Islands Trust planning staff, who will ensure plans are within what is allowed on each property before the permit is issued.

This is hoped to ensure the building process is consistent with both branches of local government, instead of creating conflict. It may be especially useful in development permit areas, but Gutierrez said it should benefit all island property owners.

"You want to know what you can do and can't do on your property because you have those sensitive ecosystems on the Gulf Islands, and steep slopes.

You want to know where you can put your house," he observed, adding, "Salt Spring has seven different types of soil, the most of anybody. For that reason you have to be careful where you build."

Gutierrez noted that while there are many restrictions, an aspect of the BC Building Code explicitly permits "alternative solutions" to prescribed methods. Working with inspectors on those solutions before implementing them will help get those methods approved. The CRD Building Inspection team is also willing to explore innovative ideas. Gutierrez created the bylaw that permits rainwater catchment on single family dwellings and is working on releasing policy to facilitate tiny homes using permanent foundations. He has also worked with Salt Spring Islanders on an informal policy to allow the installation of water collection cisterns without needing an engineer to sign off on them.

Builders are encouraged to come to the open house on Oct. 23, as well as a drop-in farewell party for Janyk that will take place between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. today (Wednesday, Oct. 16).

"It's nice to put a face to a name, especially when we're coming into your house. Because we're there to help," Gutierrez said.

ENVIRONMENT

Invasive crab discovered in island waters

DFO requests aid

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The list of invasive species threatening local ecosystems has recently seen a new addition with discovery of the European green crab in local waters.

The crab was located in Booth Inlet and Fulford Harbour last month, marking the first time *Carcinus maenas* has been seen near the east coast of Vancouver Island.

The Islands Trust Conservancy sent a warning bulletin

to the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee last week, along with a request to aid Fisheries and Oceans Canada with detecting and monitoring.

"DFO is working this month to capture and remove any other individuals they may find, but please keep an eye out and consider posting the attached notice at your office and around the island," wrote conservancy manager Kate Emmings.

DFO has teamed up with Washington Sea Grant and the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife to develop an

early detection and monitoring program for the European green crab in the Salish Sea. A pamphlet explains the crab is considered one of the world's worst invasive species. It can alter shoreline ecosystems and negatively impact economically important species.

The crabs, which grow up to 10 cm along the widest part of their carapace, prefer sheltered areas such as lagoons, braided estuarine channels, and bays with salt-marsh or eelgrass vegetation.

Although the crab's common name suggests they are

always green in colour, they can vary from mottled green to orange or red. The most identifiable characteristic is the set of five large spines that are evenly spaced on each side of the carapace between the eyes and the widest part of the shell. Also useful for identification are the three rounded lobes between the eyes.

The DFO asks that anyone who suspects having found a European green crab take a photo but leave the crab in place. Photos can be sent by email to AISPACIFIC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

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HEALTH CARE

Emergency wing design vetted

Separate hospital building proposed for upper parking area

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Plans for a new emergency department at Lady Minto Hospital are proceeding at a good pace, with a schematic design phase now underway expected to wrap before the end of the year.

Projects proponents from the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation provided an update during the group's annual general meeting on Sept. 19. The joint working group with Island Health has determined the preferred concept is a new single-storey building to be located within the hospital's current "upper" parking area adjacent to Braehaven. The wing would be connected to the main hospital with a covered corridor. More parking would be developed on the lower level around back of the hospital to make up for the displaced spots.

Foundation president Derek Fry told the Driftwood that if all goes well, the group should be ready to select a contractor for the construction project in a year's time.

"We have terrific help from Island Health — they've got the right people on board — and the architects we've engaged are terrific. We're very confident we're spending the community's money well," Fry said.

KRA Architects from Vancouver have been contracted and started their design work in September, although the internal design still requires much consideration.

"We know how big the building will need to be, but the inside design needs input from the doctors and nurses who actually work there to help get the best layout," Fry said.

The team will similarly need to determine the best operational plan for staffing, particularly at night-time as the new department will be located further away from acute care nurses who could be called upon during an emergency need.

Finding the funding for construction of the new emergency department is wholly up to the foundation. Island Health has committed to respecting their investment by using the emergency department for many years to come, and will cover the additional operating expenses required from 2022 onward, according to the memorandum of understanding between the two groups.

Fry said initial cost estimates were in the range of

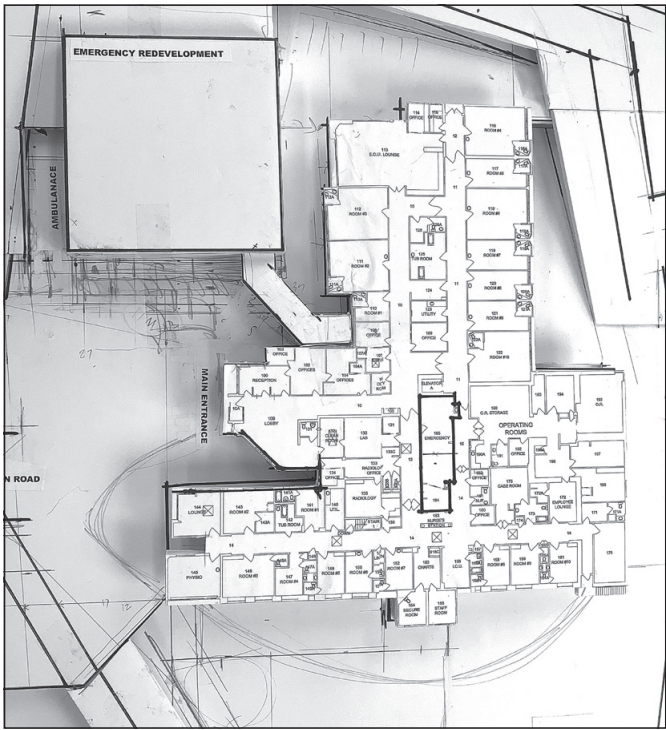


PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Model of Lady Minto Hospital with proposed new emergency wing located in the upper lefthand corner, in what is currently the main parking area.

\$8 to \$10 million, but they won't have a real idea until the design and construction documents are completed and tenders sent out. Foundation members voted to approve \$1.5 million for the schematic design and design development stages at a special general meeting held in May. The joint working group plans to ask for the construction funds at the 2020 AGM.

The foundation hopes to get some relief from the Capital Regional District, since island taxes have been paid into regional hospital accounts for many years.

"We will be going to the CRD when we get the initial figures to get their contribution of at least 30 per cent," Fry said.

In order to avoid completely draining the foundation's endowment fund, a community campaign to raise a portion of the cost is also expected.

CRD budget info session slated for this Thursday

CRD BUDGET
continued from 1

Juan de Fuca electoral area director Mike Hicks questioned this line item during the Oct. 9 EAC meeting.

"In my 11 years here I've never ever seen a 26 per cent increase ... For our taxpayers, that's \$28,000 and that's a lot of shing-aling for us," Hicks said.

He added that it seemed hard to ask local services like fire departments to keep their budgets tight, when the CRD does not seem to be exercising the same restraint.

The CRD's chief financial officer Nelson Chan said detailed information would be forthcoming at the presentation on the financial plan scheduled for a CRD committee-of-the-whole meeting on Oct. 30.

Southern Gulf Islands director Dave Howe asked whether it's fair to say that 50 per cent

or more of the electoral area budgets are out of local control. Chan said it was correct that around half of the SGI budget is related to local area services, and the other half covers regional, sub-regional and joint-electoral matters.

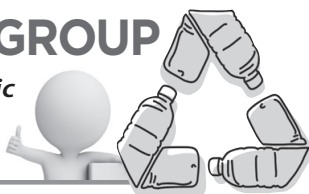
In other EAC business last Wednesday, the committee approved notices be registered on title for Salt Spring properties where building projects were started or completed without the necessary permits. Chief building inspector Robert Gutierrez recommended the notices be placed to warn future buyers of potential deficiencies, and to reduce the liability to the CRD.

Notices were approved for 223 Booth Canal Rd., 192 Vesuvius Bay Rd. and 2045 North End Rd.

Holman asked if there is data on how many notices on title are outstanding on Salt Spring. Gutierrez said his office could provide those figures.

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Single-use plastic plates, glasses, cups, and cutlery are all among the plastic debris that is commonly found during beach cleanups. Even most paper cups are harmful as they are lined with a plastic coating and can't be recycled. And did you know that Styrofoam cups and other food/drink containers can potentially leach toxins into hot drinks and food.

What you can do: Use only reusable, washable plates, glasses and cups, and cutlery. Carry your own with you so you will have them available whenever you need them. If you don't want to carry metal cutlery, you can buy reusable bamboo cutlery that comes with chopsticks in a cloth carry case. If you are having a party or holding an event which includes food, have guests bring their own eating and drinking utensils.



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OPINION



2019 CCNA Awards
Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Feature Series (Gail Sjuberg)
Bronze - Best News Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Service

2019 BCYCN Awards
Gold - Best Arts & Culture Writing (Elizabeth Nolan) | Silver - Best Environmental Writing (Gail Sjuberg)
Silver - Best Multimedia Feature (Marc Kitteringham)
Silver - Community Service | New Journalist of the Year (Marc Kitteringham)



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EDITORIAL

Info central

Trying to find answers in an era of online-dominant communication can be frustrating.

Website information is often unclear and no obvious routes to clarity are offered. Fewer and fewer agencies answer phone calls without the caller having to first hold the line indefinitely or leave a message and hope the call is returned. Email queries are not necessarily answered, or not in a timely fashion.

That's why the new Ask Salt Spring initiative of the Salt Spring Community Alliance is a rather brilliant effort. With a tag line of "Neighbours Helping Neighbours Find Answers," the service relies on volunteers as well as participation by local politicians.

Volunteers are willing to take islanders' questions via email about any number of topics related to island life and will help find the answers, using a team of people who are experts in particular fields to provide the requested information. Alternatively, people can come to the Friday Ask Salt Spring sessions in the flower shop space of Thrifty Foods from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There's nothing like a back-and-forth

THE ISSUE: Ask Salt Spring initiative

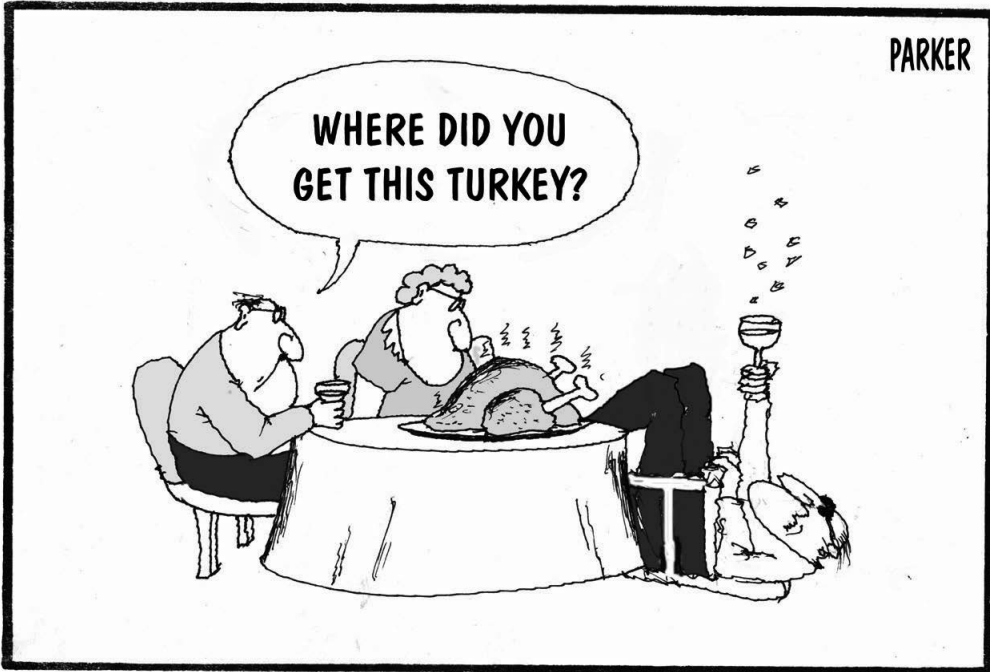
WE SAY: Volunteer efforts appreciated

conversation to really get to the bottom of an issue.

The Ask Salt Spring initiative has its roots in discussions that occurred during and after the 2017 incorporation referendum. Islanders complained that without a central "town hall" or similar one-stop shop it was difficult to find answers to questions about government procedures and how things work here. General ignorance about those processes was evident through the referendum process, and not without reason. Not much is simple on the island.

Coincidentally, the Fulford Seniors group has organized an information blitz on the topic of health and wellness for today (Oct. 16). From noon to 4 p.m., people can learn how to access services of specific relevance to seniors. While the hope is that south-end seniors will take the opportunity to acquire some valuable information closer to home, any islander can drop in to see the displays, hear short presentations and ask questions.

Once again, with both the Fulford Seniors and Ask Salt Spring initiatives, island volunteers have stepped up to fill gaps in service and make the community a better place for all of us.



What legacy will we leave?

BY SHEILA HARRINGTON

Recent enormous participation in climate marches led by young people around the world have been portrayed by some as primarily ignorant children who haven't the capacity to understand, who are instead escaping school or even being led by alarmist groups and/or educators.

Some of our society's current level of discourse and critical thinking rates failing grades. As a B.C. educator, I know that what these young people today are learning (required in B.C.'s new curriculum) is now up to date but may be disturbing to us older generations. Taking to the streets to object to political inactions — in fact continued actions — that destroy nature and these young people's hopes for a future is an understandable response.

The latest International Panel on Climate Change's report, which looked at the impacts to oceans from melting glaciers, notes that waters have soaked up more than 90 per cent of the extra heat generated by humans over the past decades. When CO2 is dissolved in water it forms carbonic acid. This impacts fish, coral, and of course humans. Greenland and

VIEWPOINT

Antarctica's rate of glacier loss has doubled and tripled over the last 10 to 20 years.

"The blue planet is in serious danger right now, suffering many insults from many different directions, and it's our fault," said Dr. Jean-Pierre Gattuso, a co-ordinating lead author of the IPCC report. "This will have widespread consequences for low-lying coasts where almost 700 million people live and it is worrying." The only chance of averting the worst of the looming consequences of unfettered economic growth, addiction to fossil fuels and massive waste, according to the IPCC, is "deep, rapid cuts in carbon emissions that require 45 per cent reductions by 2030."

These young people are taking to the streets because many of our politicians, supported by voters, are still insisting that addressing the causes of climate change is not as important as continued economic growth. The federal Conservative party leader couldn't be bothered to attend or respond to the marches. The Liberal party leader, and cur-

rent PM, was booed by a record 500,000 protesters in Montreal, for among other things, forcing a tax-paid pipeline on an unwilling populace, claiming that the impacts of continued economic growth in the oil industry will help fuel climate actions, but of course in the wrong direction. Voting for either of these two parties is a vote to condemn our children and other species' futures. Is that the legacy we want to leave?

As Pope Francis asserted, it's time to "leave behind the modern myth of material progress.

"It is not enough to balance, in the medium terms, the protection of nature with financial gain, or the preservation of the environment with progress. Halfway measures delay the inevitable disaster. Put simply, it is a matter of redefining our notion of progress. A technological and economic development which does not leave in its wake a better world and an integrally higher quality of life cannot be considered progress." (Pope Francis' 2015 Encyclical)

The writer is a former Salt Spring resident who now lives on Lasqueti Island.

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Is Mouat Park a better spot for the CREST tower?

☐ Yes ☐ No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you know who you will vote for in the federal election?

11 99
NO YES

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: }

"We're very confident we're spending the community's money well."

DEREK FRY, LADY MINTO HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

SALT SPRING SAYS

WE ASKED:

What are you grateful for this Thanksgiving?

MICHELE LAYARD



My family and the abundant harvest this fall.

ROBERT HUTTON



Friends and family.

JOSH CHICOINE



This wonderful sister of mine.

LEE SOLLITT



For being here.

DAVE VOLLRATH



Sharing in communication with birds and nature.

LETTERS to the editor

First day for Ask service

Last Friday, 10 Salt Springers came to ask volunteers and CRD director Gary Holman questions about issues on their minds.

At the top of their lists were transportation concerns, ranging from speed limits and safety to the long-delayed completion of the North Ganges Transportation Plan and the opportunity presented by the repaving of Ganges Hill.

Others wanted to explore seniors services, discuss recycling and garbage, learn what was happening with the Ganges harbour walk, get an update on the opening of the laundromat, and discuss the upcoming safety counter-petition.

While Gary is very available to meet with Salt Springers at their request,

several commented that they preferred the casual forum that Ask Salt Spring provided. I was especially pleased by the new connections that were made and the conversations that emerged when everyone participated in a discussion of the issue on the table.

And, we were all stumped by one question: Whatever happened to the gravel barges that came to Ganges Harbour? Instead, we have fossil-fuel-powered trucks heading to Duncan on the already overcrowded Crofton ferry. Anyone?

Drop by the Thrifty Foods florist shop on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers will help you find answers, and Peter Grove will be there this week from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to answer queries about the Islands Trust.

GAYLE BAKER,
ASK SALT SPRING +
SALT SPRING COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

Tax grab

The British Columbia carbon tax is nothing more than a Green-NDP tax grab.

The B.C. carbon tax should be revenue neutral to be fair to taxpayers: the money received from carbon tax should be returned to B.C. taxpayers at the end of the year it is collected. Unfortunately in B.C., the Green-NDP coalition has determined that big government should get all the carbon tax collected, with nothing being returned to the taxpayer. Thus the B.C. carbon tax is nothing more than a Horgan-Weaver tax grab.

B.C. taxpayers have thus become the victims of a grand deception. Having agreed to a carbon tax on a solemn promise of strict revenue neutrality, our carbon tax has been turned into just another tax grab.

It is a betrayal that hurts the lower and middle classes disproportionately.

In addition to driving up the price of gasoline and diesel, the carbon tax increases the price of all goods and services that rely on fuel. The price on groceries, goods and anything transported by trucks is increased and is a real economic burden on the very citizens that the NDP is supposed to represent: the working and middle class.

What is worse is that the B.C. government now indulges in green fund spending orgies — rewarding favoured industries, handing out foolish energy subsidies and otherwise bolstering their re-election chances, with the carbon tax revenue that should be returned to hard-working B.C. citizens.

WILLIAM STEINER,
SALT SPRING

Terry Fox kilometres challenge autumn chicks

"May I make a slight correction?" she asked gently. By then we were on our third time around the circuit of the annual Terry Fox Run and I was running out of steam.

Our original plan was to briskly walk five kilometres as our effort to raise funds for the Terry Fox Foundation. We'd been training for it by urban pole walking three times around Brinkworthy Park almost every morning, a routine that takes us an hour. Next we walked twice around the Terry Fox route, or five kilometres. Angie assessed it as "easy peasy, lemon squeezy." I agreed.

This was the second year in a row we were soliciting donations in aid of cancer research and we were dedicating our effort to "Brinkworthy cancer survivors" and "United Church cancer survivors," which includes, of course, those currently under treatment. At last count, we raised a combined \$875.

Last year, Angie walked in honour of her cousin Dietlind in Berlin, at the time combatting breast cancer. I walked in memory of Mike, my step-daughter Janice's late partner. We lost Mike way too soon, but Dietlind is among the many success stories that give us cheer. In fact, she is feeling so well these days she wanted to join us despite jet lag and a slight cold.

Ceremonies began on Sunday morning (Sept. 22) at the Rainbow Road pool, followed by a brisk warm-up session, and then we were off. We let the runners have a head start along the narrow trail through Mouat Park, but then we played tag team with Grandma Lynda, who was pushing a pram while we urban pole walked. The circuit took us past ArtSpring and the Peace Park and then we hung a left at the sushi



Helen Hinchliff
AGING WITH
GRACE

place, greeted the coffee crowd at TJ Beans, and tried to avoid the rain puddles on the path past the food court. Then it was up Park Drive past the Anglican Church, down Aldous Road past the skateboard park, through the high school grounds and finally back to the entrance to Mouat Park. Easy, so we did it again, getting lapped along the way by all the runners.

As we cleared the high school grounds for the second time, Angie laid down a challenge. "Are we up for 7.5 K?" Ever since last year, Angie's been harbouring the hope we might actually walk 7.5 kilometres this year. I'd had my doubts, but why not?

Well, I'll tell you why not. While I watched Angie march up Park Drive, her back ramrod straight, I was puffing and my shoulders were stooping.

But lucky me: Angie's cousin Dietlind was there to remind me to straighten up. "Keep your head high," she suggested, "and look ahead not down. As my trainer used to tell me, 'You don't want to look like an alte frau.'"

There's nothing more motivating than not wanting to look like an old woman, so I straightened up and struggled on. It took us an hour and a half and we were the last ones to finish, but at least we made it, soaked through from sweat and rain, but seemingly nothing a hot shower and

a long nap couldn't cure.

Can you keep a secret? Angie and I haven't been taking our daily dozen or more strides around Brinkworthy Park this week. Don't tell anybody, but she caught a cold and as I sit here writing this piece, I feel a sore throat coming on. "Why are we getting colds?" I asked. "Why do we still feel tired?"

"We're not spring chickens anymore," she chuckled.

"Really? You could have fooled me!"

I've had a little chat with my friend Google. "How many steps are in 7.5 kilometres?" I asked. Turns out there are just under 10,000 steps. How convenient! Somebody once told us we're supposed to be walking that many steps daily to maintain our fitness. But did they really think we should — or even could — keep right on walking that many until we keel over and collapse? So I nudged up to Google for info about 10,000 steps and — perish the thought — "older women."

Here's the scoop from the Journal of the American Medical Association (Internal Medicine) as simplified for folks like us by Science Daily, published May 29, 2019. A Brigham and Women's Hospital four-year study of older women (their average age was 72) found that "taking as few as 4,400 steps per day was significantly associated with lower risk of death compared to taking 2,700 steps per day. The association of lower risk of dying continued to decrease with more steps taken but levelled off at around 7,500 steps per day."

Terry Fox, this autumn chick will see you again next year, but I'm only walking five kilometres.

author@HelenHinchliff.com

Harper era review shows contempt for democracy

BY FRANTS ATTORP

Progressives call it “Canada’s Darkest Hour” — the nine years from 2006 to 2015 when Stephen Joseph Harper lorded over the True North strong and free.

Never before had Canada seen such a prime minister: a political street fighter who pushed boundaries, defied rules and pulled every lever of power in his efforts to remake the country in the image of his American utopia. In a 1997 speech to a U.S. right-wing think tank in Montreal, Harper famously stated: “Your country, and particularly your conservative movement, is a light and inspiration to people in this country and around the world.”

As Canadians would soon find out, Harper, while sporting the “Conservative” label, had very little in common with more moderate Conservatives of the past: statesmen like John Diefenbaker, Robert Stanfield, Joe Clark, or even the dubious Brian Mulroney.

Indeed, it can be argued that Harper, whose resume included fierce opposition to the Kyoto Protocol, condemnation of human rights commissions, and policy writing for the far-right Reform Party, scored his greatest coup simply by changing his political hat. In 2003, he merged his Canadian Alliance with the traditional Progressive Conservatives to form the Conservative Party of Canada, thereby adopting a brand with a long and

INDEPTH

respected tradition. What’s in a name? Just about everything if it can rewrite your past, win you trust, and hide your true colours.

Draped in his cloak of palatability, Harper set about dismantling Canadian democracy, and implementing his corporate, anti-environment, every-man-for-himself policies. At first, constrained by minority government status, the going was tough, but the pace picked up once a majority was secured.

Harper’s abuses of power are almost too numerous to name, but some general trends are worthy of mention; themes that run like a connecting thread through authoritarian regimes around the globe.

Although previous administrations started concentrating power in the prime minister’s office, Harper took that practice to new heights. By the end of its mandate, “the Harper government,” as it came to be known, was just that — a one-man show. No one dared question the leader, and Conservative MPs were largely reduced to the role of clapping sycophants.

Like other autocrats, Harper loathed the free press. He basically stopped engaging with the media, opting instead to issue talking points, usually by e-mail. There were also heavy cuts to the CBC budget along with the appoint-

ment of a puppet board of directors to rein in the public broadcaster.

But Harper’s penchant for secrecy and control went far beyond media relations. In 2011 his government was found in contempt of Parliament for refusing to disclose the costing of programs to Parliament. It was a Canadian first.

Additionally, Harper muzzled and defunded government scientists, especially those studying human health and the environment. Charities that had been critical of government policies suddenly found themselves in the crosshairs of the Canada Revenue Agency, and Stats Canada was forced to scrap the long-form census which for years had provided valuable information for policy makers.

Perhaps the most shocking example of Harper’s contempt for science was the shuttering of numerous world-class fisheries libraries in 2013 and the tossing of historical data, some dating back to the 1800s, into dumpsters. Many in the scientific community likened this assault on knowledge and destruction of public property to a book burning.

That Harper was intent on social engineering was evident in the extraordinary efforts he made to reshape the judiciary. He gave preference to those who shared his tough-on-crime views, his lack of sympathy for “victim of society” arguments, and his disdain for the Charter of Rights which provides broad protection for all citizens, and

supports rulings on minority issues such as same-sex marriage. The lack of clearly defined procedures in the appointment process allowed him to bring political interference in the courts to a level never seen before.

And then there was the ultimate assault on democracy — the calculated attempts to undermine free and fair elections. In 2011, the Conservative party pleaded guilty over the “In and Out” scandal, which involved a sophisticated accounting scheme to circumvent election spending laws. This was followed by the Robocall scandal, a likely coordinated attempt by Conservative operatives to suppress the vote, and by “The Fair Elections Act,” which turned out to be every bit as Orwellian as it sounds.

In looking back at the Harper decade, one can’t help but wonder how it could happen in a modern-day democracy like Canada. Where are the checks and balances, the rules to constrain a renegade prime minister? Sadly, there seems to be very little in place to prevent abuses of power. Much depends on the moral character of the person elected to office, and that is not always revealed before the vote.

Current Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has taken some small steps to reverse the damage caused by Harper, but there is no guarantee things won’t flip back at the next election. Many of Harper’s most devoted followers are still sitting MPs. Andrew Scheer, who was hand

picked by Harper to be Speaker of the House, is now leader of the Conservative party. Pierre Poilievre, who rewrote Canada’s election laws to the benefit of his own party, is no doubt relishing the thought of having another kick at the can.

Justin Trudeau had one great opportunity to save Canada from tyranny by a minority. He rode to power largely on the unequivocal promise of doing away with the antiquated first-past-the-post electoral system, which regularly gives a single party dictatorial powers with less than 40 per cent of the popular vote.

But it was not to be. Trudeau, whose Liberals won a majority with 39 per cent of the vote, cynically reneged on his promise after a cross-party committee favoured proportional representation over the ranked ballot system that would have given his party an advantage. Quelle surprise!

The next federal election is on Oct. 21. As voters head to the polls to roll the dice, will they remember Stephen Harper’s abuses of power, and Justin Trudeau’s broken promises? Given the sweeping powers accorded Canadian prime ministers, they would be well advised to look beyond empty campaign promises and carefully memorized talking points, to values, beliefs and secrets that lie buried deep in the human heart.

The writer lives on Salt Spring.

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Tourism and safety issues linked

BY CHRIS DIXON

A decade ago, while visiting Quadra or maybe Cortes Island, I introduced myself as a refugee

from Salt Spring. The immediate response from one group was a sharp intake of collective breath; a dozen eyes looked downward or out the window. Hands moved instinctively to cover racing hearts. Some of these folks used to live on Salt Spring.

In a mix of sympathy and raw terror, the bravest among them said, “We wouldn’t want that to happen here,” which needs no translation. They clearly don’t want the community they live in to turn into Venice, or Barcelona, or Ganges.

There is a profound, fundamental difference between people who see their home as a place to raise kids and grow a garden, and others who coldly assess a property for its B&B potential.

It’s inevitable, I suppose, that local business owner Ian Clement (whom I respect) and CRD director Gary Holman (whom I elected) chose last week to confront the messenger rather than the message in my Oct. 2 Driftwood opinion piece about a proposed security service.

It asks for a conversation that the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce has been avoiding for years.

Connecting the dots, business people want more customers and more transactions. Landlords want their tenants to be successful so they can afford to pay rent. Advertising attracts customers, so business people advertise, and they’re very good at it.

Relentless online advertising by business people attracts thousands of visitors to Salt Spring Island. (Discover Yourself Here.) (Good luck finding parking.) (Please don’t use up all the water.)

INRESPONSE

Their customers seasonally take over the commercial core of our shared island home, displacing

locals who pay taxes and support local businesses year round. To the business community, this works. Locals subsidize this success with discomfort and at personal risk.

Evidence suggests that the merchants and landlords of Ganges are oblivious to any need for change, other than maybe removing a few undesirable characters who might ruin someone’s retail experience. This would be done, of course, at public expense.

I see the call for more authority on the ground in Ganges as a symptom of a much larger problem. In my opinion, the business community (who profoundly misread their community in three conclusive incorporation referenda) does not have a monopoly on insight. I believe they could now use some help from their friends. This means coming to the table with their neighbours; it does not mean hiring a consultant from away.

If safety and security is the issue in Ganges, let’s look for ways to decrease, rather than increase, the stress level there. Let’s find a way to get rid of, say, half of the summer vehicle traffic. Let’s lower the speed limit and pay real cops to prosecute offenders.

This is an official community plan-sized conversation. It takes an engaged community to make decisions of this magnitude. It is not something that should be decided in a rush by a self-serving single-focus group, nor is it comforting to see the CRD, who does not represent us, using our tax money to incrementally take charge of things.

Island conversations and people are special

BY GREG AST

My wife Karen and I spend almost all of our time these days in Victoria and since I haven't lost my ability to engage complete strangers in conversation, I'm learning lots about what it takes to be a capital city burgher.

Strolling around the "downtown" is a perfect way to do just that. I still have my Salt Spring beard and haven't really found a replacement for 19B's hair-cutting expertise, so I'm often looking a little rough around the edges when I stroll near the museum or the Empress. People here always ask where I'm from, which tells me that I obviously don't look like I'm local. For example, I don't drive a BMW or ride an e-bike and I've completely forgotten how to knot a tie.

When people I meet learn that I'm a transplanted Salt Springer, the look on their faces is almost always the same and that look often makes me chuckle. I call it the "fly-catcher" pose as it reminds me of the open-mouthed surprise of a child just before they swallow a mosquito. They assume that pose because they can't believe what they're hearing. They can't believe they've met someone who actually left Salt Spring.

The next question out of their mouth, of course, is why the heck did I? Leave, I mean. After all, in their minds, nobody ever leaves Salt Spring, right? I confirm that our island is a slice of paradise and everyone who's from there knows it and many, like me, miss it. I emphasize that we still have our condo across from Moby's Pub. Just so they know I'm not certifiable.

Then they start on the list of everyone they know on island.

"Do you know Margaret MacKenzie? Perhaps you know Jim Erickson? Or Conny? You must know Conny. What the heck is her last name? She's the one married to the tall guy who runs the liquor store. Do you know . . ." they ask. I back up against the onslaught until I bump into the nearest tattooed millennial or horse-drawn carriage. It seems like everyone here knows somebody living on Salt Spring.

Then I hear about the Saturday market.

"I haven't been to the Ganges market for years," they start out. "I've got to get back there, this year," they continue. And they do continue. It's like they don't want to stop thinking about Salt Spring now that I've kick-started their memory.

So, what's my point? Where are we going with this train of thought? Just this, and it's important. We islanders are the object of great amounts of green. And by green, I'm

not talking Elizabeth May. Not that Elizabeth shouldn't be talked about, especially this month, for sure. No, the green I'm talking about is the green also known as envy. It's like they want to be us but haven't got the "je ne sais quoi" to take the leap themselves.

A small fraction of the people I meet in Victoria end up asking me the big question. I try to steer things away from it but I'm not always successful. If the line of questioning gets demanding and I actually get pinned against the flanks of a Clydesdale, then I have to spill the beans. I hate to do it, but I will, if pushed.

They want to know the answer to this question: What is it about Salt Spring Island that's so . . . so . . . special? I end up telling them. I do. I know I'm weak but please forgive me.

It's the conversation. That's what's so special. Conversation on Salt Spring is different.

Yes, it's true. It's the talk that pervades the island. No matter where you go on Salt Spring, there's always someone who wants to talk; to engage in the spoken word. It's often someone you know, if even only peripherally, like the lady in Salt Spring Books or the guy who picks up trash in and around the town. And it's not gossiping I'm talking about here. No way. I'm talking about conversation centred on ideas.

If you're on Salt Spring, or even if you're still on the ferry going to Salt Spring, look around you and you'll notice it everywhere. Especially if you're on the deck at Barb's Buns or the boardwalk in front of Thrifty's. My personal favourite place is a little closer to home: the fountain at Bayside townhouses across the street from Moby's. You ever been there? For some reason, that water fountain acts as a magnet for a conversation. Perhaps it's the sound made by cascading water on randomly stacked rocks (carefully recycled) or perhaps the humidity created by water thrown into the air. The folks who live there and their many friends meet at the fountain on Tuesdays when the weather allows and they exchange ideas through the art of conversation. For me, it's special.

So, I want to make sure that you all know why Salt Spring is such a coveted place by those who have yet to move there. Sure, you can talk about art galleries and the film festival and the fruit-growing soils, but the bottom line? It's the conversation.

Which is really just another way of saying, it's the people.

You heard it here first.

Classen, that's her name. Conny Classen.



PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

SSNAPY OCCASION:

Gulf Islands Secondary School student Sam Holmes stands near one of the artworks he contributed to the SSNAP Youth Exhibition during the show's opening reception at the Salt Spring Gallery on Oct. 4. Below: Carol Newmeyer, centre, places a "sold" sticker on a ceramic sculpture by Ezra Daws-Knowles while Adina Hildebrandt, left, and Gretta Hildebrandt admire the piece.



Rants

+ ROSES



Rants

Why would someone pull out of a parking space in Grace Point Square, at some point between 11 a.m. and noon on Tuesday, Oct. 8, with such force that their car tore the rear fender right off the body of my newly acquired Nissan Leaf, and then blithely drive away without leaving any contact information? Don't guilt and shame or even sympathy play any role in some person's soul? And now I'm left to pick up the

pieces and pay the deductible before I can get the damage repaired. By the way, did anyone witness this event? I'm supposed to ask. Helen Hinchliff

Roses

Lovely scented roses to consumers of pie at Indolent Poultry Farm during the Salt Spring Apple Festival tour. Your donations totalled \$281.90 and have been forwarded to Salt Spring Community Services for the food bank.

Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute would like to send their thanks to the hundreds of young people who participated in the Kids Passport Program at the Fall Fair. Congratulations to the 2019 winner, Raazi Ahmadi.

Sincere thanks to the paramedics and hospital staff who aided Sharon Cooke during her last hours. And to United Church members, truly her first responders, and to Haywards for their profound support.

The Salt Spring National Art Prize
2019 | 2020
SSNAP
Exhibition

SSNAP

Follow the art!

Awards Night + Closing Gala

Finalist Exhibition
52 outstanding artists from across Canada.

Sat. Oct 19 | 6-11:30 pm
Mahon Hall 114 Rainbow Rd.

Get Your Tickets: \$15
Buy Online or at the door

Presentation of nine awards totalling \$38,000 and the 2019 | 2020 SSNAP closing celebration

www.saltspringartprize.ca





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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT HAPPENINGS,
SEE OUR **WHAT'S ON CALENDAR**
ON PAGE 12.



GERSHWIN SUITE &
SCHUBERT FRAMES
**MM CONTEMPORARY
DANCE (Italy)**

NOV 6 & 7
7:30PM|BAR 6:30PM
\$30/\$5

sponsored by Joan Farlinger &
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PUCCINI
MADAMA BUTTERFLY

SAT NOV 9
10AM
\$22/\$19 Senior

**The Met
ropolitan
Opera** HD LIVE

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artspring.ca

SSNAP

Fogo arts innovator shares thoughts

SSNAP events continue
through Oct. 21

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring National Art Prize month can be an exciting time for people who like to think about questions of art and community. In addition to hosting the main exhibition and associated shows, SSNAP organizers strive to keep the dialogue going through art talks by the finalists and other events.

In the first two years, panel discussions were on the program; this year a presentation by just one amazingly charming philanthropist created more than enough to chew on. Zita Cobb's Sept. 28 illustrated talk at ArtSpring discussed some of the history behind the Shorefast Foundation and the Fogo Island Arts Corp., both based on her rocky and windswept home island in Newfoundland.

"Until I was 10 I really lived in the 19th century. We had no heating, no electricity and no running water," Cobb said during the presentation, adding people of her parents' generation could not read or write. That didn't stop her father from instructing Cobb to study economics at university. He felt it was imperative to know how decisions were being made, such as the ones that saw the Newfoundland cod fishery collapse.

Cobb's strong accent and warm personality are matched by an endearing commitment to her community. She returned to Fogo 12 years ago after cashing out early on a successful career in finance and technology, exercising \$69 million in stock options from JDS Uniphase. She created the Shorefast Foundation with two of her six brothers to revitalize the community in ways that foster cultural resilience.

Among its charitable programs, the Shorefast Foundation has created a contemporary art gallery, fully supported artist and academic residency programs, and programs for heritage restorations, boat-building and micro-lending. To help support these programs they run three social enterprises: the inn, a furniture business and a hand-line cod fishing business.

"You can do anything with money. You



PHOTO COURTESY SHOREFAST

Shorefast Foundation founder Zita Cobb at home on Fogo Island, Nfld.

can turn money into fish. You can turn money into fresh air. You could fix the ocean if you want to; we just have to turn the money into those things," Cobb told the Driftwood. "And that's what we try to do, is turn money into things that actually help us make meaning."

Fogo Island may seem dramatically opposed to Salt Spring in many particulars. Before Cobb created the Fogo Inn as a luxury destination and dotted the landscape with architect-designed artist studios, there was little reason for anyone to make the trek. Salt Spring, on the other hand, regularly makes international top island lists and would have to beat tourists away in the summer. Fogo's population is in decline. Almost everyone who lives there has family going back for hundreds of years, and they are still trying to survive on local resources. Salt Spring sees a regular influx of well-heeled retirees from the rest of Canada, as well as urban escapees who can work remotely.

When Cobb introduced her idea for

boosting the economy with art, she said, people on Fogo weren't too sure what art was, but decided it probably wasn't harmful. Salt Spring, as we all know, has a flourishing professional and amateur visual arts community. The painters' guild alone has over 100 members.

Fogo's blank slate and desperation may have created the perfect vacuum into which a well-intentioned multi-millionaire with time on her hands could step in to create a new reality. Our island has many people interested in growing local potential, but perhaps lacks that singular vision (not to mention the \$10 million of personal funds that Cobb spent to get the project up and running).

"I think part of the problem on Salt Spring, if there's a problem at all, is you have too much — we have so little," Cobb said. "We have 2,500 people and a bald rock in the North Atlantic. It wasn't like we had a lot of options."

Cobb feels we could perhaps learn from the exercise her group put into play to determine what would best suit Fogo's gifts, called Asset Based Community Development. Developed by John McNight as a way to build community resiliency, Cobb breaks it down to a series of questions about what the community wants and what strengths it has to offer.

"If we went through the process of Asset Based Community Development to try to understand what the inherent capacities and dreams of the people here are that we could now coalesce into something that's going to give new energy to the island, what might that be? That would be an exciting thing to do here — I mean, you have a tyranny of riches here," Cobb said. "Because otherwise you're just waiting for the next developer to come up with some idea that he or she wants to do."

SSNAP's official events wind up this Saturday, Oct. 19 with the awards gala, which runs from 6 to 10 p.m. at Mahon Hall. Islanders will also have the chance to meet with 2017 SSNAP grand prize winner Judy Anderson and her son, artist Cruz Anderson, at a reception at The Point this Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. The final day to see the SSNAP finalists' exhibition is Monday, Oct. 21.

CONCERTS

The Fugitives tracked to Folk Club stage

Concert with opener
Buck Dodgers this
Monday at Fulford Hall

A group that was a big hit at the Islands Folk Festival this past summer is the Salt Spring Folk Club's next act on Monday, Oct. 21.

The Fugitives, established in 2007, have released four records, which have been nominated for multiple Canadian Folk Music Awards and a Western Canadian Music Award.

According to their website, their previous album, Everything Will Happen, spent 10 weeks on the top-10

Canadian folk charts, and earned them a support slot across Western Canada with Buffy Sainte-Marie and an appearance at the U.K.'s Glastonbury Festival. Their follow-up, The Promise of Strangers, is set for release on Jan. 26, 2020 on Borealis Records.

A folk collective headed by songwriters Adrian Glynn and Brendan McLeod, the band has toured extensively through Canada, Western Europe and the U.K., often joined by renowned multi-instrumentalist Steve Charles, violinist Carly Frey (Echo Nebraska), and banjo player Rob McLaren (Union Duke).

Over the past 10 years, they've earned a reputation for unforget-

table live shows, brimming with complex harmonies, infectious storytelling and top-notch musicianship. As the CBC has it: "This show is simply brilliant."

Performance highlights include major folk festivals across Canada, headlining slots in overseas Americana festivals, and a recently sold-out run across the U.K. on its rural touring circuit. In 2018, the band will tour across both Canada and the U.S., and venture into the United States via an official showcase at Folk Alliance.

Monday's concert time is 7 p.m., with doors open at 6:15 p.m. (and 6 p.m. for season's ticket holders).

Salt Spring FOLK CLUB
www.saltspringfolkclub.com

THE FUGITIVES

Opening: **Buck Dodgers**

Monday October 21
Fulford Hall
Door 6:15 (Pass holders 6:00)
Show 7:00
Season Passes available at the door **\$125**

Tickets **\$25**
Salt Spring Books
Catering by Three Blind Mice

Best sound on the Island



ISLAND LIFE

- Remember When
- Star of the Week
- Where is This?

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



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Pass It On celebrates 10 years

Mentorship program see youth flourish

SUBMITTED BY SWOVA

SWOVA Community Development and Research Society is marking an exciting milestone this fall as the Pass It On mentorship program enters its 10th season in local schools.

Pass It On started in 2010 as an after-school program that provided structured and individual mentorship between high school youth and Grade 8 students throughout the academic year.

In the 10 years that the girls' Pass It On has been going, approximately 400 young women have gone through the program — as mentors, as mentees, or sometimes as both. Kate Nash was hired as the program facilitator in 2010, after a four-month pilot of the program.

Ten years later, Nash is still with the program and a trusted, outspoken advocate for young women. She shares some of the program's impact: "In the beginning of the year, girls come into the program with a lot of judgements: judgements they harbour about themselves and judgements they have about the other participants. There's little-to-no trust. They're not in their regular friend group. They're the nerds, jocks, arts students, and so on. By sitting in circle week after week and having the opportunity to share openly and be heard, they develop a deep sense of trust for each other. That's huge, life-changing stuff."

Nash added that she's "constantly connecting and reconnecting with the female participants as they become women, watching them grow into their leadership skills and continue on in life at school and in work, pursuing environmental issues, working with youth, and being caregivers within their community. By the end of the year, I have seen growth in confidence to some degree in all the participants."



PHOTO COURTESY SWOVA

The 2019-20 Pass It On Girls' high school mentor group, with facilitator Kate Nash standing at back, centre.

SWOVA now runs programs for girls and for boys (cis, trans, binary inclusive). The society is currently working with program facilitators to evolve and improve the program. Pass It On has nine funders this year: United Way, BC Gaming, Coast Capital Savings, CRD Grant-In-Aid, the Lobstick Foundation, Shoppers Drug Mart, Stewart Fund of the Vancouver Foundation, Royal Canadian Legion and the Hamber Foundation.

To augment grants, every spring youth and program facilitators organize SparkFest, a fundraiser and celebration. In addition to headliners and a silent auction, youth give performances such as improv, spoken word and singing.

The impacts of the program are often gradual but with lasting effects. Students themselves attest to the transformative aspects of the year, claiming it helped with anything from stress, anxiety, self-confidence, abusive relationships, substance abuse and more.

One participant said, "I think that it just helps me learn to be a better

person. It's a time — after a whole school day of putting up a front — to sit in a group of people and peel off the masks and actually just have a genuine conversation without any sort of filter or agenda behind it. It's super special to me because I get to connect."

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

G2G group holds info night

BY CONNIE HOLMES

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Salt Spring Island Grand(m)others to Grandmothers invites the community to attend an informative Oct. 24 evening on the Grandmothers Campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, which supports community-based organizations in Sub Saharan Africa.

These grassroots projects assist the courageous African grandmothers who mothered their own children until they died of AIDS, and now in their old age are left to mother their orphaned grandchildren. An exciting evolution is taking place as these grandmothers and their grandchildren, many who are now young adults, are taking leadership roles in the continuing fight against HIV/AIDS, and rebuilding their communities.

Guest speakers are two members of the Victoria Grandmothers to Grandmothers Group. Elizabeth Sebesta, one of the Cana-

dian grandmothers who travelled to Uganda in 2018 to visit several of the community-based organizations, will show slides and talk about what she observed. She will also share the experience of attending the Tanzanian grandmothers gathering in Arusha organized by the foundation.

The Canadian grandmothers were there to listen and witness as the African grandmothers had two days of workshops on topics they had chosen and then developed a statement which they presented to their government on the fourth day. Lisbie Rae, a member of the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Speakers Bureau, will bring her in-depth knowledge of the Grandmothers Campaign to a question-and-answer session.

Next Thursday's event takes place from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Salt Spring Public Library's community room. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served.

Stay Connected

be part of the Driftwood's online community.

Visit www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com for breaking news, extra content and to vote in our weekly poll; like us on Facebook for breaking news, photos and fun stuff; and get all the news first by following us on Twitter.

ADOPT A PET TODAY!

Barn Cats need love too. Nala is looking for a life on a farm where she can catch mice all day.



BCSPCA
SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS

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MURAKAMI
COLLISION & AUTO REPAIRS
191 RAINBOW RD. 250-537-2239
Serving Salt Spring's Community for 48 Years

Islands Trust

Have Your Say

When:
Tuesday,
October 22, 2019
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Where:
Royal Canadian
Legion Branch No. 92
120 Blain Road, SSI
(Meaden Hall)

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by
the application.

Enquiries?
Geordie Gordon,
Planner 1
Islands Trust
250-537-9144

Written submissions are welcome and can be emailed to: ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca or, mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office.

Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch

Liquor Primary Club Licence to Liquor Primary Licence

Address: 120 Blain Road, SSI (The Legion)

Applicant: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92

PID: 000-553-387

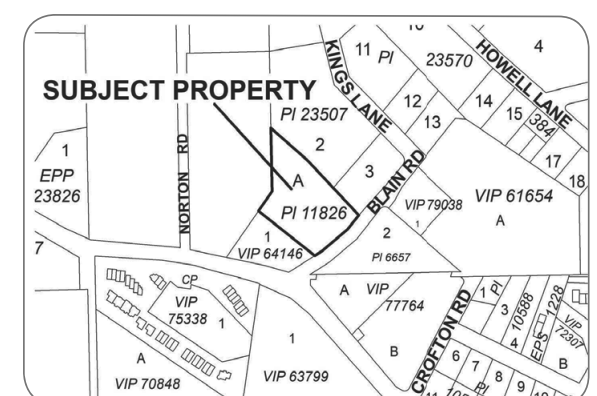
OPEN HOUSE
SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What is being proposed?

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 92 has applied to the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) to transition from a Liquor Primary Club Licence to a Liquor Primary Licence. The proposed change in licence would allow Branch No. 92 to sell liquor to the general public. Under the current Liquor Primary Club Licence, liquor sales are permitted only to Royal Canadian Legion members and their guests. The transition would not alter the permissions of the existing licence, which permits the following:

- 1) Liquor Primary Club Licence for 501 patrons (212 patrons upstairs, 188 patrons downstairs, 51 persons upper outdoor patio, 51 patrons lower outdoor patio).
- 2) Hours of operation Monday – Saturday 11:00am to 1:00am and Sundays 11:00am to 12:00am.
- 3) Family service endorsement for Liquor Primary areas (to permit minors accompanied by adult until 10:00pm for the purposes of family dining).

As the local government, the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) is requested to consider the application for this license. Public input on this application is being sought.




How do I get more information?

Copies of the application are available for review at the Islands Trust office at #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2N8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

what's on this week



<div>Wed. Oct. 16</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Seniors Wellness Event. Info displays and reps from groups dealing with seniors and aspects of health. Fulford Seniors room at south end of Fulford Hall. 12 to 4 p.m.</div> <div>Federal Election All Candidates Debate. Saanich-Gulf Islands riding candidates at an event hosted by the Salt Spring Forum at the Gulf Islands Secondary School gymnasium. 3 p.m.</div> <div></div> <div>Elder Abuse Prevention Workshop. Free workshop presented by It's Not Right! Neighbours, Friends & Families for Older Adults. SS Seniors. 1:30-3:30 p.m.</div> <div>SWOVA AGM. Annual general meeting with guest speaker Doug Livingston, SD 64 director of instruction. Salt Spring Public Library. 4:45 to 5:45 p.m.</div> <div>Insight/Mindfulness Meditation. A guided session of meditation in the Buddhist tradition by Heather Martin at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice. 7 to 9 p.m.</div> <div>Best of the Fests: Honeyland. Award-winning Macedonian documentary Honeyland. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</div> <div>Music Bingo. With Taylor at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</div>	<div>Thu. Oct. 17</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Open Mic & Jam. Every Thursday at the Legion. 7 to 9 p.m.</div> <div>Open Mic at Moby's. Thursdays at Moby's Pub. 8:30 to 11:45 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>CRD Budget Info Meeting. Join CRD director Gary Holman and CRD staff to learn about proposed 2020 CRD budget. Lions Hall. 1 to 3 p.m.</div> <div>Marissa Stapley Book Launch. Visiting Toronto-based author and journalist launches The Last Resort. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.</div> <div>Fri. Oct. 18</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>ArtSpring Presents Saguenay Quartet and Lafayette String Quartet. Concert of Mendelssohn, Niels Gade and Airat Ichmouratov. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</div> <div>Everyday People. Rock band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Ask Salt Spring. Peter Grove, Salt Spring Island trustee, will be available, along with volunteers, to help answer questions about life on Salt Spring. Thrifty Foods Flower Shop. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., or email asksaltspring@gmail.com.</div>	<div>Fri. Oct. 18</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Artists' Reception – Relate(d). Reception with artists Judy Anderson (2017 SSNAP winner) and Cruz Anderson in attendance, following a month-long exhibition at The Point gallery. 5 to 7 p.m., with a walk-about by the artists and chance to discuss the work at 6.</div> <div>Healthy Soil as a Solution to the Climate Crisis. Ananda Fitzsimmons gives a public talk called Regeneration: A Response to the Climate Crisis. Lions Hall. 6:30 p.m.</div> <div>Sat. Oct. 19</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Bed Collective. DJs at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>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.</div> <div>Improv Class. Learn the elements of Improv with the award-winning GISS Improv Team in this exciting three-session course. For ages 10-13. Salt Spring Public Library. 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.</div> <div>Workshop: Regenerating the Land – Digging in Deeper. Part of Healthy Soil as a Solution to the Climate Crisis series. Workshop at Lions Hall. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets: Salt Spring Books & regenerating-workshop.eventbrite.com.</div>	<div>Sat. Oct. 19</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Dr. Carl Jung and Archetypal Astrology. Workshop led by Usha Haywood at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church in Fulford). 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration required at staroftheseassi@gmail.com</div> <div>Sip & Savour Salt Spring. SOLD OUT. Event featuring breweries, cideries, distilleries and wineries along with farmers, chefs, restaurants, caterers and other food producers at the Salt Spring Farmers' Institute. 1 to 5 p.m. 19+ event. Tickets through www.saltspringchamber.com.</div> <div>Learn How to Make the BEST Nanaimo Bars with Joyce Hardcastle. Workshop with Ultimate Nanaimo Bar Recipe contest winner. 1 to 3 p.m. Info/register, email: heatherjppardon@gmail.com.</div> <div>Environmental Stewardship on Private Property. Local ecologist Chris Drake will give a presentation to landowners who want to learn how to care for nature on their land. Salt Spring Island Conservancy. 2 p.m.</div> <div>SSNAP Awards Night & Closing Gala. Salt Spring National Art Prize awards presentation and closing celebration. Mahon Hall. 6 to 11:30 p.m.</div>	<div>Sat. Oct. 19</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>On the Table: Community Dinner and Conversation. Salt Spring Island Foundation event includes free community dinner and conversation about the future of Salt Spring. Meaden Hall. 6 p.m. RSVP through https://ssifoundation.ca.</div> <div>Sun. Oct. 20</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Leather Mask Making Class. Ages 13 and up. Email Andrea at thaifirefly@gmail.com or 250-931-7272 to register. Noon to 3 p.m.</div> <div>Mon. Oct. 21</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Salt Spring Folk Club: The Fugitives. With opening act the Buck Dodgers Band. Fulford Hall. 7 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Federal Election. Polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. ID required. Check your voter card or visit elections.ca to find the correct polling station.</div> <div>Salt Spring National Art Prize Finalists Exhibit. Last day to see work by 52 finalists from across Canada in the third biennial SSNAP event at Mahon Hall. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.</div>	<div>Tue. Oct. 22</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Old Salts. Men's discussion group led by Aaron Kipnis at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church in Fulford). 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Registration required at staroftheseassi@gmail.com</div> <div>Tuesday Farmers Market. Food-only market with all homegrown or handmade goods. Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.</div> <div>Reconciliation Reading Circles. Salt Spring Public Library. 4 to 5 p.m.</div> <div>SS Local Trust Committee Open House for Legion Liquor Licence Change Application. Meaden Hall. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.</div> <div>Evening of Quiet Practice. Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice, (St. Mary's Church) 7 to 8:30 p.m. Participation is by donation and registration is not required.</div> <div>Salt Spring Fire Protection District. Trustees' business meeting, including budget finalization, convenes on special date due to federal election. Ganges Fire Hall. 7 p.m.</div> <div>Trivia Tuesday. At Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.</div>	<div>Wed. Oct 23</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>ArtSpring Presents California Guitar Trio and Montreal Guitar Trio. California Guitar Trio and Montreal Guitar Trio come together for concert by six of the most accomplished players in North America. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m., bar open at 6:30.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>ArtSpring Presents MG3 Guitar Workshop. Workshop with MG3 guitarists Sébastien Dufour, Glenn Lévesque and Marc Morin, regarded by the CBC as the hottest guitar ensemble in Canada. Limited to 20 participants. All levels of experience welcome. ArtSpring. 1:30 p.m. Register through ArtSpring.</div> <div>Parkinson's Support Group. Meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Salt Spring Seniors. 2 to 3:30 p.m.</div> <div>Salt Spring Island Garden Club presents Bernie Dinter. Dinter Nursery owner speaks on Flowering Bulbs - Nature's Gift That Keeps on Giving. Meaden Hall. The meeting starts at 6:45 p.m. with a social time, with the business meeting from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m., and featured talk at 7:45.</div> <div>Insight/Mindfulness Meditation. See last Wednesday's listing.</div> <div>Music Bingo. See last Wednesday's listing.</div>
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THE FRITZ CINEMA

- **Downton Abbey** — Final shows on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Oct. 18 to 20 at 7 p.m. plus an additional 3 p.m. Sunday matinee on Oct. 20. Rated PG. 1 hour 30 minutes.
- **It Chapter 2** plays Monday, Oct. 21 to Thursday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. Rated 14A. 2 hours 47 minutes.
- **National Theatre Live: Young Picasso** - Art historians discuss Pablo Picasso's early years as an artist and his early works. Thursday, Oct. 17 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

For more movie info go to www.thefritz.ca

EXHIBITIONS

- **The Salt Spring National Art Prize** (SSNAP) finalists' exhibition runs daily at **Mahon Hall** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Oct. 21. Awards gala is on Saturday, Oct. 19 from 6 to 11:30 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- **The SSNAP Parallel Art Show** featuring select Southern Gulf Islands artists from the 2019 SSNAP entrants runs daily at **ArtSpring** until Oct. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **The SSNAP Youth Exhibition** of curated work by Southern Gulf Islands youth aged 13 to 18 is on at the **Salt Spring Gallery** daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Oct. 23.
- **The Point Gallery** presents RELATE(D), work by 2017 SSNAP grand prize winner **Judy Anderson** and her son **Cruz Anderson**. Gallery hours are Thursday to Monday, 1 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Reception with the artists is on Friday, Oct. 18 from 5 to 7 p.m.
- **The Venter Gallery** showcases work by **Deon Venter** from his critically acclaimed Missing and Highway of Tear series along with a selection of **Kathy Venter's** polychrome ceramic sculptures.

EXHIBITIONS

- **KiZmit Galeria** hosts a show of ceramics by LeeAnn Norgard and ink and pastel works by Gabrielle Jensen this month. Open hours are Thursdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Wendy Taylor** shows work in the **Salt Spring Public Library Program Room** through October.
- **Lucas Wolf** is the **ArtSpring lobby** artist for the month of October.

Spook House

Fantastic Halloween haunted house at Mahon Hall • Thursday, Oct. 31
6 to 7:30 p.m. + post-fireworks

THRIFTY FOODS

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



PHOTO COURTESY SS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SECONDS, PLEASE: From left, Salt Spring Elementary School students Keen Perry, Luci Pugh-Aucoin, Asher Odurukwe, Tilly Buck, Erika Sharp, Bennun Wilson and Declan O'Dwyer get set to enjoy sauteed Brussels sprouts that they grew, harvested and prepared in their school garden. October is National Farm to School Month, celebrating efforts to transform food systems by bringing more healthy, local and sustainable food to the minds and plates of students. With gardens at every SD64 school and other programs, Gulf Islands schools are recognized as leaders in the farm to school movement.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Learning options abound

Pain management, archetypal astrology and men's group

Islanders can access a six-week Chronic Pain Self-Management Program taking place at the Fulford Seniors area in Fulford Hall beginning Tuesday, Oct. 29.

Presented by Salt Spring Community Services' Seniors Wellness Program, in partnership with Fulford Seniors and the UVic Centre for Aging, the program will run for six consecutive Tuesdays from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Two trained and certified local volunteers will lead the program to a group of eight to 15 participants. The program offers practical tips on how to cope with the emotional and physical challenges of day-to-day living with chronic pain. The series is also open to friends, family and caregivers of people with chronic pain.

For more information or to register by phone or online, people can call toll-free 1-866-902-3767, visit the website at www.selfmanagementbc.ca or email selfmanagement@eastlink.ca.

Jung workshop

A day-long workshop titled Dr. Carl Jung and Archetypal Astrology will be offered by Usha Haywood this Saturday, Oct. 19.

Running from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., it takes place at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice at St. Mary's Church in Fulford.

"Most people who are deeply interested in Jungian psychology are aware of the fact that Jung thoroughly studied archetypal astrology — the elder sister of

alchemy," said Haywood. "He frequently consulted the birth chart of his patients to obtain greater understanding of their inner psychological process. The principle of synchronicity was formed by Jung as an explanation for apparently causally unconnected but simultaneous events and psychological phenomena."

Haywood has a degree in nursing, is a registered therapist and has been a student of Jungian Psychology for the past 30 years. She has also been a lecturer at the Jungian societies of Ontario, Vancouver and Victoria.

Register through staroftheseassi@gmail.ca.

Old Salts for men

Also at Star of the Sea is a new discussion group for older men set for Tuesday, Oct. 22. Led by clinical psychologist Aaron Kipnis, the session called Old Salts runs from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

"There comes a time in many men's lives when we have accomplished much of what we set out to do. We may have moved on from occupations and roles, which defined us for decades. That can be disorienting. And we may also start encountering new challenges that can feel troubling at times," explains press material.

"We'll talk about the authentic challenges, wisdom and absurdities of age to see if we might aid one another in forging more meaningful lives in the time that remains."

Kipnis moved to Salt Spring Island three years ago after a long career as a professor, author and clinical psychologist in California.

Registration is required at staroftheseassi@gmail.ca.

Remember WHEN

Five years ago

• Solar energy brought Gulf Islands Secondary School into the future, thanks to volunteer efforts from Salt Spring's local Community Energy Group, community donations and support from students and residents. Solar panels and equipment were delivered to the school and placed on the gym roof. Once complete, the array of 84 panels would be the largest school-based solar photovoltaic array in the province, and the seventh-largest grid-tied system in B.C.

Ten years ago

• Islanders had no doubt that the time had come to change habits when it came to use and disposal of plastic bags. As retailers were phasing out plastic bags, making mindful decisions when it came to shopping was getting easier. However, the switch was leaving people with a new problem: how to get rid of the garbage. Households began replacing their plastic bag supply with alternatives, including ditching bags altogether and throwing trash directly into the can.

Thirty years ago

• Close to 300 people met at the ferry dock in Crofton on Oct. 15 and walked approximately two kilometres to the Crofton pulp mill to protest what it considered unacceptably high noise and pollution levels at the mill. Protesters returned to Salt Spring to find that 15 of their vehicles had been towed or marked for towing from Vesuvius Bay Road for obstructing traffic.

Forty years ago

• A rumour circulating on Salt Spring that tenders were being let by B.C. Hydro for the design of a nuclear power plant at Crofton was denied by a Hydro official. In a telephone conversation with Driftwood, Hydro public information officer John Sexton said there was no truth to the rumour.

Fifty years ago

• Reports were heard of firing shots after dusk or before dawn. No hunting was permitted between sundown and sunrise. There is margin of one half-hour. From one half-hour after sunset until one half-hour before sunrise, shooting was out. Residents who heard shots were asked to check the time carefully before making a report. Hunters were still responsible to handle their firearms in such a manner as to cause danger to neither person nor property, even within the shooting period.

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Check my website for more information on weekly classes and upcoming retreats, or call 250-537-7675.

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WEDNESDAY

All levels
9:00am – 10:30am
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190 Reynolds Road

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The world famous Studio Tour is now planning its 30th year as a well established Salt Spring Island arts venue.

Help Wanted

Salt Spring Golf & Country Club ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

The Salt Spring Golf & Country Club is located at 805 Lower Ganges Road on beautiful Salt Spring Island, BC. The club has been operating for over 90 years, with a nine-hole regulation course, driving range and other amenities.

We are seeking an experienced and capable individual to manage the administrative and financial duties of the club as well as the day to day operation of the Pro Shop.

This is a full-time position REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THE BOARD PRESIDENT and offering a competitive wage.

For more detailed information on the position, email applicant contact David MacPherson, President, Salt Spring Island Golf & Country Club, davidmacpherson@shaw.ca

Email applications only, please. If you would like to become part of the team at the Salt Spring Golf & Country Club, please send resume to the above noted email address.

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We are currently seeking a qualified Field Services Administrator 3 in Ganges. For detailed information about this opportunity and the qualifications, please visit bchydro.com/careers. Interested candidates should submit their applications online at https://app.bchydro.com/careers/current_op.html by Oct 20th, 2019.

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VOLUNTEERISM

Marine search group grows skills

Vessel-based work offers multiple rewards

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With so many worthy causes and groups to volunteer with on Salt Spring, members of Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue Unit 25 offer all sorts of reasons why their organization is a good one to join.

The organization is open equally to women as to men, and youth can participate through the junior cadet program. Weekly training meetings give members valuable experience on the ocean, and the opportunity to be on scene helping in situations that can easily flip from dangerous to life-threatening in a heartbeat.

The volunteer unit exists to permit 24/7 marine search and rescue capability in the waters around Salt Spring and beyond, responding to emergency calls from their base in Vesuvius Harbour. The combination of camaraderie, teamwork, risk and even higher reward make for a unique volunteer opportunity. Above all it's an enjoyable one.

Kaylee Lapierre first knew about RCMSAR through her dad, unit member Paul Zolob. She joined the junior cadets through a recruiting program at Gulf Islands Secondary School, which allows students to receive work experience credits that count toward graduation. After students complete the training components, they have everything they need to join the unit as an adult recruit (as long as they're 17).

"And that's what I did. As soon as I was finished with school I joined as a recruit," Lapierre said.

Lapierre has appreciated the training opportunities, which are covered by government funding. They include the mandatory first aid and boat operator courses, and can also mean leadership roles such as coxswain training for those who are interested. She also enjoys the inclusive nature of the group.

"It's a really fun program to be in," Lapierre said. "I think what I'll take away most from it is being able to work with all different types of people in stressful situations."

In her 70s, Mary Beall is the unit's oldest member. RCMSAR agrees with her values as a service organization that promotes safety on the water, community-building and volunteerism, and it also happens to fit well with the longtime sailor's skill-set.

"I'm very fit and I'm a nurse as well," Beall said. "I spent a long time in the north as a nurse practitioner, so my first aid skills are pretty top notch."

"The organization is very professionally run. I've certainly been refreshed or learned a lot about marine navigation and searching," she added.

Beall has been involved in RCMSAR's youth programs including Kids Don't Float, which provides public-use life-jackets on wharfs, and teaches water safety lessons to elementary school kids. She also likes getting to drive the power boat — a task which all members must do, but comes with lots of support from senior crew members.

"It's not really dangerous. It's quite the rush, really," Beall reported.

Duncan Elsey moved to Salt Spring 11 years ago. He found joining RCMSAR was a great way to adapt to island life, both on and off the water, and to make connections in his new community. Elsey also realized that although he and his wife had their own boat and their pleasure craft operator cards, they didn't really have the skills to be confident on the water.

"RCMSAR was perfect. The meetings are short and to the point, and there is lots of opportunity to get out on the boat and train and learn invaluable marine skills, as well as helping people who have got into difficulties out on the water," Elsey said.

One of Elsey's most memorable tasks came at the height of the big windstorm last December, when RCMSAR was called to help the Coast Guard with houseboats in Maple Bay that were breaking free with people on board. The trip to get there was intense, and then crews spent hours making sure no one was left on board the houseboats while under extreme weather conditions.

"In general, the skills I have learned and the boost to my confidence is incredible," Elsey said. "These days whilst it still requires my full attention, I love being out after dark and using the radar and chart plotter to safely navigate around our local waters, and helping new crew members learn the same skills."

Anyone who would like more information or is interested in volunteering should visit the unit's website at <https://www.rcmsar25.com/volunteer>.

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastrlogy.com | sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com

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

Due to the blend of planetary influences, we invariably experience the influence of the themes of several signs activated by the planets there at any given time. Currently, in this Libra time cycle, Mars is reinforcing its expression lending a very noticeable edge. Meanwhile, Mercury and Venus are both in Scorpio adding two kinds of hot sauce to the soup. Venus is extra strong because it is the ruling planet for Libra. Yet, Mercury too is extra potent because it has entered its slowdown phase as it approaches its station, which means it appears to stop, just prior to turning retrograde (Oct 31 – Nov 20). This will manifest as people becoming more skeptical (Scorpio) and determined to deepen their investigations to decipher deeper truths from popular opinions and convictions. Especially with Neptune in Pisces these days, which in its lower expression manifests as mass deception, the current status of polarized opinions stimulated by social media especially are likely to shift and change.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19) Deep exchanges on relationships could swing either way in terms of passion and pain. It is said we only truly know something when we experience its extremes and you are in a position to know things better. Knowing others is also featured and circumstances are leading you to see through appearances and outer expressions.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20) Creating a whole new quality of balance in your life is the central theme. It includes understanding and breaking free from inherited patterns and unconsciously deferring to tradition. A creative rebirth process is implied. Refinement, beauty and a new quality of low are all top priorities. Think 'transformation' for best results.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21) Playing with ideas and entertaining deeper realities are leaving a sweet and sour flavor in your mouth. The scales have been tilted to this heavier theme focus for almost two weeks now. Don't expect it to go away, either. The deep end of this story is linked to Scorpio and it will not relent soon. Positively, you are not alone in this complex.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22) Sometimes our greatest realizations and best creative works are activated by sad, sober and depressing experiences. This can have a way of making us both more lucidly aware and numb simultaneously. Yet, if you take the opportunity to express your feelings you will realize that you are that much more in touch emotionally.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23) Many thoughts and ideas are running through your mind ranging from the deep and extending to the wide. In some respects, you feel inspired to purge and purify. This can amount to cleaning in the corners and/or removing the tarnish and restoring the shine. This process will continue well into November. So avoid trying to escape and face and embrace it.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22) Investments of time and energy for the sake of increasing returns are squarely on your mind. You are open to new strategies and approaches. You want and perhaps need the impact to be deeper and more pointed than you have for a while. Hopefully, this focus is not directed at others but at improving your own situation.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22) Looking back over just the past few weeks, you are probably noticing that you have entered new territory. Positively, you have identified where and how you can stimulate more and/or better streams of income. At worst, you feel like you are in a rut and have been for a while. In some respects, you have to 'feel the fear and do it anyway.'

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21) Changes on relationship fronts rumble on. Hopefully, you have been balancing inner work with outer focus and experimentation because this cycle will end this week and hasten your pace. There are indications that you have been taking a steady, deliberate approach to feel more confident. This is likely linked to securing your position somehow.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) Circumstances of late are urging you to break through somehow. This task, however, requires less communication and social exchange and more inner focus. As well, it demands that you give more than you might usually. Yet, you may also feel needier than you have in some time. It is a rather complex equation that requires you to meet in like manner.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19) Mergers and acquisitions of some kind are indicated. This process began a few weeks ago. The scale could be small or large, as size does not matter. It is the core principles at play that are most prominent and important. Reaching out and engaging others assertively yet respectfully is the ideal balance. Invariably, you want more of something.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19) As you cast your vision to encompass a wider and clearer view of the future, a sense of determination regarding practical achievements is increased. This includes obtaining skills and tools even though you don't really feel like it. Yet, for the sake of security, or at least a solid back-up plan you are willing to make the extra efforts.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20) Do you know where you are going? Now is a good time to make sure. As Mercury slows and then when it turns retrograde in a couple of weeks, you will be happy you got a pretty good sense of your bearings. With your ambitions on the rise and, along with them, your determination to make the extra efforts necessary, you are probably in good form.

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Where is it on Salt Spring?

Send your answer to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or watch for the photo to appear on our Facebook page.

Last Week's Answer: Janice Shields was the first person to identify a beam sticking out of the water at Cusheon Lake.



SALT SPRING

Star

of the WEEK

Kathleen Horsdal



Kathleen has been a volunteer and a trainer with Salt Spring Hospice for more than 33 years. She has also volunteered at the Lady Minto Thrift Shop, for Salt Spring Lions, Salt Spring Folk Club, Salt Spring Film Festival, Salt Spring Potters Guild and the Garlic & Music Festival.

Writing under the pseudonym of Mags Bratwood, Kathleen's works have included The Manmade Tail, 49 shades of Salt Spring and Fetcher of the Wry.

Her favourite thought to share is "Be kind, period."



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



TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

OCTOBER 2019 HNP Z+8

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
16	0711	3.0	9.8	20	0234	0.8	2.6
	1212	2.3	7.5		1118	3.2	10.5
WE	1728	3.0	9.8	SU	1723	2.7	8.9
ME				DI	1839	2.8	9.2
17	0023	0.9	3.0	21	0332	0.8	2.6
	0806	3.1	10.2		1217	3.3	10.8
TH	1256	2.5	8.2	MO			
JE	1745	3.0	9.8	LU			
18	0100	0.8	2.6	22	0437	0.9	3.0
	0907	3.1	10.2		1307	3.3	10.8
FR	1352	2.6	8.5	TU	1941	2.5	8.2
VE	1804	2.9	9.5	MA	2207	2.5	8.2
19	0144	0.8	2.6	23	0547	1.0	3.3
	1013	3.2	10.5		1348	3.3	10.8
SA	1510	2.8	9.2	WE	2007	2.2	7.2
SA	1823	2.8	9.2	ME			

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YOUTH SPORTS

Tempest skaters on a roll again

Roller disco also set for Oct. 26 at Fulford Hall

Salt Spring's junior roller derby team — The Tempest — has started its fourth season.

"Roller derby is a strategic, physical and unique team sport played on roller skates," explains information from The Tempest. "Not only do young athletes learn to be amazing skaters, learning skills and endurance, but they also become quick thinkers, keen strategists and, of course, learn how to get back up after taking a fall. The sport builds confidence and physical fitness, while embracing self-expression and all body types. It's a sport made for anyone: small speedy types, solid strong types, and everyone in between."

Roller derby practices will be held on Tuesdays from 4:45 to 6:15 p.m. Kids can try it out for a week or two to see if they are interested. Gear and skates are provided for people trying out the sport.

A roller disco has also been organized for Saturday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. at Fulford Hall.

The team also wants to change things up by adding teen drop-in roller skating on Mondays after school. Organizer Kate Richer explains that the idea would see kids aged 12 to 17 invited to pay a toonie to skate around Fulford Hall to music, play games and get familiar with roller skates. The drop-in fun skate would continue for a few months, and then those who want to transition into learning about roller derby would be welcome to keep coming.



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Some members of The Tempest at a practice earlier this year at Fulford Hall. A new roller derby season gets underway this month.

The team has roller skates to lend, although participants would have to bring their own helmets.

Richer said insurance options to accommodate the new program are currently being investigated and more details will be available soon. Check the team's Facebook page (The Tempest - Salt Spring Island Junior Roller Derby) for updates.

GOLF

Busy golf year ends on high note

Club AGM set for Oct. 30

BY MARCIA HOGAN

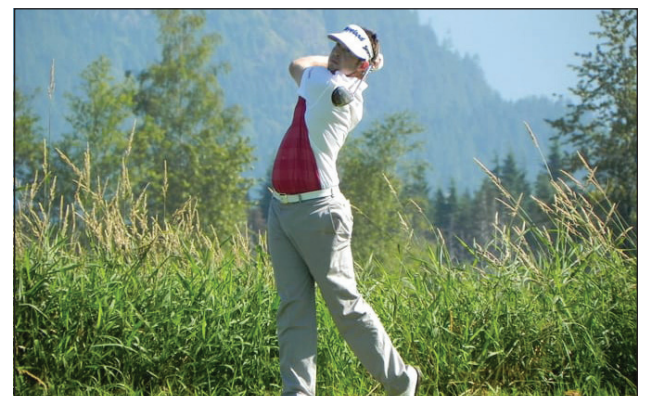
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Golf competitions at Salt Spring Golf Club have wound down for the year.

Months of net match play led to the final round of the Bank of Montreal competition for the 18-hole ladies league. Kathy Luke earned the trophy after a very close game that saw all 18 holes played before she defeated Elaine Shaw on the final hole.

The final competition of the year for this league was the Crier's Cup. Only golfers who have not won a competition during the regular season are eligible. Franki Johnstone secured the cup and joined the 2019 winner's circle with a low net score of 79.

The Junior Golf Program, under the leadership of Mary Lou Bompas, was a great success this year with enrolment increasing steadily. A drive, chip and putt contest brought the season to an exciting conclusion. Winners were Thea Byron in the age 5-6 category, Andy Coles for those 7 to



VANCOUVERGOLFTOUR.COM/MIKE WEST PHOTO

Salt Spring's Isaac Weintraub, who tied for 19th spot in the PGA of Canada Assistants' Championship in Toronto.

10, and Elliot Coles for the 10 to 11 year olds.

Salt Spring teaching professional Isaac Weintraub pulled off a tie for 19th place in the PGA of Canada Assistants' Championship at Osprey Valley in Toronto Sept. 17-19.

Weintraub shot a hot round of 64, eight under par, on the first day of the event. He was competing against a field of over 100 professionals from across the country, including Canada's number-one ranked player, Bryn Perry.

Weintraub teaches golf lessons, leads golf retreats and works with the junior program at the Salt Spring Golf Club.

There are two changes coming to the clubhouse this fall. Through the support of Island Pathways, there will be an e-bike charging station installed outside the cart shed.

Also, the clubhouse has become an official designated emergency site. Our site would be run by Salt Spring Emergency Support Services as a venue where people can take refuge during and after an emergency, providing safe shelter, food and water, and washrooms.

Don't forget the annual fall general meeting, which takes place at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 30 at Penny's Pantry.



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