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## TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

**FEBRUARY 2020** PST (UTC-8h)

When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
<b>5</b>	0420	<b>3.1</b>	10.2	<b>9</b>	0624	<b>3.4</b>	11.2
WE	0748	<b>3.0</b>	9.8	SU	1113	<b>2.7</b>	8.9
ME	1148	<b>3.1</b>	10.2	DI	1537	<b>3.2</b>	10.5
	2011	<b>0.6</b>	2.0		2304	<b>0.3</b>	1.0
<b>6</b>	0453	<b>3.3</b>	10.8	<b>10</b>	0653	<b>3.5</b>	11.5
TH	0903	<b>3.0</b>	9.8	MO	1201	<b>2.5</b>	8.2
JE	1241	<b>3.2</b>	10.5	LU	1640	<b>3.1</b>	10.2
	2054	<b>0.4</b>	1.3		2346	<b>0.5</b>	1.6
<b>7</b>	0524	<b>3.4</b>	11.2	<b>11</b>	0721	<b>3.5</b>	11.5
FR	0951	<b>3.0</b>	9.8	TU	1254	<b>2.2</b>	7.2
VE	1339	<b>3.2</b>	10.5	MA	1747	<b>3.0</b>	9.8
	2137	<b>0.3</b>	1.0				
<b>8</b>	0555	<b>3.4</b>	11.2	<b>12</b>	0029	<b>0.7</b>	2.3
SA	1031	<b>2.9</b>	9.5	WE	0750	<b>3.5</b>	11.5
SA	1437	<b>3.2</b>	10.5	WE	1351	<b>1.9</b>	6.2
	2221	<b>0.2</b>	0.7	ME	1902	<b>2.8</b>	9.2

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PHOTO BY GAIL SIJBERG

### TALKING ABOUT FARMING:

About 70 people converge at GISS on Saturday to participate in a town hall to provide feedback on the first draft of a new Salt Spring Island Area Farm Plan. The project has been spearheaded by the Salt Spring Island Agricultural Alliance, which was created to implement the first AFP beginning in 2008. The aim is for the finalized plan to be released at a special event on April 2.

### AGRICULTURAL LAND

# Relaxation of ALR rules proposed

Province suggests more options for farmworker housing possible

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Ministry of Agriculture is proposing more residential flexibility for people living in the Agricultural Land Reserve and is seeking public feedback on the options.

As outlined in a policy intention paper released on Jan. 27, a small secondary residence could be available for farmworkers, family members or others as long as there is local government approval.

"Local governments support greater flexibility for residential arrangements that support farming on ALR land," said Maja Tait, mayor of Sooke and president of the Union of B.C. Municipalities, in a news release. "I appreciate the work the Ministry of Agriculture has undertaken on this issue in consultation with local government and others. This next phase will provide an opportunity to refine the concepts developed, and I encourage local governments to provide input to the ministry's process."

Previous rules established by the Agricultural Land Commission allowed a secondary dwelling for immediate family members only in manufactured homes, suites above an existing farm building or, in parts of the province, a second single-family dwelling.

Amendments to the legislation made by the NDP government in 2019 focused on protecting farmland from oversized homes such as those being constructed in Richmond, the dumping of waste materials and other non-farm uses. The resulting policy limited secondary housing possibilities to a manufactured home for an immediate family member, and only if constructed before February 2019.

The deadline on manufactured homes was extended once to February 2020 and then again to Dec. 31, 2020. At the same time, the new residential options being considered reverse the hard-line stance. Options include garden suites and guest houses/carriage suites, as well as accommodation above an existing building, and manufactured homes. Also being considered is permitting a principal residence to be constructed in addition to a manufactured home that was formerly a principal residence.

In all cases, the secondary dwelling would no longer be restricted to immediate family members.

Salt Spring's Agricultural 1 and 2 zones currently permit secondary suites and mobile homes in line with past ALC regula-

tions. Updates to the official community plan and land use bylaw will be needed to reflect any change in ALR housing policy that arise from the provincial review.

Permitting secondary dwellings in ALR lands would be just a small step toward meeting a recognized community need, though, as islanders working to create a new Area Farm Plan for Salt Spring have observed.

"The shortage of farmworker housing on Salt Spring Island has been recognized for over a decade," the working group on protection of small-scale agriculture states in its draft recommendations. "Adequate, compliant housing is prerequisite to increased agricultural production."

Elizabeth White, who is involved in the project to update the 2008 Area Farm Plan, said farming needs to be supported wherever it is taking place on the island.

"The LTC should have a policy in place to allow farmworker housing on farms that is independent of zoning. If it met the criteria, it wouldn't matter if it was in the agricultural zone or not," White said. "We need local government to be really clear on what their criteria is."

Island trustee Laura Patrick said once the province finalizes its policy on ALR dwellings the Salt Spring LTC will no doubt be working to align with the provincial policy. More comprehensive work to address the issue will also be forthcoming as recommendations from the new Area Farm Plan are forwarded. But a newly approved LTC housing working group that Patrick is leading may be the best avenue for progress.

"I'm really excited about using the housing working group to propose a planning project so the project is coming from the community rather than just the minds of the LTC and staff," Patrick said.

Patrick said farmworker housing will almost certainly be part of that planning project. She believes a broader vision is needed since agriculture and farming also exist outside of the ALR. If the official community plan supported having the types of housing farmers say they need, this could guide the LTC to support "non-adhering" housing applications that would need to go to the ALC for approval.

"Our OCP should reflect how we envision our community," Patrick said. "We may rub up against other organizations like the Agricultural Land Commission but we shouldn't constrain ourselves all the time. We should push for what's best for the community."

Feedback on the proposed changes to residential options in the ALR can be submitted by email to [ALR\\_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca) until April 17.



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### 100 Men call for charities

Nominations for charitable groups to benefit from the March 4 Salt Spring 100 Men Who Care meeting are now open.

Meeting three times per year, the group sees each member donate \$100 per meeting. Registered charities are nominated by members of the group, and three are drawn at each meeting. Nominators make a five-minute presentation on the merits of the group, and at the end of the meeting the winning charity, determined by member votes, receives the entire proceeds.

The group first met in October where it was decided that the Greenwoods Eldercare Society would receive the \$10,300 in collected donations. Since the organization now has more than 100 members, the March meeting amount should be even bigger.

The nomination riding will close on Feb. 19. Nominations can be made online at [www.100mensaltspring.org](http://www.100mensaltspring.org) and new members are also welcome to sign up via the website.

### Ken Wu next forum guest

Protection of native ecosystems will be the topic of the night on Friday as the Salt Spring Forum welcomes Ancient Forest Alliance co-founder Ken Wu to speak.

The Ancient Forest Alliance has been working to protect ancient forests in the province for over 25 years, and his hands-on approach to environmentalism has made Wu well-known throughout the environmental world, says forum press material.

Wu will be discussing whether it's possible to protect 50 per cent of Canada's native ecosystems by 2030. He founded the Endangered Ecosystems Alliance with the goal of sustaining these vital habitats through science-based protection. His work also affects the economies, cultures and policies that play into the ecosystems' survival. Currently only 11 per cent of natural areas in Canada are protected. Wu wants to bring that number up to 50 per cent, which is higher than the figure on the minds of political parties and environmental groups.

With extensive logging taking place on Salt Spring, the topic touches on local issues and is sure to draw a crowd.

The Feb. 7 talk begins at 7:30 p.m. at ArtSpring.

## ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

# Province seeks input on trails plan

Local groups look at making links

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

British Columbians have been invited to provide their opinions about a provincial trails strategy by participating in an online engagement process open through February.

The Provincial Trails Advisory Body, co-chaired by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development and the Outdoor Recreation Council, began a formal review of the trails strategy for B.C. in 2019.

The resulting draft strategy includes 20 action points plus two actions for implementation. These are to establish a provincial trails advisory body; and to "support existing local and regional trail committees or groups, and where not present encourage their establishment, so that they can assist implementation and continuous improvement of the trails strategy."

The strategy considers all types of trails and users, from hiking paths to those suitable for horseback riders, cyclists, ATV vehicles and snowmobiles, as well as disabled users. Mixed-use commuter pathways are also part of the exercise.

The Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission is one of the main players building and maintaining trails on the island, often by negotiating access to designated rights-of-way. It can also receive trail dedications as part of subdivisions and makes its own land acquisitions. CRD trails overseen by PARC include the 15-kilometre Channel Ridge system, trails in Mouat, Duck Creek and Peter Arnell parks and connector trails to the provincial Mount Erskine and Mount Maxwell parks, among others.

According to data collected for PARC's 2019-2029 strategic plan, trails are a key recreational asset with proven benefits to residents, the economy and the environment. In fact, trails get the highest use out of any PARC amenity.

"We heard clearly during community engagement that residents highly value our current trails, but they desire greater connectivity across the island," the strategic plan states. "Specifically, residents are looking for a diversity of trail experiences, including easy walking, safe cycling/commuter routes, mountain biking and backcountry trails."

PARC's draft five-year capital plan budgets \$80,000 to expand and improve the trail network in 2020, with \$50,000 per year thereafter. Short-term goals are mainly centred on enhancing the connectivity of trails across the island, rather than new trail development.

"Currently our focus is on improving some of our existing trails," PARC manager Dan Ovington confirmed last week.

One priority in 2020 is to improve drainage issues on the Bishops's Walk trail, which regularly gets flooded out in the winter. New community housing being constructed in the area has underlined that need. Also budgeted for this year is the new Trincomali Connector, which will link Trincomali Heights to Dunbabin Park. The trail was made possible through purchase of three lots totalling 1.21 hectares in 2017.

Trail maintenance in all provincial parks on the island is provided by contract to the volunteer-run Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club. Newly elected president Charles Kahn said the group could be moving into more trail creation as well.

"I think we could do a lot more in terms of trail development," Kahn said, noting a new system of sharing insurance in the southern Gulf Islands has allowed local trail groups to enter into agreements with private landowners.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club president Charles Kahn out for a walk in February 2018.

Galiano Trails Society reported in 2018 it was nearing 90 per cent trail connectivity from the southern ferry terminal at Sturdies Bay all the way to Coon Bay at the very northern tip of the island. Agreements to cross private land were pioneered by the Galiano group.

**"Residents are looking for a diversity of trail experiences, including easy walking, safe cycling/commuter routes, mountain biking and backcountry trails."**

*PARC 2019-2029 strategic plan*

Groups such as the Mayne Island Pathways and Trails Association, the Saturna Recreation Centre Society and Moving Around Pender have now come together with the Galiano Trails Society under the umbrella of the Gulf Islands Trails Society to share the cost of liability insurance and work out more of those arrangements.

ity insurance and work out more of those arrangements.

"This development will greatly facilitate the growth of a sensible and practical trail network in our islands, providing access to existing and possibly fostering the development of additional attractive amenities," an announcement states.

Kahn said the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club is currently working on an arrangement with a private landowner in the Mount Tuam/Musgrave Landing area that will link trails on Crown land and an ecological reserve. Some club members are also keen to create formal connections between trails on individual mountains, and lands that could be donated as future parks are also of interest.

How the group might benefit by a provincial trails strategy remains to be seen, but the draft document does speak to reducing liability concerns and creating a sustainable model for trail development and maintenance.

Feedback on the draft strategy will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28 at <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/consultation/trails-strategy-review/>.

## We Can Help Grant applications invited

The Salt Spring Island Foundation is now accepting spring grant applications. A total of \$110,000 will be disbursed this spring. Of that amount, up to \$15,000 will be granted to projects that aim to build the capacity of qualified local non-profits. Application deadline is March 31, 2020. For complete information on applying for a grant, visit [ssifoundation.ca](http://ssifoundation.ca).



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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG  
**ROAD BLOCK:** A vehicle turns around when encountering a tree part way across Beaver Point Road on Friday afternoon, although it was possible to get past the debris. Sudden high winds brought branches and trees down across Salt Spring Island, with a few thousand homes losing power and Shaw Communications services being disabled for a time as well. Salt Spring fared better than the Crofton-Chemainus area, however, with flooding resulting in road closures and the Cowichan Valley Regional District declaring a state of emergency.

WATERWORKS

# Housing group pitches grant

NSSWD climate action policy adopted

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Housing advocates from Salt Spring Solutions are hoping to be part of a grant from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's National Housing Strategy geared towards building innovation around affordable housing.

The grant, called Solutions Labs, is designed to help groups working within the community to develop solutions to housing problems in their areas. One of the major issues facing housing on the island is the lack of available water. Since the CMHC requires groups to have community partners to take advantage of the grant funding, Salt Spring Solutions reached out to the North Salt Spring Waterworks District at their monthly board meeting last week, with trustees responding favourably to the idea. Salt Spring Solutions has also approached the Islands Trust, the CRD and other parties concerned with housing to be part of the grant application. The application period closes on March 20.

Salt Spring Solutions hopes to use the funding to look at novel ways of tackling the effect of water scarcity on multi-family housing on the island.

"We know that that's a limiting factor on the island, and the idea behind this lab is that we're kind of stalled out because of that and we need to find a way to move forward," said Salt Spring Solutions volunteer Elizabeth FitzZaland. "What are the innovative solutions that we haven't thought of yet? How do we get to that next step?"

FitzZaland and Salt Spring Solutions will be focusing on how to build up density and housing near the island's services and village cores. She explained that having more people in the same area reduces the amount of resources necessary, and has the added benefit of building stronger community. Proximity to health care services is also critical, due to the island's aging population.

"There are several things going on that are fundamental issues. One is climate change, another is the housing crisis and then we also have, as many communities do, an aging population," she said. "All three of those community issues can be addressed at least in part by compact housing that is closer to services."

"We know that we can't put more water in the lakes. We can't just wish for more water," she added. "Now because of the water moratorium and other concerns about water resources, the Islands Trust is rightly being quite cautious and so is the water district in what's allowed to move forward and what's not. Really, we're not doing it quickly enough to be able to address those big issues."

Since it is early in the process, no formula for how funding will apply has been established. FitzZaland said it was likely to be a six-month process where the stakeholders gather at different events and work with each other on ways to solve the problem, though she was unable to go into more detail.

"We're still working with the partners and the Social Innovation Hub out of SFU to craft what the process will look like," she said. "One of the first things we'll do is build understanding of all the partners and then look at how we're framing the problem, and maybe a big step could be reframing the problem. We kind of get entrenched in how we look at things, and this could be an opportunity to step back and look at it differently."

Also at the North Salt Spring Waterworks District meeting, trustees voted to adopt the district's climate action policy. In October, the board discussed bringing in a climate action policy to help mitigate its operational effects on the climate. The policy allows the district to make decisions that are more climate friendly, rather than just following financial best practices, and acts as a lens through which all decisions are made. Objectives of the policy are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, prepare for projected climate change impacts on water supply and demand and to work towards achieving sustainable service delivery.

# LTC strategy receives minimal support

COTTAGES

continued from 1

Trust staff reported that recent communication from the public outlined four top concerns with the draft bylaw. In addition to the B&B restriction, people feel a new requirement that rainwater catchment systems be added to any new cottages built in the bylaw area is too onerous. A clause requiring property owners to register a covenant on title stating they cannot subdivide the cottage as a strata unit has also been flagged as excessive.

Housing advocates have meanwhile stated the cottages project is insufficient to meet the scale of the rental housing problem, and some have

called for the bylaw to be abandoned altogether.

"Salt Spring is one of only two islands that has seasonal designation of cottages. We should join the rest of the Trust area to allow a cottage to be a cottage; allow people to use it how they will," said Rhonan Heitzmann. He suggested a better path would be to amend the official community plan to remove the "seasonal" definition and thereby allow long-term rental of any cottage, as long as water supply is protected in areas of concern.

"We should be protecting the resources we're concerned about specifically, not trying to control how someone uses a dwelling," Heitzmann said.

A small number of people spoke in favour of the bylaw, despite some people describing the environment as intimidating due to the vocal force of the opposing crowd.

Richard and Debbie Magnusson said they would appreciate the legal use of cottages for long-term accommodation because they plan to share their property with a grown son and his young family through that mechanism. Increasing housing options without restricting other rights was also supported by many speakers.

The cottages bylaw is due to come before the LTC for third reading on Feb. 18. Amendments could be made at that time or the trustees could choose to shelve the project for reconsideration.



## TRANSPORTATION

# Pathway projects to see action

## Downtown pedestrian safety concerns aired

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Transportation Commission is looking forward to seeing action on two of its top priorities in 2020, with new advances promised for delayed pathway projects on Lower Ganges Road.

The North Transportation Plan project to add pedestrian and cycling improvements on Lower Ganges and Rainbow roads has cleared a major hurdle in receiving an alteration permit from the B.C. Archaeology Branch for bank-side drainage work at the end of Rainbow. Allen Xu, Capital Regional District engineer for Salt Spring, reported at Thursday's commission meeting that means tenders for construction work can likely go out within the next few weeks. Construction itself will hopefully take place some time in 2020.

Speaking after the meeting, CRD director Gary Holman said the process was necessary but he was happy to see the project move forward since it was started five years ago.

"We're all committed to reconciliation and it's important to respect First Nations concerns and rights," Holman said. "It's unfortunate it's taken this long but we can now look forward to construction. Thanks to everyone's effort on this, particularly staff."

Senior administrator Karla Campbell reported Thursday that a pathway project on Lower Ganges Road between Central and Baker Road has also moved

forward. The CRD's local trails maintenance crew did some construction work before Christmas and hopes to do more from mid-February to mid-March, weather permitting. After that, however, the crew will be tied up with other projects into the fall.

**"The whole area is a disaster area and there are many, many pedestrian complaints."**

MYNA LEE JOHNSTONE

SSITC commissioner

The more difficult second phase of the pathway to Booth Canal Road will hopefully get a funding boost through a B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant. If successful, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure will provide 70 per cent or \$490,000 of the \$700,000 project cost. The commission has the \$210,000 necessary to fund its portion in its reserves.

Pedestrian safety in general formed a major theme at Thursday's meeting. Islander Debbie Magnusson made a delegation asking for assistance in solving some issues in the area of Purvis Lane and the Thrifty Foods parking lot. She reported nearly being struck by a taxi in the lane last summer, and also witnessing several near-miss incidents with cars travelling the wrong way in the one-way parking lot.

"It's a very tight area and I'm suspecting some of you have seen the same kind of thing," Magnusson said. "That whole area is rife with pedestrians,

cyclists and other vehicles, and nobody wants an accident."

Commissioner Myna Lee Johnstone agreed that attention should be focused there.

"The whole area is a disaster area and there are many, many pedestrian complaints," Johnstone said.

The commission approved a set of amendments to the work plan as proposed by director Holman, despite ongoing disagreement from staff. Commissioners resolved in November to change the third priority on their work plan to include tackling "low-cost/no-cost" solutions in places identified by the Partners Creating Pathways Ganges Accessibility Study where the jurisdiction or land ownership is clear. The work plan submitted for the group's approval on Jan. 30, however, placed a qualified version of that item at the very bottom of the longer-term priorities.

Campbell has repeatedly said that no jurisdiction can be determined until all the lots downtown and the Ministry of Transportation rights-of-way are collocated together on a single map.

Along with the amended work plan, the commission voted to create new working groups, starting with one devoted to Ganges accessibility and pedestrian safety. Commissioner Gary Lehman will lead the group, which will report back with recommendations on a regular basis. A second working group will likely focus on transit issues. The commission further voted to invite members of the public to the working groups.

The next SSITC meeting is set for Monday, Feb. 24 at the Salt Spring Public Library.

## EDUCATION

# SD64 funding model review underway

## District needs to be careful despite million-dollar surplus

BY MARC KITTINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Unexpected funds have helped the Gulf Islands School District, but its personnel need to maintain vigilance as they continue through funding protection.

A small boost of \$659,006 was received by the district through tuition revenue and a few other avenues that will go towards keeping the district solvent this year. Secretary treasurer Jesse Guy said that the majority of the funds would be used for instruction, which covers teachers' salaries and benefits. Other funds would go into schools' supply funds and pay for things like paper and books.

"We have more special purpose funds than we had anticipated," Guy explained, adding that since the budget was introduced the government has announced additional grants.

"For our operating [surplus], it came from conservative expectations of the operating grant when I budgeted," she added. "I was aiming lower. I'm conservative by nature."

Guy presented the first reading of the district's amended annual budget at last week's board meeting. The second and third readings will take place at the board meeting in February. Amended annual budgets are part of the ministry's financial cycle. Preliminary budgets are presented in the spring for the upcoming school year, and amended in the winter after total enrolment and grant funding is secured.

Just over \$27 million was reported as revenue in the amended budget this year. The increase is roughly two per cent, and will not make much of a difference in schools. A surplus of \$939,978 is expected for the year, which is a minimum needed to account for any unexpected issues.

"We should have about a million dollars in accumulated surplus every year anyway," Guy said. "If anything goes wrong [we can be okay]. That's 10 teachers, that's it. It's not a big margin of error when you're talking a \$26-million budget."

Due to a decline in enrolment, the district is in a "funding protection" situation with the Ministry of Education. In funding protection, the district is funded for students it does not have. That funding decreases each year until funds are in line with the real number of students. Instead of a sudden financial drop, it allows districts to plan and save as they come in line with actual numbers.

"They continue to fund you for students you don't have, but every year they fund you less until you get to the point where you should be funded for the number of students you have. If we continue to spend everything that they're providing us, then we would actually be overspending for the students we have right now," Guy explained.

Next year, under normal circumstances, the district would be receiving less funding than they did this year. However, a funding model review is also underway at the education ministry. Guy and other secretary treasurers are in the dark about how school districts will be funded in the future, but that information is expected to be released in March.

"I am operating based on an old funding model and making estimates, not knowing if there's going to be a big switch," she said. "What that switch is I don't know, and nobody across the province knows it, so we're all in exactly the same boat."

Though it may seem like the district is in the black, she said it needs to remain conservative throughout the funding protection timeline.

"We are trying to thoughtfully reduce our expenses over the next few years to ensure that when our funding matches our students we are in the right position, which should be revenue higher than expenses," Guy said.

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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 BCYCNA 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)



## Driftwood

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### EDITORIAL

## Cabin fever

**A**cquiring affordable, warm, safe housing on Salt Spring has never been easy, or at least not for many years.

But the lack of rental housing of any kind has become close to impossible for many. In recent years, pressure has been brought to bear on government bodies to “do something” to make the situation more tenable, as more and more people leave the island and establish themselves in other communities where housing is less of a challenge.

Making it legal for property owners to rent out what are now called “seasonal cottages” was an obvious option for the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee to explore. A number of these dwellings already form part of the non-legal rental stock. Legalizing cottages on some 400 lots — in areas without known water quality or quantity problems plus a few other considerations — was the reasonable idea that resulted through proposed Bylaw 512.

### THE ISSUE: Cottages bylaw

### WE SAY: B&B prohibition must go

What was not reasonable was a stipulation in the bylaw that cottages on those lots could not be used for bed and breakfast rental. If a full-time rental was allowed through Bylaw 512, the right to use the building for short-term rental was lost. While the logic behind such a concept is not ridiculous, it would absolutely not be fair to take away the option for B&B use on those properties.

It is unlikely that a large number of accommodation units will result from the bylaw — only a dozen cottage owners who responded to a survey said they would rent out or build a new cottage for rentals if it became legal — but even if a few are added to the mix, that will at least make the process worthwhile.

Throwing the bylaw out completely would be a major waste of resources and do nothing to improve housing stock. On the other hand, if wrapped up on schedule, cottage rentals could be legalized within just a few months.

The public hearing is part of the legislative process, but does not mean the end of that process. Changes to the bylaw can still be made before third reading, based on the feedback received.

With opinion overwhelmingly against the prohibition of B&Bs in the cottages zone but in favour of opening up rental stock in general, the path forward should be clear: the LTC should rescind the B&B stipulation but approve the bylaw as soon as possible.



## Islanders do have a voice

BY GAYLE BAKER

On Friday, 29 people came to ASK Salt Spring to express their concerns about our roads to three Emcon managers (our new roads maintenance contractor). Many had specific concerns ranging from overfull gutters, icy curves and fast-encroaching invasive species — especially gorse — to the request for information about when to expect their road to be cleared after a snowfall. The surprise takeaway was that Emcon managers know Salt Spring road challenges very, very well.

Islanders left assured that Emcon is listening and gained a better understanding of the challenges they face to address our road maintenance issues.

They also learned what we can do to help:

Have you ever shovelled your driveway only to find that the snowplow has buried the end of your driveway? Tip: Snowplows push the snow to the right. When shovelling, place your snow on the right side of your driveway to avoid getting it pushed back on to your driveway.

Did you know that the culverts under our driveways are our responsibility? (They should have a diameter of 16 inches and be buried eight inches.) While Emcon will occasion-

### VIEWPOINT

ally work to clear a driveway culvert, they will only do so when its malfunction threatens our roads. As one guest noted, when Emcon spends its time clearing our driveway culverts, they are not doing the other work we need them to do.

When cars are parked along our narrow, residential roads, it is almost impossible to clear them. Neighbours need to work together to make sure their roads are accessible to snowplows if they want their roads cleared in a timely manner. When cars are illegally parked in Ganges, the challenge is the same: these areas simply cannot be cleared.

Clearing drainage ditches is an enormous job for Emcon, and one that they take very seriously. The problem is: What can they do with the often-contaminated debris cleared from our ditches? With no dump sites available, Emcon is forced to leave the debris near the newly cleared ditch. And, guess what happens when it rains next? Emcon does not have a solution to this dilemma. Can we, as a community, locate an accessible dump spot for the ditch-clearing debris?

Invasive species — especially gorse — are proliferating along our ditches. While a volunteer group works tirelessly to battle this encroachment, the solution is not simple. A partnership, initiated by Emcon, between those at the provincial level addressing this and our local volunteers, will be pursued.

The question was asked: If Salt Spring continues to report road maintenance concerns, will Emcon get overwhelmed and stop listening? Their strong message was: Keep the reports coming (1-866-353-3136). They are listening. When a concern is received, it is logged and discussed to assess its priority in the daunting work plan Emcon has undertaken.

Additionally, roads-related concerns brought to ASK Salt Spring are referred to Emcon every week and, when appropriate, sent to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

As the first time in a very long time that our roads maintenance contractor has reached out to listen to our concerns, there was heartfelt acknowledgment to Emcon managers for this effort.

Salt Springers . . . we do have a voice — as well as a responsibility — to effectively address our road maintenance concerns.

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### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

**Would you offer rental accommodation if it were legal on your property?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

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

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

**Would you shop at a Fields Store on Salt Spring?**

92 NO 247 YES



# OPINION { QUOTE OF THE WEEK: }

**"We know that we can't put more water in the lakes. We can't just wish for more water."**

ELIZABETH FITZZALAND, SALT SPRING SOLUTIONS

## SALT SPRING SAYS

### WE ASKED:

*What is your favourite vegetable?*

#### BETSY DOSCO



Asparagus.

#### JAMIE ROBERTS



I like broccoli.

#### DANA WAITE



Avocado!

#### DAVID ARPIN



That'd be squash.

#### PAULINE BATH



I have three: broccoli, spinach and asparagus, and not always in that order.

## LETTERS to the editor

### Keep an open mind

In his Jan. 29 Viewpoint article, my friend Frants Attorp outlined valid issues regarding the proposed Vortex development at the site of the former Fulford Inn (17 commercial guest accommodation units, a restaurant and associated facilities).

I would urge all of us to keep an open mind as our trustees and planners work through the issues with the developer. There may well be engineering solutions to the concerns that the project raises, though perhaps at an additional cost to the developer. Ultimately, I have faith that the Islands Trust and other government regulators will only grant approvals if the project meets environmental standards. It will then be up to the developer to decide if the project should proceed.

The closure of the Fulford Inn has left a hole in the social

life of the south end of the island and reduced the facilities for tourists. The site is zoned for commercial use. I, for one, would welcome a development that provides these amenities, as well as some jobs for locals, provided it meets the standards mentioned.

**ASHLEY HILLIARD,**  
MEYER ROAD

### Bylaw 512 rankles

The Islands Trust's public hearing at Meaden Hall on Jan. 28 regarding proposed Bylaw 512 was a zinger.

The purpose of the bylaw was to allow the construction of low-cost housing on some 400 properties carefully chosen by staff, and the audience received a detailed accounting of this selection process from the planner, and also why he concluded that this unasked-for benefit must come with unasked-for restrictions regarding subdivid-

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

ing, B&Bs and rainwater catchment.

Public response was almost unanimously against. Renters were against, complaining that this bylaw would actually not provide much, if any, new rental housing. (Correct!)

Renters advocates were against, stating that they had striven tirelessly to provide input and been completely ignored.

Common-sense persons were against. They showed how a 1,000-square-foot cottage that meets codes for sanitation and building cannot possibly rent cheaply. One person claimed a \$2,000-per-month rent would take 17 years to recover capital. Another pointed out that the required rain recovery system would add another \$20,000 to that.

Affected land owners were outraged. Some complained about having their land value diminished for this social program — a Robin Hood law. Why them and not all taxpayers? Some explained that they

will never ever rent full time under existing conditions with the Residential Tenancy Act, but would gladly rent short term where the act does not apply.

One lady pointed out that a large number of properties have been permanently withdrawn from the rental pool. Many complained that their whole purpose for coming to Salt Spring was to have and run a bed and breakfast, which this bylaw would make illegal. They were not mollified by trustee Peter Luckham's comment that they could still operate as non-conforming.

Throughout this entire freight train of derision, trustees Peter Grove and Laura Patrick sat there, stunned like deer in the headlights. Trustee Luckham tried valiantly and ineffectively to defend the intent but was completely overwhelmed.

At the end of the night it was clear that the Trust is in trouble.

**REG JEFFERD,**  
SALT SPRING

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

## Island fabric ready to embrace Harry and Meghan

Bit of a heads-up here. I've offered Prince Harry, Princess Meghan and young Prince Archie my guest suite until they are properly settled in Canada.

They seem a nice young couple and I could use the extra help around the garden, while I'm sure Meghan would be up for a bit of light dusting. And I'm not looking for any reward beyond the rent money, but "Lord Belcher" has a nice ring to it, don't you think?

I'm not really certain how long they'll stay because since Harry has turned his back on the family business he's a bit on the unemployed side, but he's personable enough and the grocery stores are always looking for staff. And since I'm not entirely certain what it is that Harry did for a living apart from opening fêtes and filling the pages of the more scurrilous newspapers, he might be somewhat harder to place than, say, your average Syrian refugee. Yes, yes, I know he's a retired helicopter pilot, but how many vacancies have you seen in the Driftwood for chopper pilots, eh? About as many as there are for unemployed dukes and duchesses.

I rather suspect he's going to be a bit short of the readies since he has somewhat rashly offered to repay the £2.5 million he was handed by the British government to renovate his kitchen back in the U.K. when he was still sponging off the taxpayer, so he'll also be looking for a bit of extra cash splitting logs or filling potholes.

But at least they should be relatively safe from prying eyes here because most of the London paparazzi are too stupid to find Canada on the map, let alone Salt Spring, and the Driftwood's paparazzi is far too busy stopping people in the street to ask them about their favourite vegetable than to bother with some redundant English aristo. And any photos of me and Meghan in the hot tub will result in immediate letters from my solicitor!



**Paul McElroy**  
+ ANOTHER  
**THING**

So security shouldn't be a problem. I've got a deer fence and, let's face it, the island's Mounties aren't exactly rushed off their feet, so a bit of royal bodyguarding between their other duties would be a nice little earner. In any case, by the time the paps have figured out the ferry timetable and realized the fares will eat up their entire expense allowance they'll give up and go home.

As for royal correspondents, I've worked with a few and most are not worth the ink in their biros. Certainly the one I worked with most recently was so convinced of his own importance that he expected the Queen to curtsy. That's the problem with close proximity to the royals, it's contagious and it's been my experience that members of the royal household, i.e. servants, skivvies and general factotums, are invariably more insufferably pompous than their employers. It is often the case that when the press reports that the Queen has been somehow offended by a foreign dignitary being over-familiar it's NOT the Queen who has taken umbrage but a lackey who thinks Johnny Foreigner should show more deference to the English crown or a royal correspondent who hasn't met his quota of daft royalty stories. "Foreign Person Touches Our Queen Horror!"

So I'm not normally one for ceremony, but I'd be happy to bend a knee if it meant Harry would take the garbage to

the transfer station and give me a hand with the recycling, while Lady Belcher would welcome some help with the ironing, although getting the creases out of ermine is probably not an easy business.

I've already pointed out to their Royal Highnesses (as they were when I made the offer, now it's just plain Mr. and Mrs. Highness) that I'm not up to preparing their usual 12-course banquets for dinner, but my toad in the hole and bubble and squeak are the talk of the island and, provided they are prepared to eat off ordinary plates and not gold platters, then Salt Spring's local cafes do excellent breakfasts.

To make them especially welcome and to feel more Canadian I've agreed to let them have family barbecues in my backyard, which will mean finding accommodation for his brother and sister-in-law, his dad and possibly his dear old Gran, although we could probably find room for her on a couch in the living room. Her lady-in-waiting will just have to do her waiting in the garage.

To be honest, I was a little worried they might not fit in, but the more I think about it there's plenty here for them. Meghan's done a bit of acting so I'll have a word with my theatrical chums about a small role in the next Salt Spring drama production. Harry is very sporty, although he may have trouble raising a polo team on the island. There's a club in Victoria, but I'm not having him keep his ponies in my shed, so he'll need to make his own arrangements!

It's not going to be easy. As the BBC's royal wallah put it: There is no easy option for Harry, you either stiffen the lip or you leave the firm.

Don't stiffen the lip, Harry. Stiffen the finger, stiffen the middle finger!

[paulmcelroy@shaw.ca](mailto:paulmcelroy@shaw.ca)



MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Water dollars

I caution readers of last week’s front-page “Trustees Debate Water Tax Level” story to think we need to pay less water tax to the Islands Trust than we currently do.

While this technically may be true (the annual \$98,500 tax requisition in previous years has not been fully spent, suggesting we don’t need a tax of this size), what is not made adequately clear are the reasons it has not been fully spent.



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It took the Trust a better part of a year to review the terms of reference and remuneration paid to the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance coordinator in 2020, which significantly hamstrung this joint governance body (Trust, CRD, provincial agencies) from moving in their proposed direction.

The proposed work plan is still being scrutinized, and more importantly, so is the scope and mandate of the organization, which needs reworking to empower it to actually do much more necessary work themselves. That includes things like aquifer and groundwater flow monitoring and research across the island, not simply “coordinating” activity, some of which may be too expensive or outside SSI-WPA’s capacities. This is the work plan priority; the essential connective requirement is the capacity and accountability to perform it. The challenge is for the Islands Trust, through SSIWPA, to resolve their inability to actually do projects and not just coordinate them.

At every sitting of a local, national or global government, be it an Islands Trust LTC monthly meeting, or a sitting of Parliament, two themes always repeat: More development and more environmental impact. All development (human demands) can only be delivered according to the capacity of natural systems to continue providing it (the essential natural ingredients to sustain life). Think climate crisis, for example. If water isn’t a prime piece of this human-driven equation, what is? How can we eat our cake, have it too, and still want more?

To conclude, be careful of dramatic headlines or one-sided political points of view; pay more critical attention to the fuller significance of the bigger picture. We need every water tax dollar we have capacity for if we are going to survive a climate crisis, which foretells our unsustainable future for life on Earth as we know it.

**RON HAWKINS,**  
SALT SPRING

Meeting thoughts

I attended the public hearing on proposed Bylaw 512 on Salt Spring Island on Jan. 28. The proposed bylaw provides the framework for legal rental cottages for around 400 properties.

There was a presentation by the trustees and planners on the information on what has been worked on so far with the bylaw and then there was an opportunity for public input. As well, all the letters submitted by the public to the trustees on the bylaw were in a binder at the back, available for public viewing. I read some very well-written and intelligent letters concerned with protecting ground water. I also listened to some well-presented points on the concerns around water sources and septic fields, which can contaminate ground water, as well as concerns around watershed protection.

However, most of the speakers from the public were not there to present on the watershed. Instead, they spoke about concerns of personal economic damage based

on converting lucrative bed and breakfasts to long-term rentals should Bylaw 512 pass.

Furthermore, I was quite surprised by the way tenants were described by many of the home owners who spoke. I felt the need to speak to at least show some support for the tenants of Salt Spring.

Possibly Bylaw 512 does not meet the right criteria, although it is a good attempt to assist the problems here with adequate housing. A lot of careful work and care has gone into this bylaw. In my opinion, the idea of allowing a tenant to live on a property seems like a way to alleviate pressures for those who work here and need a place to stay. However, I realize that there is the possibility of misuse and I am sure that those speaking have good reasons for their opposition.

Many who spoke described needing the income from their short-term tourist rentals. There was also a description given by a speaker about how difficult it is to sell a tenanted property as the new owner must also provide housing for the tenant even after the sale, according to the speaker. According to B.C. law it is legal to evict a tenant for owner use.

I am not sure where we lost the middle ground of a normal working person renting a place. Instead, there is a very big gap between those who need housing and those who have housing.

As we are also trying to protect a unique and fragile island ecosystem, bird habitat and animal habitat, I agree with the points

about not overdensifying and not taxing the ground water. However, to make a space available for a short-term tourist rental over and over again is probably just as taxing as a long-term spot provided to a good tenant.

I was alarmed by the comments that were made about tenants in general, as if tenants are all the same. One of the concerns raised was that it is very difficult to get rid of tenants according to changes made to the Residential Tenancy Act in B.C., although I know of many situations where tenants have been evicted and it was not that difficult. I guess it depends who you know and what their situation is.

I cannot really agree with the things said about tenants and I cannot agree with that kind of attitude from people who have bought in here and have not even been here for that long, yet feel the right to speak out against those who are not home owners, when many renters give so much to our economy and our quality of life.

I do agree that there are bad tenants out there, as well as bad landlords. A municipal landlord entity can also be a bad landlord, so the problems will not disappear with large-scale Ganges housing projects.

It is all business as usual on Salt Spring Island with the struggle to solve some very large problems. It is good to see the caring in everyone who is active with these issues.

**JENNY MCCLEAN,**  
SALT SPRING

Community meeting on forests cites need for action and more discussion

**BY SS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE**

Last Monday the Salt Spring Community Alliance hosted a meeting called Our Forests : A Community Conversation. The meeting was an exploration of the vital role that forests play in our adaptation to climate change and how we can build a resilient and bonded community can stand strong in the face of climate change.

The meeting was successful in attracting a very diverse range of viewpoints and perspectives. Thirty-seven people attended, including environmental activists, people in the conventional forest industry, eco-forestry stewards and citizens from all walks of life. Everyone at the meeting agreed that forests are something that touches us all in some way, and in B.C. we know we owe the forest industry for much of the prosperity we currently enjoy and take for granted. “Trees are a part of our daily lives in some way or another,” said Sheila Dobie, the meeting facilitator. “Most of our homes are built with wood, some of us depend on the forests for our livelihood, and many of us live here because of the beauty of the forests.”

The perspectives that emerged at the meeting were from one end of the spectrum to the other. Some people talked about their deep spiritual con-

**INDEPTH**

nection to forests and the impacts that logging has had on them and on the ecosystems of the island. Others expressed a clear conviction that we do not have forest deterioration here, that our forests regenerate rapidly and always will, and that they hold vital economic importance and livelihood for many island residents.

What emerged from the variety of viewpoints was a respectful discussion that navigated the territory between these two perspectives. Several people recognized that we have players in sustainable eco-forest management right here on the island that we could learn from. We also have ways to encourage local value-added wood industries to keep the widest range of benefits here on the island.


Many were confused about what an acceptable level of logging would look like and how we would know if clear cuts from years past are actually regenerating and retaining their biodiversity. Many agreed that deer are impacting tree regeneration and wanted to find new ways to curb their impacts. Another issue was the importance of forests in fire suppression due to their ability to hold moisture in the soil and cool

the land and air.

The meeting did not end with agreements on the best ways forward, but many attendees met folks “across the aisle” that they did not know before, and several people are arranging to tour local eco-forestry sites and learn more about sustainable forestry practices. It was clear that more discussion and planning is necessary to address issues like the lack of information, the need for expanded understanding of forest ecosystems, the importance of jobs and livelihood that continue to depend on healthy forests, and building a local forest economy that makes sense in times of climate change.

Immediate actions coming out of the meeting included gained momentum for a community activist group that emerged out of the Beddis Road logging concerns called Island Forest Watch. Islands Trust also has an initiative recognizing that our rare Coastal Douglas-Fir ecosystem requires special attention and conservation. All of these are initiatives that have potential to create respectful dialogue and strong cohesive solutions that will continue to support healthy forests that the community depends upon.

A full meeting report is available at [www.saltspringcommunityalliance.org](http://www.saltspringcommunityalliance.org).



School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)  
112 Rainbow Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2K3

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 64 (GULF ISLANDS)**  
**REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR 2020/2021**

Registration for all schools in School District 64 will take place February 1 to 29, 2020.

**NEW REGISTRATIONS:**  
**Kindergarten** – For children who will be five (5) years of age on or before December 31, 2020, i.e., born in 2015, please register your child at the school in your residential catchment area.

Please bring the following documentation when you register your child for kindergarten:

- Verification of the child’s birth date and citizenship status (birth certificate, passport or Landed Immigrant authorization)
- Care Card, and
- Immunization status

**Strong Start** – Students currently enrolled in the district’s Strong Start programs are required to complete a Kindergarten registration form.

**Grade 1 to 12** – Please register your child in the school in your residential catchment area.

Expressions of interest in specific programs can be found on the registration form at: <https://sd64.bc.ca/student-registration/>

Please note that additional application information is required for admission to:

- French Immersion & MYSEEC at Saltspring Island Middle School
- SEEC program located on Saturna Island

Registration and water taxi transportation are subject to School District Policies and Procedures 410 and 525 available at: <https://sd64.bc.ca/policies-and-procedures/>. Program placement is subject to the availability of space in specialized programs.

**STUDENTS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED:**  
Expressions of interest in specific programs at your child’s school should be made to the school principal. For additional information about high school programs available through Gulf Islands Secondary School contact the school’s principal.

Note: Students will automatically be enrolled at their next catchment school as part of the normal prescribed grade to grade transition (unless the school is informed otherwise). No registration is required.

**CROSS BOUNDARY TRANSFER REQUESTS:**  
Should you wish to enrol your child in a school outside of your catchment area, a cross boundary transfer request form must be completed annually (Policy and Procedure 525). The request form can be found at: <https://sd64.bc.ca/student-registration/>

Prior to submitting the form to the School Board Office, parents must obtain signatures from the principal of the catchment area school and the principal of the receiving school. Upon receipt at the School Board Office, the form will be time and date stamped. The deadline for accepting cross boundary request forms is March 15. Placement is subject to the availability of space. Transportation for out-of-catchment requests is not guaranteed.



# getnoticed board

The free place to list your regular group activities of any kind.



## WEDNESDAY

**SALT SPRING GENEALOGY GROUP:** Info: Email cloudie48@gmail.com

**PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Salt Spring Seniors. 2 to 3:30 p.m.

**SOUTH SALT SPRING SENIORS** meet on the last Wednesday of each month at Fulford Hall at 2 p.m.

## EVERY WEDNESDAY

**SRHYTHMS MOVEMENT & DANCE CLASS** led by Shauna Devlin at All Saints By-the-Sea (downstairs). 9 to 10 a.m.

**ALL LEVELS HOT HATHA YOGA** with Sarah Jane Smith at The Nest Hot Yoga. 75 mins. 9:30 a.m.

**BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC** at SS Seniors Centre board room. 10 to 11 a.m. Confidential, accurate, easy and convenient.

**BOOMERFIT** - Fulford Hall Annex, 9 to 10 a.m. a.m. Attendees range from their 50s thru 70s and are guided by a certified personal trainer. Cardio, strength, balance, stretch, plus more. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com 250-653-4656

**BRIDGE CLUB** at the SS Library program room from 12:30 to 4 p.m.

**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP** for people caring for individuals with Alzheimers and others. Every Wednesday at Salt Spring Seniors (379 Lower Ganges Rd.) at 11 a.m. Info: Margaret Monro, 250-537-5004.

**COMPUTER HELP** — Free help with computer, tablet, smartphone issues at Salt Spring Literacy. By appointment at the literacy centre at 125B Rainbow Rd. or by calling 250-537-9717 or emailing coordinator@saltspringliteracy.org.

**FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY** offers free access to premium genealogy websites at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at 221 Vesuvius Bay Rd. from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m.

**GAMES AFTERNOON** at Salt Spring Seniors. 1 to 3 p.m.

**HATHA FLOW YOGA** with Dorothy Price at Stowel Lake Farm. 9 to 10:30 a.m.

**KIRTAN** at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 7:30 p.m.

**MEDITATION GROUP** suitable for beginners meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10:10 to 11 a.m. Everyone welcome. Info: Deb Stevenson, 250-930-5333.

**MEDITATION MEETINGS** and teachings with the Salt Spring Vipassana Society. The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. Offered by donation with Insight Meditation teacher Heather Martin. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**MINDFUL FITNESS** - Fulford Hall Annex, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. A focused, slower-paced class. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656

**MEN'S BRIDGE** at Salt Spring Seniors at 7 p.m.

**SSI PAINTERS GUILD** meets at ArtSpring. 9:30 a.m. For activities see website ssipaintersguild.ca.

**SSI ROTARY CLUB** meets each Wednesday for a deliciously prepared lunch with community focused speakers and presentations at the Harbour House Hotel Crofton Room from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**SWING NIGHT** sees swing dancing happen at the Legion. Bring your dancing shoes. Everyone welcome. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**TAOIST TAI CHI** at All Saints By-the-Sea, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

## EVERY WEDNESDAY

**TECH TUTORING** with Peter Freeman at Salt Spring Public Library. Times available at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 12 noon. Free training and assistance with tech issues, including Windows, Mac, iPads, eReaders, tablets, using OverDrive, and more.

**YOGA** - Mixed levels with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre. 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. and 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. PLUS Chair Yoga (Seniors) from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**YOGA** with Dorothy Price at The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. 9 to 10:30 a.m. Info: info@santasha-yoga-retreats.com, 250-537-7675

**ZEN MEDITATION** at 210 Cedar Lane at 7:15 p.m. Call 250-537-2062 for details. Newcomers always welcome.

## THURSDAY

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** meets on the first Thursday of the month at SS Wellness Centre. 1 to 2 p.m. Info: ljcharlton@shaw.ca

**VISUALLY IMPAIRED SUPPORT GROUP** meets on the first Thursday of the month at SS Seniors Centre, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Info: David at 250-537-8595 or Seniors Centre 250-537-4604.

## EVERY THURSDAY

**AIKIDO MARTIAL ARTS** classes for kids and adults at the SSI Wellness Centre. Kids from 5 to 6 p.m., and adults from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Info: Alan, 250-538-5549; alanwardroper@gmail.com.

**AL-ANON** for friends and families of alcoholics holds an Easy Does It Lunch Bunch open meeting at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church rear annex. 12 to 1 p.m.

**ALL LEVELS WARM YANG YIN YOGA** with Sarah Jane Smith at The Nest Hot Yoga. 75 mins. 6 p.m.

**DANCE TEMPLE** at Beaver Point Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.

**INTERMEDIATE HOT VINYASA** with Sarah Jane Smith at The Nest Hot Yoga. 60 mins. 8:30 a.m.

**LUNCH** at Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Phone the centre at 250-537-4604 to reserve your seat.

**KUNDALINI YOGA** - all levels with Shannon Cowan at the Wellness Centre. 8 to 9:15 a.m.

**NIA** — Discover the delicious music, mindful movement and healing magic of Nia, a fabulous, fun blend of dance, martial arts and yoga with a welcoming community of women. No dance experience needed. Classes are 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. at Antler Ridge Dance Studio. More info: arleensadler@shaw.ca.

**OPEN MIC NIGHT** at the Legion. 7 to 9 p.m.

**PICKLEBALL** runs at Fernwood Elementary School from 6 to 9 p.m.

**TAOIST TAI CHI** for beginners at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

**WOMEN'S YOGA** with Jaya Levesque at SSI Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

**VIJNANA YOGA** with Liz Young at Stowel Lake Farm. 6 to 7:30 p.m.

**YOGA ALL LEVELS** with Dorothy Price at SS Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

## EVERY FRIDAY

**COFFEE TIME** for seniors is at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

**DRUM CIRCLE** meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 4 to 6 p.m.

**ELEMENTARY BRIDGE COACHING.** Beginning bridge lessons (but also with more advanced coaching available) at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**EVERYBODY STRETCH** class with Catherine Bennett at SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS** with Anna Haltrecht, 10-11am. Move with less pain and stress by learning how to make any activity more effective and more enjoyable. Info: Anna Haltrecht, 250-537-5681, anna@bonesforever.com

**SALT SPRING LIONS CLUB GARAGE SALE** drop-off and sales at club hall at 103 Bonnet Ave. 10 a.m. till noon.

**STORYTIME** at the SS Public Library in the children's corner at 11 a.m. Drop-in program best for kids ages 3-6 and their caregivers.

**GAMES NIGHT** at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. Facilitator Bryan Dubien brings his vast collection of board games, or you can bring your own. 6 to 9 p.m.

**MAH JONGG** players gather at Salt Spring Seniors from 12:15 to 2 p.m.

**MEAT DRAW** at the Legion. 5 to 6 p.m.

**MIXED LEVELS YOGA** with John Howe at SSI Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

## EVERY SATURDAY

**DAD 'N' ME PANCAKE BREAKFAST** at Family Place. For dads and kids aged 0 to 6. 8:30 to 10 a.m.

**SALT SPRING LIONS CLUB GARAGE SALE** drop-off and sales at club hall at 103 Bonnet Ave. 10 a.m. till noon.

**MEAT DRAW** at the Legion. 5 to 6 p.m.

**PICKLEBALL** runs at Salt Spring Elementary School from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info: hafizbhimi@shaw.ca or 250-653-9579.

**TAOIST TAI CHI** at All Saints from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Open practice. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

## EVERY SUNDAY

**FREE POOL** at the Legion. 12 to 7 p.m.

**KUNDALINI YOGA** with Jaya Levesque at SSI Wellness Centre. 10 to 11:15 a.m.

**PICKLEBALL** runs at Salt Spring Elementary School from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Beginners from 9 to 10 a.m.

**SUNDAY SATSANG** at the SS Centre of Yoga. 3:30 p.m.

**UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP** meets at Salt Spring Seniors Centre at 10:30 a.m.

## EVERY MONDAY

**ACTIVE LEARNING** group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 2 to 4 p.m.

**ALL LEVELS HOT VINYASA YOGA** with Sarah Jane Smith at The Nest Hot Yoga. 75 mins. 9:30 a.m.

## EVERY MONDAY

**ALL LEVELS WARM YANG YIN YOGA** with Sarah Jane Smith at The Nest Hot Yoga. 75 mins. 6 p.m.

**ART STUDIO** at Fulford Seniors Annex. 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Info: Ingrid - 250-537-1885.

**BOOMERFIT** at Beaver Point Hall. 9 to 10 a.m. Attendees range from their 50s thru 70s and are guided by a certified personal trainer. Cardio, strength, balance, stretch, plus more. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

**CHESSE GROUP** meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**DANCE TEMPLE** at Beaver Point Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.

**DARTS** players meet for games at the Legion from 6 to 9 p.m.

**DUPLICATE BRIDGE** meets every Monday from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Brinkworthy Clubhouse. Info: George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorage@shaw.ca.

**FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT CLASS** with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse, 9 to 10:30 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com.

**NIA.** See Thursday description, except the classes are held from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at All Saints Church - downstairs hall.

**PARKINSON'S MOVEMENT CLASS** with Anna Haltrecht, 12:45-2:15 p.m. Small group class using conscious movement and other innovative techniques to encourage regular safe exercise to increase mobility, strength, endurance and balance. Appropriate for people with PD and other neurological conditions. Info: Anna Haltrecht, 250-537-5681, anna@bonesforever.com

**PILATES+ CLASS** with Anna Haltrecht, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Pilates is a body conditioning system that builds flexibility, strength, endurance and balance. Resistance bands and other tools are also incorporated. This class uses the principles of the Feldenkrais Method® to illuminate and clarify Pilates exercises. Info: Anna Haltrecht, 250-537-5681, anna@bonesforever.com

**QUAKER MEETINGS** for worship are held on Mondays at various locations at 6 p.m. Contact Ruth at 250-537-4075 for more information.

**SALT SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB** holds casual coffee mornings for its members at Penny's on the Green at 10 a.m.

**SALT SPRING SCOTTISH DANCERS** meet at All Saints By-the-Sea Church from 6 to 8 p.m.

**TAOIST TAI CHI** at All Saints By-the-Sea. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. With beginners until 8 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

**TECH TUTORING WITH CONRAD** at the Salt Spring library. iPad, Tablet and eReader tutoring with Conrad Koke. Sign-up sheets are found in the Info Desk Programs binder. Sessions between 12 and 1 p.m.

## EVERY MONDAY

**TOASTMASTERS**, a dedicated band of public speaking learners and enthusiasts, meets at the Salt Spring Public Library. 7 to 9 p.m. Public welcome to attend. See saltspring.toastmastersclubs.org.

## EVERY MONDAY

**THE CLINIC by OPT:** Options for Sexual Health is open every Monday at the Core Inn 2nd floor. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. 250-537-8786.

**YOGA** with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre: Mixed Levels from both 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.;

**LEVEL 1** from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE** for all levels at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 4:30 to 6 p.m.

## EVERY TUESDAY

**ALL LEVELS WARM YOGA SCULPT** with Howie Baral at The Nest Hot Yoga. Yoga Sculpt has a strong focus on core awareness, building strength and increased intensity. 60 mins. 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

**ALL LEVELS HOT HATHA FLOW** with Andrea Palframan at The Nest Hot Yoga. 75 mins. 6 p.m.

**ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE.** All welcome to learn the wonderful Argentine tango. All Saints. 8 to 10 p.m. Info: ssi.tango@gmail.com

**ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP** meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 1 to 3 p.m.

**CHAIR YOGA** with Cate McEwen at Fulford Seniors Annex. 2 p.m.

**CHESSE GROUP** plays games at Salt Spring Seniors. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**CHOIR** at Salt Spring Seniors. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**EVERYBODY STRETCH** class with Catherine Bennett at SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 to 12:30 p.m.

**FLOOR HOCKEY** at Fulford Hall at 7:30 p.m.

**LOST CHORDS** seniors choir meets at SS Seniors at 10:30 a.m.

**NIA** — See Thursday description, except classes are 5:45 to 7 p.m. at All Saints Church - upstairs hall. Info: arleensadler@shaw.ca

**MEN'S GROUP** - A council of highly supportive men. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Info: John, call/text 1-519- 821-9703, reinless@mender.ca or meetup.com/reinless/

**PICKLEBALL** games are played at Fernwood Elementary School from 6 to 9 p.m.

Instruction and equipment provided for beginners. Info: hafizbhimi@shaw.ca or 250-653-9579.

**SS SEARCH & RESCUE** - Learn ground survival, search and rescue techniques at the SAR Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.

**TAOIST TAI CHI** at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

**UBUNTU** sacred chants with Barb Slater. SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

**YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE** — Slow Flow class at Salt Spring Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.

**YOGA** with Gay Young at Stowel Lake Farm. 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.

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# Salute to Salt Spring Search and Rescue Society



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<b>SARAH GRINDLER</b> Active Ground Searcher 6 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>CONRAD BOWDEN</b> Active Ground Searcher 3 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>DAVE MARSHALL</b> Active Ground Searcher 3 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>JANE LIZOTTE</b> Active Ground Searcher 3 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>KURT GIERLICH</b> Active Ground Searcher 3 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>LAURIE CLARK</b> Active Ground Searcher 3 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>PATRICK FRISCH</b> Active Ground Searcher 3 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>CINDY GARVIN</b> Active Ground Searcher 2 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>ERIC SCOTT</b> Active Ground Searcher 2 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>FERNANDO MARCENA</b> Active Ground Searcher 2 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>JEN WILSON</b> Active Ground Searcher 2 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>KEVIN WILSON</b> Active Ground Searcher 2 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>MIKE COTTON</b> Active Ground Searcher 2 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>MICHELLE PARRY</b> Active Ground Searcher 2 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>CHRISTIAN ROWTHORN</b> Active Ground Searcher 2 YEARS OF SERVICE	<b>CHRIS ORTLEPP</b> Active Ground Searcher 1 YEAR OF SERVICE	<b>JESSICA REVELEY</b> Active Ground Searcher 1 YEAR OF SERVICE	<b>AUXILIARY MEMBERS</b> Kristin Baliski, Mike Butler, Eric Ellis, Ben Velthuisen, Hugh Greenwood, Paul Weston, Brian Wolfe-Milner <b>MEMBERS IN TRAINING</b> Andrew Hinshelwood, Matt Kellow, Adam Lynes-Ford, Samuel Moore, Dan Snowsill

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# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

**CELEBRATING THE 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE SALT SPRING ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY!**

1960 - 2020

**Thursday, February 6 • 7-8pm**  
Library themed poetry contest  
**'Our Library in Poetic Life'**  
at the Poetry Open Mic  
featuring  
winners and honourable  
mentions.

**EVENT FREE AT SALT SPRING LIBRARY**



PHOTOS BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

**BOOKISH ART:** Three of the several pieces in the Brushstrokes & Bookshelves art exhibit that opened with a reception at the library on Saturday are, from left, A Good Day to Pick Apples by Wendy Wickland; Come Read With Me by Marilyn Slade; and The Saga of the Ganges Hotel by Judith Borbas. The show is part of 60th-anniversary celebrations for the Salt Spring library and includes representation of the Salt Spring Archives as well.

**Salt Spring FOLK CLUB**  
www.saltspringfolkclub.com

**Jon Brooks**

**The LYNNes**

Monday February 10  
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Door 6:15 (Pass holders 6:00)  
Show 7:00

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## POETRY

# Rainbow Soul Food book set for launch

Brent Talbot shares island-nurtured efforts

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

A regular contributor to monthly open mic poetry nights at the Salt Spring library has just birthed a book of poetry.

Called Rainbow Soul Food - Heart Opening Poetry, its poems have roots in Brent Talbot's experiences with social justice activism beginning with time spent in the Occupy Calgary movement in 2011 and then the On to Ottawa SOS walk in 2012.

The launch event is at the Salt Spring Public Library's program room on Thursday, Feb. 13

from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Talbot, who is also known as "Space," has lived on Salt Spring for six years and works as a gardener. He also volunteers at the Salt Spring Public Library and the Burgoyne Valley Community Garden.

Talbot credits living on the island with helping him create Rainbow Soul Food.

"Salt Spring brought it out of me," he said.

The book is dedicated to his mother, who lives in Red Deer, Alta.

"She's my inspiration."

The Poetry Open Mic night on Thursday, Feb. 6 features winners and honourable mention entries in the library's 60th anniversary poetry contest called Our Library in Poetic Life. It begins at 7 p.m.



## LIVE MUSIC

# Double duos ready to thrill folk club

Heartbreak poets and emotional musical experiences

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Salt Spring Folk Club presents a double bill with the performances of two duos: Jon Brooks and The LYNNes.

According to folk club press material, Brooks' music is polyphonic in sound, word and influence and, in his own words, "calming those who've looked into and seen what is in their hearts and terrifying those who have not."

His seven albums are obsessions of Canadian locality and universal themes that defy genre classification and give audiences "an emotional and transcendent musical experience." Jon Brooks will be accompanied by Neil Cruickshank on guitar and vocals.

The LYNNes are award-winning accomplished songwriters Lynn Miles and Lynne Hanson. These two Canadian "heartbreak poets" are multi-instrumentalists (piano, acoustic and electric guitar and mandolin)



PHOTO COURTESY BOREALIS RECORDS

Jon Brooks, who performs at the Salt Spring Folk Club with Neil Cruickshank on Monday night as one of two duo acts.

who fuse tight and beautiful vocal harmonies with hauntingly gritty lyrics. Individually they have toured North America and Europe and over the past 10 years have toured and written songs together. They recently co-wrote their debut album called Heartbreak Song For The Radio, which was nom-

inated for five Canadian Folk Music awards and won English Songwriter and Ensemble of the Year. On stage The LYNNes play off each other with witty banter that will leave audiences laughing.

Doors open at Fulford Hall at 6:15 p.m. and advance tickets are sold at Salt Spring Books.

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## EXHIBITION PREVIEW

# Artists share erotic work at show

Thrust opens Feb. 14 at Salt Spring Gallery

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Artists and viewers alike may be challenged by a provocative new show opening at Salt Spring Gallery just in time for Valentine's Day, as community members share expressions of their most intimate nature.

Thrust: A Visual Celebration of Human Sexuality will feature submissions from Salt Spring, the southern Gulf Islands and Vancouver Island. Limited to viewers aged 18 and over, the show promises to open dialogue around some deeply abiding societal notions of sexuality, desire, shame and deviancy.

Artist and curator Patrick McCallum, who is co-jurying the show with Lisa Lipsett, says that erotic art has a unique capacity to expose and challenge our often unspoken conventions.

"I think erotic art is the most dangerous art you can create," McCallum said.

McCallum counts the impact of social media as one big factor in that assessment. There has been censorship of images, such as the ban of female nipples on Instagram, because certain user groups are offended. Concerns about the proliferation of pornography on social media can also bleed into the judgement of art, especially because the line between erotica and pornography is a subjective one.

"It's completely up to the individual. Instagram says that nipples are pornography, therefore it's pornography. That opens up a very difficult conversation," McCallum observed. "If someone is an artist and they create a piece of work and someone says 'I think that's pornography,' that reflects on the artist and their sexuality. But not just their sexuality, but the idea of deviance, the idea that pornography is a form of deviated sexuality. And I think the other thing that reflects on, of course, is the audience."

People who create sexualized art and people who would display that art in their homes may be equally viewed as having suspect morals. Expressions of a basic part of human experience can therefore be an extremely loaded form of communication.

"When we ask our artists to create erotic art we're asking them to take an enormous, enormous chance," McCallum said, adding that chance is magnified in a small community where people may have other jobs and identities in addition to "artist." That's one

of the reasons the participants have been allowed to list their artworks under any name that they choose.

"For artists to create erotic art, the question they're always asking themselves is 'What can I get away with?' Because I think that even anonymously, particularly in a small community, they're taking the chance that people are going to change their perception of who they are," McCallum said. "And it's the only kind of art where that falls into place . . . it's more daring to do something sexual than to do something political. People are comfortable thinking they may be different from you politically, but if they think you have a different form of sexuality than they do, it's a totally different kind of acceptance."

**"I think erotic art is the most dangerous art you can create."**

**PATRICK MCCALLUM**  
*Co-curator, Thrust exhibit*

Salt Spring and the Gulf Islands represent a particularly interesting place where questions of sexuality and representation intersect. The aging population also means an aging population of artists, but McCallum notes our society has a difficult relationship with the sexuality of older people. The relationship can be especially judgmental if an older artist is creating erotic images of younger subjects.

"It's very easy for us to say, 'That's a dirty old man. That is someone who is using their art as a prurient obsession or something he or even she shouldn't be thinking about.' Which is obviously very limiting, because then you're saying to an artist, 'There's a very limited, narrow threshold of your sexuality that we're able to deal with,'" McCallum said.

The show's curators are hoping Thrust will encourage people to step outside the mainstream of what is considered an acceptable object of desire, in part by including artists of all (adult) ages and sexual orientations. Although the material could be challenging for some people, the hope is this will inspire conversation and civil discourse around disagreement.

"I hope people can go in and see things they're not comfortable with, and be able to express that in a respectful manner,



PHOTO COURTESY PATRICK MCCALLUM

Patrick McCallum, who is co-curating the Thrust exhibit at Salt Spring Gallery along with Lisa Lipsett.

knowing somebody has taken an enormous chance to create this," McCallum said.

"If there was ever going to be a place where the meeting of sexuality, positive sexual imagery and ageism can come to find some sense of acceptance, I would hope that it would be on Salt Spring Island."

Thrust opens with an artists' reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Feb. 14 and the show runs to Wednesday, March 18.



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FRI FEB 21

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## NIGHT LIFE

## Valentine's jazz at the Legion

Hammond B3 organ part of the evening

The Monik Nordine Organ Trio is all set to perform at the Salt Spring Legion on Valentine's Day.

On the bill are songs by Jimmy Smith, Sonny Stitt and the legendary Hugh Fraser. "Be prepared to shimmy to the blues and swing your partner," said Nordine, who hails from Salt Spring.

As a saxophonist, Nordine has shared the stage with many award-winning musicians, such as Ian McDougall, Guido Basso, Matt Catingub, David Foster, Campbell Ryga, PJ Perry, Michael Buble, Rob McConnell, Tommy Banks and Brad Turner. She directs the Victoria Jazz Orchestra and has toured Canada widely, performing in the Montreal, Regina,

Calgary, Vancouver, Victoria and Medicine Hat jazz festivals with The Monik Nordine Trio and with Canadian greats Hugh Fraser, Pat Coleman and Mike Allen.

Nordine will be joined by Tony Genge, a native of Vancouver and one of Canada's leading jazz organists and jazz pianists. As a jazz organist, Genge presents his bluesy, soul-jazz influenced style on the Hammond B3 organ in concerts and clubs.

David Emery, a drummer and a graduate of the Humber College Jazz Program, is also part of the group. Emery has recently relocated to Victoria after several years in Tokyo where his talent was quickly recognized. He now plays regularly with many different groups

Music on Friday, Feb. 14 begins at 8 p.m.

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# what's on this week



<div>Wed. Feb. 5</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Tea a Tempo: Carolyn Hatch &amp; Students. Violin teacher and fiddler Carolyn Hatch and senior students Nikoya Catry-Bauer, Ruby Egger-Lipsett and Kieran Denny are joined by Kerry Graham, bassoon, and Greg Duckett, violin, for a program of music from the baroque era. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.</div> <div>Theatre Alive presents Escaped Alone. Staged reading of the acclaimed Caryl Churchill play, directed by Bren Walker. Mahon Hall. 7 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Tech Tutoring With Peter Freeman. Three 50-minute sessions available on Wednesdays: Free training and assistance for tech issues, including Windows, Mac, iPads, eReaders, tablets, using Overdrive and more. Salt Spring Public Library. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sign-up sheets are found in the Info Desk Programs binder.</div> <div>Yoga Nidra—A Meditation on Deep Rest. Guided visualization meditation, led by Celeste Mallett Jason at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's church in Fulford). 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Participation is by donation and registration is not required.</div> <div>Swing Night. Swing Night comes to the Legion every Wednesday night from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.</div>	<div>Wed. Feb. 5</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</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 (St. Mary's church in Fulford). 7 to 8:30 p.m.</div> <div>Music Bingo. Every Wednesday with Taylor at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>Best of the Fests: And Then We Danced. Screening of film by Levan Akin presented by the Salt Spring Film Festival Society and co-presented by Dance Your Ability Therapeutic Movement Foundation and DAISSI. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</div> <div>Thu. Feb. 6</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Poetry Open Mic Featuring Our Library in Poetic Life. Winners and honourable mentions from the library-themed poetry contest. 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room.</div> <div>Open Mic &amp; Jam. Thursdays at the Legion. 7 to 9 p.m.</div> <div></div>	<div>Fri. Feb. 7</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>David Jacquest &amp; Friends. At the Legion. 8 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>ASK Salt Spring: Neighbours Helping Neighbours Find Answers. Adam Olsen will join volunteers to listen to and address concerns and questions from the community. Thrifty Florist Shop (upper level). 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Adam Olsen available starting at 11.</div> <div>Dance Your Abilities. Fun facilitated dance movement and nutritious lunch for seniors. All abilities welcome. Free event held most Fridays through March 27, with free lunch provided by Harvest Kitchen. All Saints lower hall. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info/registration: 250-537-9971.</div> <div>Salt Spring Forum: Ken Wu. Salt Spring Forum guest is the charismatic former executive director and co-founder of the Ancient Forest Alliance, who has been working to protect ancient forests in BC for more than 25 years. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</div> <div>The Naturalist's Sketchbook. Local biologist, artist &amp; environmentalist Briony Penn will lead youth, aged 6-13, in the art of observation and documentation. They will fill a sketchbook with their own drawings of the plants, animals and landscape that are around us. Runs Saturdays at Mahon Hall, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. through Feb. 15.</div>	<div>Sat. Feb. 8</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Buck Dodgers. Live at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Seedy Saturday. Shop for awesome locally grown seeds, bring your own seeds and trade them at the seed swap table, visit with local agricultural groups, have some coffee and treats and take in a free workshop or two. Farmers' Institute. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Workshops start at 10:30.</div> <div>9th Annual Glowtini Contest. Come be entertained as local mixologists from Salt Spring face off. "Snowtinis" will be auctioned off with all proceeds benefiting the Copper Kettle and the Food Bank. Legion Lounge. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div></div> <div>Sun. Feb. 9</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Seedy Sunday Panel Discussion. Join four expert panelists for a talk about a variety of climate conscious approaches from Salt Spring Island and the Cowichan Valley. Panelists include Delisa Lewis: Integrating Livestock with Mixed Vegetables Systems at Greenfire Farm; Megan McEachern: Diversifying the Landscape at Stowel Lake Farm; Salt Spring Island Fire Dept: Drought-proof and Fire-safe Gardens; and Bastien: Regenerative Practices in the Burgoyne Valley. By donation. Salt Spring Farmers' Institute. 1 to 3 p.m.</div>	<div>Mon. Feb. 10</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Salt Spring Folk Club: Jon Brooks and The LYNNes. Two duos perform at Fulford Hall: Jon Brooks with Neil Cruickshank on guitar and vocals; Lynn Miles and Lynne Hanson. 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. (6 p.m. for season's ticket holders).</div> <div></div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Sacred Song Circle. Led by Barb Slater and Kevin Wilkie at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice. 7 to 8:30 p.m.</div> <div>Tue. Feb. 11</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Spiritual Transformation in a Time of Climate Crisis. Spiritual discussion facilitated by Gyllian Davies and Barry Cooke. Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Participation is by donation and registration is not required.</div> <div>Trivia Tuesday. Every Tuesday at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.</div> <div>Argentine Tango Practice. All welcome to learn the wonderful Argentine tango every Tuesday night. All Saints By-the-Sea. 8 to 10 p.m.</div>	<div>Wed. Feb. 12</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Salt Spring Historical Society: Black History Month. Fran Morrison of the B.C. Black History Awareness Society is guest speaker, with discussion about the story of the migration and settlement of black people in B.C. starting in 1858, including some of Salt Spring Island's own pioneer families. Central Hall. 2 p.m.</div> <div>Tech Tutoring With Peter Freeman. See last Wednesday's listing.</div>	<div>Wed. Feb. 12</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Yoga Nidra—A Meditation on Deep Rest. See last Wednesday's listing.</div> <div>Insight/Mindfulness Meditation. See last Wednesday's listing.</div> <div>Swing Night. See last Wednesday's listing.</div> <div>Music Bingo. See last Wednesday's listing.</div>
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Ken Wu, the former executive director of the Ancient Forest Alliance, is the Salt Spring Forum guest on Friday, Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at ArtSpring.

THE FRITZ CINEMA

• Jojo Rabbit starring Scarlet Johanssen and Sam Rockwell shows Fri., Feb. 7 to Tues., Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. each night plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. Rated PG 1 hour 49 minutes.

For more movie info go to [www.thefritz.ca](http://www.thefritz.ca)

EXHIBITIONS

• Brushstrokes & Bookshelves, a juried exhibition of work in celebration of the Salt Spring Public Library's 60th anniversary, is in the library program room for the months of February and March.

EXHIBITIONS

• Looking Up - a joint show of Bill Underwood's photographs and Suzanne Prendergast's art is in the ArtSpring lobby from Feb. 3 to 28.

• The Group of Six Photographers — Simon Henson, Larry Citra, Bruce McPhee, Kahsia Hartwell, Ross McLeod and Judy McPhee — exhibit at Fernwood Road Cafe through mid February.

Seedy Saturday

Seed swap and sales, plus workshops and more

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Send your submissions to [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com) or drop them off at the Driftwood office.





# ISLAND LIFE

- Star of the Week
- Climb the Wall
- 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](mailto:dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com)



## YOUTH ENTERPRISE

# Youth learns business values

Recycling venture adds to positive community

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Responsibility, community service and a little extra cash are all good reasons to start a new enterprise.

Eleven-year-old Jason Mikanikian has been working with local businesses to earn a few bucks and learn a thing or two about running a business. He collects bottles from local cafes and restaurants twice per week, bringing them in to the recycling depot and saving the money. His enterprise has gotten him financial freedom and a learned sense of responsibility and stewardship that isn't common with people his age.

So far, Mikanikian has saved enough since he started collecting bottles in September 2019 to buy himself a second-hand laptop, and is saving up for a second electronic purchase, this time a Nintendo Switch.

"There's a lot of stuff that I wanted to get, but I never had enough money to do it. My mom told me about collecting cans and bottles," he said. "We went to places around Ganges Alley to ask about cans and bottles. They let me and I started returning them."

While being able to afford new gadgets is exciting, Mikanikian's mom Susan Mikanikian said that the enterprise has also been teaching her son how to be more responsible with his money, and has brought him closer to the people in the community.

"I love that he's financially independent, as opposed to asking me for everything all the time. He's making his own choices and he understands the challenges and the work that we have to put in to earn money," she said. "He's improving his customer service skills, his financial skills and he actually shops less. He's more careful with what he spends because



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Salt Spring Return-It depot manager Kevin Faulkner assists Jason Mikanikian, 11, as he builds his recycling business.

**"I really like this job because I'm making money and friends at the same time."**

JASON MIKANIKIAN  
*Youth entrepreneur*

now he has to earn it."

The family came to Salt Spring around three years ago from Vancouver. While Jason's bottle collecting only started this year, Susan said that she feels the whole island is helping raise her son.

"People are totally embracing my son and they're helping him become

a better businessman. People take their time to praise him, give him feedback," she said.

"It's like the community is helping me raise a child. I cannot express enough gratitude."

Jason makes around \$35 per week for his efforts, which include two pick-up days per week. He takes his collection to the Return-It centre on Tuesdays where the staff helps out.

When asked about how it feels to support himself financially, Jason replied "really good."

"I really like this job because I'm making money and friends at the same time," he added.

He hopes to expand his enterprise to more businesses on the island, and is offering pick-up service to private homes as well. Those interested in arranging a pick-up can contact Susan at [susan@hajangus.com](mailto:susan@hajangus.com).

## HISTORY

# Black History Month presentation on tap

Special guest Fran Morrison delivers Feb. 12 talk

Fran Morrison of the B.C. Black History Awareness Society will be guest speaker at the Salt Spring Historical Society's next meeting, with a special presentation in honour of Black History Month set for Wednesday, Feb. 12.

Morrison will present the story of the migration and settlement of black people in British Columbia starting in 1858, outlining their achievements as well as the attitudes towards black people historically.

She will also speak about the history of the B.C. Black History Awareness Society and the projects the society undertakes, and describe how black pioneers have been remembered across the province, including some of Salt Spring Island's own pioneer families.

"The original black settlers represented a wide spectrum of backgrounds, skills and interests, while contributing substantially to the settlement of this province," the historical society notes.

Morrison is a recently retired B.C. public servant who joined the B.C. Black Awareness Society in 2008. Telling others about the original black pioneers in the province is an important and essential part of the society's purpose and mission.

Morrison has been a member of its board of directors since 2010. Her maternal ancestors were Black Loyalists; her paternal ancestors came from Maryland via the underground railroad, settling in Nova Scotia, where she was born.

The talk gets started at 2 p.m. at Central Hall.

For more information on British Columbia's black history, visit [www.bcblackhistory.ca](http://www.bcblackhistory.ca).

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## Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the  
**Gulf Islands Driftwood office**  
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**Monday, Feb. 17 - Family Day**  
statutory holiday - and will reopen for usual  
business hours on Tuesday, Feb. 18.



**Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood  
Wednesday February 19 edition  
will be as follows:**

Display Advertising deadline:  
**Wednesday, Feb. 12, noon**

Classified Display Deadline:  
**Wednesday, Feb. 12, noon**

Classified Word Deadline:  
**Wednesday, Feb. 12, noon**

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**Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****HERBERT OTTO**

Jan. 16, 1947 - Dec. 5, 2019

On Thursday December 5th Herb passed away suddenly from complications resulting from his long battle with cancer. Suzie, Karl and Christine were with him at the hospital shortly after his passing with Erik joining by phone.



We want to thank friends, family and the community for your love and support over the past year. It was a difficult time for him and for us. We were fortunate that he maintained his mental faculties up until the end providing us the opportunity to spend quality time with him and say our goodbyes.

He truly was one of the best people this world has produced.



## Jean Caroline Faye Howell

Aug. 17, 1934 - Jan. 19, 2020

Carol Howell (Seal), BELOVED mother of Sue Fraser, Nancy Ford (Randy), Debbie Bateman (Greg Nuspel), Cindy Bateman (Allen Thomson), Fred Bateman (Nancy Parker), Rosemarie Bishop and John Howell, sister of Bob and Jim Seal, passed away peacefully in Nanaimo, BC at the age of 85 years.

She was predeceased by her husbands, Don Bateman and John Howell.

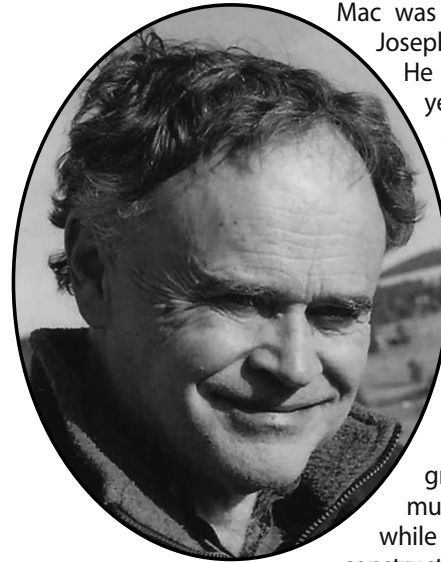
A celebration of her life will be held on February 22, 2020 at 1 pm at the Hope Lutheran Church, 2174 Departure Bay Road, Nanaimo, BC.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, at <https://foodgrainsbank.ca>.

To express condolences, please visit: [www.mem.com](http://www.mem.com)

**Malcolm Keith Mouat**

September 24, 1941 - January 11, 2020



Mac was born in Vancouver to William Joseph Mouat and Jean Eileen Stewart.

He fondly remembered his early years growing up in Williams Lake before moving to Salmon Arm, where he graduated from high school. In 1963, he received his B.Sc. from UBC in Physics and Psychology. He resided in Vancouver, Abbotsford, Salt Spring Island, and most recently, the Cowichan Valley.

Mac was an avid curler, golfer and competitive chess player. He loved the outdoors and had a great sense of adventure. He spent much time exploring Northern B.C. while working as a surveyor on the construction of the Stewart - Cassiar Highway. Over much of his life, Mac took his

backpack and explored fascinating places around the world. Nearly thirty years ago Mac travelled to Thailand and fell completely in love with the people and the country. He returned to Thailand, every winter until 2015, exploring more of the communities and making friends everywhere he travelled. It was during one of these trips that he met his Thai wife, Kristana.

Mac had an eagerness to listen to others, a kind way of sharing his thoughtful observations, and was incredibly generous. He deeply enriched the lives of all those who knew him.

Mac was predeceased by his parents and his sister Heather. He is survived by his nieces Adele and Rhonda, by his wife Kristana, and by a very large extended family and friends around the world. A gathering to celebrate Mac will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion (Meaden Hall) on Salt Spring Island, April 18, 2020 at 1:00 pm.

Mac's family and friends would like to sincerely thank the staff at the Cowichan District Hospital for their generous support and compassion.

**Obituaries****Obituaries****JAMES HENRY EASTMAN III**

May 17, 1926 - January 25, 2020



"Jim" was born in Highland Park, near Detroit, Michigan USA, and after a 93 year long active life, died in Lady Minto Hospital, Salt Spring Island, BC. When he was very young, his father left his airplane manufacturing plant in Detroit, moved his family to Atlin, BC to start a gold mining operation. After growing up between Atlin and Detroit, Jim moved to Vancouver to attend "Shurpass" School long enough to get a language credit to qualify for admission to UBC. This led him to his future wife to be, Joy Deacon. His goal at UBC was electrical engineering. On registration day, the long line for electrical engineering led him to a friend who was standing in a very short line of only five students for mining engineering. After just one year at UBC, the call came from "Uncle Sam" (the US army). Basic training completed, the war ended, so back to UBC to finish mining engineering. To alleviate the stress of his finals in the last year, he took flying lessons and got his pilot's license.

Now a UBC graduate, he moved to Atlin for a very brief marriage to an Atlin girl. Six months later, without a wife, he moved to his new job with the Canadian Exploration Company in Salmo, BC. Joy agreed to take Jim back and married in 1952. Three years later, with baby in tow, Joy pregnant with second baby, they were transferred to Pato, Columbia; Jim was to be the chief engineer at a placer gold mining site. Five eventful years later, suddenly for safety reasons, the family was sent back to Vancouver to work in the head office of Placer Development. Jim worked there until his retirement in 1985. He and Joy chose to build the house on Salt Spring where they lived until moving to Meadowbrook.

Jim was very active with Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Power Squadron and Seniors. He had a passion for sports cars and airplanes, having owned both in his early years with Joy. Once in Vancouver the ocean called again, and a great love of boating and boats followed. Fifty-five plus years of cruising the West Coast of BC and Alaska left behind a very long trail of friends and stories.

Jim was predeceased by his daughter Kim and his grandson Robert. He is survived by Joy, his wife of almost 68 years, his daughter Jeanie, five grandchildren, thirteen great grandchildren and one great-great grandson. What a life he had....

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Lady Minto Hospital, where an amazing group of caring people looked after Jim for the last few weeks of his life.

**In Memoriam****Computer Services**

Salt Spring Hospice

Salt Spring Hospice Society  
**AGM on Wed, March 25**  
**6:30-8:30pm**  
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**Make February your fall in love month with our sister island Ometepe in LK Nicaragua.**

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**Spread the word... ya behes... xoxoxo... MFLFrete**

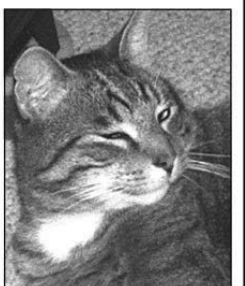
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## DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

## Legal Notices

## Legal Notices

## Legal Notices


**NOTICE OF EXCLUSION APPLICATION**  
**Regarding Land in the Agricultural Land Reserve**

I, Anne Catherine Burdett and Michael Steven Burdett  
(full name, or names, of registered owner)  
 of 4606 Razor Point Road Pender Island, BC V0N 2M1  
(mailing address)  
 intend on making an application pursuant to Section 30(1) of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* to exclude from the  
**Agricultural Land Reserve** the following property which is legally described as,  
Fractional NW1/4 of Section 11 Cowichan District  
(legal description from the title certificate)  
 and located at 4606 Razor Point Road, Pender Island, BC V0N 2M1  
(street address if applicable)

Any person wishing to express an interest in the application may do so by forwarding their comments in writing to,  
**Islands Trust, 200-1627 Fort St, Victoria, BC V8R 1H8**  
(name and mailing address of the local government)

by 19 February 2020  
(14 days from the date of second publication)

**NOTE:**

- This notice and the application are posted on the subject property.
- Please be advised that all correspondence received by the local government and/or the ALC forms part of the public record, and is disclosed to all parties, including the applicant.


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**THIS WEEK'S** *Michael O'Connor - Life Coach Astrologer*  
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**TIP OF THE WEEK:** READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Leo Full Moon on February 8 represents the culmination of the Chinese New Year celebrations. That these were significantly dampened by the outbreak of the Coronavirus is now global news. This pandemic does align aptly with the gravity of the themes of destiny underway for us all. The Rat is the first sign in the Chinese Zodiac thus it marks the beginning of a new 12-year cycle, generally regarded as auspicious, ironically. The Western Astrology charts for January 1 at midnight included Mars in Scorpio strongly featured suggesting that this year would begin with a lot of violence and drama, and it certainly has: massive fires in Australia, the assassination of a high ranking general in Iran, the death of 176 civilians from the retaliatory missile strike, the Kobe Bryant tragedy, Brexit, The U.S. impeachment process and the country politically divided. These are all reminders that life is always has been and always will be a drama. Navigating the ever-changing waters to fulfill our own personal destiny is where astrology can help, a lot.

**Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)**

The early signs of spring will be felt by you. These are inspiring you to take new leads. Professional expansion is indicated. Yet, you are challenged to exercise a more integral form of leadership. Deciphering what this specifically means for you depends on the realities of your circumstances. Empathizing with the needs and realities of others will reveal you as a true leader.

**Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)**

Changes in your public and professional sphere continue to unfold. Establishing closer bonds in friendship or moving on from those that no longer align with your values and priorities is featured. Either way, you are inclined to proceed gracefully, for now, despite powerful ambitions to take more direct and pragmatic action.

**Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)**

Circumstances are leading you to see a bigger picture. Yet, you may find yourself looking down a deep well, also. Themes of death and rebirth continue to echo in your mind. This is a time when you must decide if your imagination is your friend or your enemy. As your friend, it is serving to help you accept the eternal ebb and flow of life.

**Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)**

Deep changes continue to shake your world. These are most evident on relationship fronts. Yet, they are also pushing you to clarify and assert your resolve. Key players are destined to directly or indirectly challenge you to stand up for yourself. Yet, this does include an exercise of your ability to empathize. As is often true, the best path is somewhere in the middle.

**Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)**

Changes in your lifestyle are affecting your relationship life and the opposite is also true. This marks yet another time for making adjustments. This is necessary periodically to recalibrate with the cycles of destiny. Assuming these are completely under your own control is like believing you control the flow of traffic. Self-control implies cooperation.

**Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)**

Ever so subtly you are undergoing changes in your beliefs, your philosophy of life - your personal paradigm. These changes are closely aligned with how you regularly engage with the world. Old methods and strategies are being exchanged for new ones. This probably includes paying even closer attention to certain details.

**Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)**

Realizations about things previously hidden are surfacing in your mind. These are causing you to pause and reflect. Deciphering whether current investments and involvements are truly worth your while is featured. You may not be ready to take full and direct action right away, yet certain situations and relationships may be on your probation list.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)**

Gaining a clearer sense of who you are is currently underway. Themes of individuality and personal rights are part of the plot. The results may be provoking changes in your relationships. The repercussions of some of these may be quite sobering. The early signs of the need to build upon new foundations are coming to light.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)**

The way you see the world is changing. This is both the result of inner and outer experiences and events. You are challenged to let go of certain habitual perspectives and traditional attitudes. Circumstances are requiring that you be willing to flow with things more and detach from beliefs and interpretations that may not be as true as you once assumed.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)**

A process of building upon new foundations continues. This includes new values and priorities regarding your long-term objectives. While the shifts may be subtle, they are probably sure. At worst, it may seem that much that once was is literally disintegrating. At best, you are able to see into and through people and events much more clearly.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)**

A new day has dawned in your life. It arrived align with the New Moon in your sign just two weeks ago. Now under the light of the Full Moon, the implications of these seeds of change are, at least, revealing their first real sprouts. Hopefully, you are at peace with these changes because they are now your new norm.

**Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)**

A busy time behind the scenes is underway. Positively, this is proving to be a very creative and inventive cycle. You not only see more clearly and understand certain things more deeply, but you also feel determined to take direct and immediate action to reinforce them. This could amount to changes in your daily routine. For best results, use this time to focus on creative projects.

## FUNDRAISER

# Firefighters train for steep climb

Salt Spring team tackles BC Lung Association challenge

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring firefighters will be taking the long way up the 48 storeys of the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre on Feb. 23 in support of the BC Lung Association.

This will be the eighth year that the local squad has climbed the wall, competing with over 200 other firefighters from across the province. They make the 739-step climb while carrying over 22 kilograms of gear, including boots, pants, a lined coat, helmet, gloves and breathing apparatus, which will be both worn and used through the entire climb.

"Climb the Wall is a rare event in that it allows us to come together as a firefighting community to advocate for a cause that strikes close to home," said firefighter Cameron Sweet.

Sweet will be joined by Krystal Capranos, David Demner and Brandi Sontag in their attempt to climb. As of Tuesday morning, they had already raised almost \$900.

Firefighters are often exposed to harmful chemicals in air as they fight fires, so the BC Lung Association cause is a natural fit for them.

"While we take precautions and wear special gear to protect ourselves, each fire exposes us to a mix of toxins that can contribute to firefighters' increased risk of respiratory disease and cancer," Sweet said.

"For us, participating in the event has become both a meaningful tradition and a great team-building exercise. Besides that,



PHOTO COURTESY SSIFR

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue 2020 Climb the Wall team members are, from left, David Demner, Brandi Sontag, Krystal Capranos and Cameron Sweet.

it's a great way to spend a Sunday!" he added.

The local crew has raised almost \$16,000 in their previous years of participating in the event, which goes directly to the BC Lung Association.

Donations in support of the crew can be made by searching for the Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue team at stairclimb.ca.


**Where is this found on Salt Spring?**

Email your answer to [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com) or look for the photo on our Facebook page.

**Last Week's Answer:** Larry Woods was the first person to correctly identify the stop sign at the Vesuvius ferry terminal dock.

## SALT SPRING **Star** of the WEEK



### Tony Beck

Tony is the president of the Salt Spring Island Agricultural Alliance. In that role he has been shepherding the massive process of updating Salt Spring's Area Farm Plan. Tony received heartfelt kudos for his efforts from those attending a town hall meeting about the draft plan on Saturday at GISS.



# MONEY MATTERS

FIRST IN A FOUR-PART SERIES

## LIVELIHOODS

# Turn passions into a post-retirement business

Great advice for people considering the business path

**You might have something in common with Colonel Sanders of Kentucky Fried Chicken fame.**

When he reached 65, he didn't retire. Instead he took the fried chicken recipe he had perfected through years of running a restaurant and turned it into a pioneering franchising behemoth that made him a very wealthy man.

If you're like Colonel Sanders, if you've reached "retirement age" but aren't ready to call it quits, if you have a passion that you'd like to turn into a business during retirement – here's what you need to know:

### YOUR PASSION BECOMES YOUR PRODUCT

Colonel Sanders had a passion for perfect fried chicken – and making money. Your passion may be photography, painting, crafting or any of a hundred other pursuits that you now intend to turn from a relaxing activity into a retirement career. Be aware that you may come to look at your

"passion" differently when it becomes a stressful endeavor, especially when things may not be going too well. The keys are to be honest with yourself about the potential for your business and to work equally hard at staying motivated.

### KNOW THE RISKS AND CHALLENGES

Your business idea is brilliant. But it is also risky, so protect your retirement savings by keeping your start-up costs to a minimum and avoiding heavy debt. For example, don't lease office space or hire employees until you absolutely have to. Early expenses eat into profit margins and make it difficult for a new business to survive.

### TEST THE MARKET

If your new venture includes a new or different product or service, test the market before you make any rash decisions. Start with the most basic version of your product or service and sell it economically – perhaps online through social media sites like Twitter, Facebook and Instagram – and gauge customer feedback to decide if your business venture makes financial sense.

### KEEP IT SIMPLE

Finance your business with money you can afford to lose. If you find yourself tempted to tap into your retirement account to fund your business, take it as a warning that you're probably about to get into something you're not financially prepared for.

Creating a retirement business from your passion could end up being the most satisfying and rewarding life decision you have ever made. Make sure you have all the information – on taxation, licensing and all the other vital details you must master to run a successful business – by talking to your lawyer, accountant and professional advisor before you take the first step into your new career.

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## INCOME TAX

# Paper packages still an option

If you filed a paper return last year, the Revenue Canada Agency will mail you a 2019 income tax package by Feb. 17.

If you don't receive a package in the mail, you can order or download copies as of Jan. 21, 2020 at [canada.ca/taxes-general-package](http://canada.ca/taxes-general-package). You can also call RCA starting Feb. 24, 2020 at 1-855-330-3305 (for service in English) or 1-855-330-3310 (for service in French) to order a copy.

A limited amount of packages will be available at select northern and rural Service Canada locations. If you need to order a package, you should allow up to 10 days for delivery.

**New for the 2019 tax year:** line numbers that used to be three or four digits are now five digits (e.g. line 150 on the return is now line 15000).

RCA has reduced the number of forms you need by incorporating Schedule 1 into the return, and has updated worksheets to make calculations simpler.

### Use File my Return

If you have a low or fixed income, you may be eligible to use File my Return, which lets you file your return by answering a series of short questions through a secure, dedicated, automated, telephone service. If you filed a paper return last year and are eligible to use File my Return, you will receive your personalized invitation letter with the 2019 Income tax package that we will mail to you. Starting Feb. 24, 2020, you can use File my Return to quickly file your return using a phone.

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MONEY MATTERS

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FINANCIAL SAFETY

Ways to protect yourself from Rev Can scams

Question whether or not it makes sense for agency to be calling

Did you get a suspicious email, phone call, letter, or text message from someone claiming to be us? Scammers pretending to be Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) employees often contact Canadians to trick them into paying fake debts. To protect yourself from scams, it's important to know when and how the CRA might contact you. Here are some tips on how to identify if the CRA is trying to reach you:

THE REASONS CRA MAY CALL

- The CRA may call if we previously wrote to you, or in any of these situations:
- If you owe tax or money to a government program, a collections officer may call you to discuss your file and ask you to make a payment. In this case, you may need to provide some information about your financial situation.
  - If you did not file your income tax and benefit return, we may call you to ask for the missing return.
  - If you did not file your GST/HST return.

- If we have questions about the tax and benefit documents you sent.
- If you operate a small business, we may call to offer free tax help through our Liaison Officer program.
- If we have questions about your new business registration.
- If we have questions regarding a limited review of your Corporate Return. Make sure the caller is a CRA employee before handing over money or personal information on the phone. You can ask for, or make a note of, the caller's name, phone number and office location, and tell them that you want to first verify their identity. You can check that the call you received was in fact from the CRA by calling:
  - 1-888-863-8657 for individual debts
  - 1-877-477-5068 for GST/HST debts
  - 1-877-548-6016 for payroll debts
  - 1-866-291-6346 for corporation debts
  - 1-866-864-5823 if the call you received was about a government program such as employment insurance or Canada Student Loan debts.

- Double check the status of your tax account and make sure the CRA has your current address and email. Confirm your personal information is up to date or if you have a balance owing using one of our secure digital services. Call 1-866-474-8272. This automated CRA phone service gives you information about your tax account balance, and your last payment amount and date. To use this service, be ready to provide your social insurance number, date of birth, and the total income you entered on line 150 of your 2018 or 2017 tax return. Call 1-866-864-5823 to update your address or contact information for government programs you owe money to.

- Have I received a notice saying I owe taxes?
- Have I received an email or letter from the CRA about the subject of the call?
- Does the CRA have my most recent contact information, such as my email and home address?
- Is the caller asking for information I would not include on my tax return or that is not related to money I owe the CRA?
- Did I recently send a request to change information about my business number?
- Do I have an instalment payment due?
- Have I received a statement of account for funds owing to a government program?

For more information visit [canada.ca/taxes-fraud-prevention](https://canada.ca/taxes-fraud-prevention).

WANT TO REPORT A POTENTIAL SCAM?

To report a scam, visit [antifraudcentre.ca](https://antifraudcentre.ca) or call 1-888-495-8501. If you think you may be the victim of fraud or you unknowingly provided personal or financial information, contact your local police service, financial institution, and credit reporting agencies.



- WHEN IN DOUBT, ASK YOURSELF:
- Why is the caller pressuring me to act immediately?
  - Am I sure the caller works for the CRA?
  - Did I file my tax return on time?

TFSAs & RRSPs Learn more about the differences and benefits of each.

Should you contribute to your RRSP or your TFSA? The decision can be taxing. The best strategy might be to contribute to both. Consider the table below before making your decision.

Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA)		Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP)
Minimum Age	<b>To open a TFSA you must:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be 18 years of age or older</li><li>• Have reached the age of majority in the province where you set up the account</li><li>• Be a Canadian resident</li></ul>	There is no minimum age to open an RRSP; however, you must have earned qualified income in the previous year to contribute and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be a Canadian resident, and</li><li>• Have a Social Insurance Number (SIN)</li></ul>
Maximum Age	As long as you meet the above requirements, there is no maximum age to contribute.	Contributions can be made until the end of the year in which you turn 71. After that point, you must convert your RRSP into a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) or an annuity.
Contributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contributions are NOT tax deductible.</li><li>• Annual contribution dollar limit is determined by the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA). For 2020, the maximum contribution limit is \$6,000 annually, plus any unused contribution room from previous years.*</li><li>• Unused contribution room can be carried forward indefinitely.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contributions are tax deductible.**</li><li>• Maximum contribution for 2019 is 18% of your previous year's earned income up to a maximum of \$26,500, plus any unused contribution room from previous years.</li><li>• Unused contribution room can be carried forward until the end of the year in which you turn 71, as above.</li></ul>
Withdrawals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Withdrawals are tax free.</li><li>• Withdrawals in one year will increase contribution room by the same amount in the following year.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Withdrawals are taxed as income.</li><li>• Withdrawals do not create additional contribution room.</li></ul>
Deadlines	There is no deadline for contributions to a TFSA, as the unused contribution room is carried forward into the next year. However, a withdrawal in any year does not increase the TFSA room until the following calendar year.	In order to receive a deduction on your 2019 tax return, contributions must be made by <b>March 2, 2020</b> .

A Scotiabank Investment Specialist can help you determine how each can help you achieve your goals.



**Brian Young, PFP**  
Investment Specialist and Financial Planner  
250-216-8159  
[brianjp.young@scotiabank.com](mailto:brianjp.young@scotiabank.com)

\* If you have never contributed to a TFSA, you can contribute up to \$69,500 for 2020. Contact CRA to confirm your available TFSA contribution room. \*\* Your RRSP deduction limit can be found on your most recent Notice of Assessment from the Canada Revenue Agency. The above chart provides highlights of TFSA and RRSPs. It is for information purposes only and is not intended to be investment or tax advice. Investors should consult a professional advisor for specific investment and tax advice. \*Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia, used under licence. Scotiabank includes The Bank of Nova Scotia and its subsidiaries and affiliates, including Scotia Securities Inc. As used in this document, "Investment Specialist and Financial Planner", "Scotiabank Investment Specialist" and "Financial Planner and Investment Specialist" refers to a Scotia Securities Inc. mutual fund representative or, in Quebec, a Group Savings Plan Dealer Representative who is also registered in the category of Financial Planner. Scotia Securities Inc. is a member of the Mutual Fund Dealers Association.



# Salt Spring's first baby of 2020

*Ida Emerald Snowdrop Gilbert*

*Born: Jan. 11, 12:37 p.m.  
in Duncan*

*Weight: 7 lb 14 oz*

*Parents: Charlotte Jones and  
Saeward Gilbert*

*Siblings: Isaiah, age 10*



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