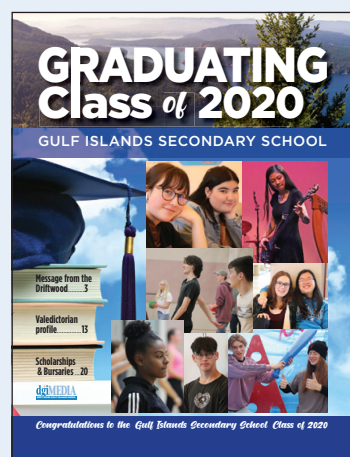
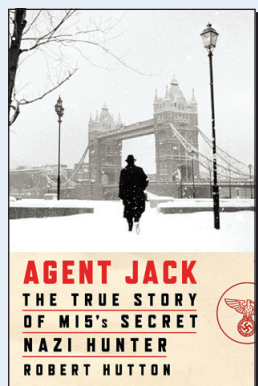


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8 Jean Panepinto creates Bonnie Hen cartoons



9 Former Salt Spring resident's life as a spy revealed

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PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

MILESTONE MOMENT: Sean Close accepts his diploma Monday morning as Gulf Islands Secondary School principal Lyall Ruehlen looks on during one of the graduation ceremonies held at the school gym on June 15 and 16. Students graduated in groups of around 10 and were limited to two guests each to ensure physical distancing requirements were met due to the coronavirus pandemic.

EDUCATION

SD64 ponders massive change

Loss of funding threatens school district programming

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands School District staff will be spending the summer analyzing options for changing how schools are configured in the district with the knowledge that decreasing enrolment and government funding pose a major challenge to operations.

School district superintendent Scott Benwell and secretary treasurer Jesse Guy presented a "scope of opportunity" document to the board of education last Wednesday. The board agreed the ideas presented were worthy of deeper analysis and directed staff to come back with a financial and operational feasibility study in September.

"I think it's really important to understand the challenge we do face," Benwell said, adding that keeping the doors open to public education in the district will require everyone's effort.

The opportunities to be explored include closing Salt Spring Middle School and changing elementary schools to cover grades K-7, and high school to grades 8-12.

A new high school program and outer island hub is proposed for Pender Island, which would serve students from Galiano, Mayne, Pender and Saturna islands in grades 8 and 9.

Under the proposal, all district students could choose between attending their senior high school years at Gulf Islands Secondary School on Salt Spring or at the Pender school.

Staff will also review the provision of French programs including French Immersion and create a sustainability framework for all special programs under the scope of opportunity. The district is not contemplating changing the four-day school week but has acknowledged academic success has not been optimal in recent years, so staff will be investigating how to deliver the best programming under that model.

The district is currently under funding protection since an enrolment audit in 2017 caused the Ministry of Education to immediately withdraw nearly \$700,000 in operational funding. Guy reported that

School District 64 had been receiving transfers based on higher student counts than it currently has, and schools were likewise configured to meet that higher student count. The all-time high was about 1,800 students. There are currently 1,440 students enrolled.

Guy explained the ministry's new funding model is set to reduce the SD64 budget by an additional \$1 to \$1.6 million, while data on current demographics suggests a continuing downward trend in students. She said the new configuration needs to support a budget that has the flexibility to absorb unusual events and circumstances, and also allows the district to make choices about what types of extras it can provide in addition to core education requirements.

"I firmly believe education is delivered best in a stable environment," Guy said.

Staff and trustees agreed the ideas presented incorporate much of the input collected over months of public engagement.

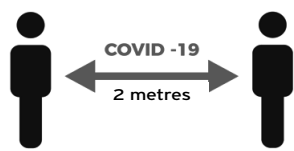
CONFIGURATION continued on 2

Zen Master Wolfgang says:
"Never tell a kleptomaniac a pun because they take things literally."

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Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **Chental and Trevor Wilson** from **Ganges, BC**, have applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Salt Spring Island, vicinity of Welbury Bay, Lot 21 of Lot 1, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan 17161**

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1414896**. Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9. Comments will be received by FLNRORD up to **July 27, 2020**. FLNRORD may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please visit the website at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/> for more information. Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development office in Nanaimo.

FIRE DISTRICT

Brinkworthy hall site confirmed

Committee to review past fire hall architectural drawings

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Fire Protection District moved a number of items forward to launch the new fire hall project into higher gear during a special business meeting held on June 8.

The property donated to the district next to Brinkworthy Estates has been officially fixed as the site for the new hall, as board of trustees chair Ron Lindstrom reported after the meeting. The board also decided to take architect drawings from the project that failed to win taxpayer support in 2013 as the starting point for an updated design, and agreed to hire a project planning coordinator.

Lindstrom explained the project committee wants to make use of past work because "time is of the essence" to get a new plan in place. The board is anticipating there may be government funding available in post-COVID-19 stimulus packages, and wants to have a shovel-ready project by the fall so they can be in the queue.

"It sounds like a very tight timeline, and it is, but if there is federal and provincial money to access we'd like to be able to do that," Lindstrom told the Driftwood.

A select group of committee representatives will seek to have one meeting with Johnston Davidson Architecture and Planning, the firm hired for the uncompleted project. Lindstrom

said the fire hall committee will be looking to bring the design into better alignment with community expectations while still fulfilling the fire department's operational needs.

The team will therefore be looking into how the square footage might be reduced by consolidating spaces where it makes sense, whether the building can incorporate less expensive structural components like prefabricated steel and how to achieve other cost efficiencies. They intend to produce a functional, no frills, flexible design that is environmentally conscious. The group will work through the architecture drawings based on those principles and report back to the committee.

"The old hall is wearing out really quickly. We have a lot of remedial work to do."

RON LINDSTROM
SSIFPD board chair

Transparency and early public engagement will be important to the project's success, Lindstrom said. With that view in mind, the board is hosting a community open house via Zoom next Wednesday, June 24 from 4 to 5 p.m. Lindstrom, FireWise consultant Ernie Polson and Salt Spring Fire Chief Arjuna George will speak as members of a panel, to be followed by time for community questions and input.

People can register to participate

through the project website, speakup-saltspring.ca.

Lindstrom said test drilling for water has now taken place at the Brinkworthy-adjacent site and the result confirmed groundwater is sufficient to meet the hall's potable water needs. The board will request that North Salt Spring Waterworks District allow a limited connection to supply a hydrant and interior sprinkler system.

The board also gave attention to the existing Ganges Fire Hall during its June 8 meeting. Trustees directed Chief George to work with Herold Engineering to bring the building up to a safer standard than it is now. Lindstrom said some needs are urgent and need to be addressed even if a new building is in the future.

"The old hall is wearing out really quickly. We have a lot of remedial work to do," Lindstrom said.

In other business last week, the board agreed to look at all three halls on the island as one system and to think about how that system might change if a new hall does get constructed.

The terms of reference were approved for a new committee to work on how to dispose of the downtown hall property. Representatives from groups such as the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, Salt Spring Farmers' Institute and the Capital Regional District will be invited to participate.

"The whole idea is to look at opportunities for the ultimate use of the hall," Lindstrom said.

The board's finance and audit committee will meanwhile be exploring different options for financing the new hall project.

Outer islands hub proposal creates concern

CONFIGURATION

continued from 1

But while many participants had supported the potential closing of the middle school, the proposal to send outer islands students to Pender for grades 8 and 9 caught parents off guard.

"The instinctual reaction is this is another us versus them, have and have-not situation," said Galiano trustee Shelley Lawson, recognizing many parents on her island are already worried about how the change would impact their children. The ability to join sports teams is one major concern, as some feel outer islands students wouldn't be given that chance if entering Gulf Islands Secondary School in Grade 10.

Lawson added that a successful transformation would depend on what programming would actually be made available at the Pender school, and said she hopes for "really juicy equitable opportunities."

Kadek Okuda, a teacher at Mayne Island School who grew up in the district and attended middle school on Mayne, said there could also be social and educational impacts to joining GISS later.

Benwell said those questions are important. Administrative staff want to take the time to explore the concerns people are raising.

Staff outlined multiple factors as to why a grades 8 to 12 high school for all district students hasn't been proposed at GISS. Guy explained it would require adding a third large water taxi to transport students for an annual cost of \$350,000. At the same time, the district loses "unique geographical factor" funding for the outer islands students whenever they attend school on Salt Spring.

Benwell added that climate action has been recognized as a concern in the district, and a third diesel-burning water taxi would increase the environmental footprint. A third water taxi could be an option anyway, he said, but that would mean taking \$350,000 from elsewhere, and that would probably impact employment.

As to why Pender was selected for the outer island hub when Mayne Island hosted a middle school in the past, Guy said the demographics strongly support the choice. As well, the Pender school is larger and better equipped. It was constructed to host high school as well as elementary school classes.

No changes to the district's configuration would take place until September 2021. Families will be able to provide feedback on the scope of opportunity document and on the feasibility study once it is produced. See sd64.bc.ca for more information.

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

JUNE 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
17	0104	3.0	9.8	21	0246	3.1	10.2
	0840	1.0	3.3		1043	0.3	1.0
WE	1637	2.7	8.9	SU	1918	3.3	10.8
ME	2010	2.5	8.2	DI	2343	2.9	9.5
18	0127	3.0	9.8	22	0319	3.1	10.2
	0907	0.8	2.6		1120	0.2	0.7
TH	1721	2.9	9.5	MO	1955	3.3	10.8
JE	2109	2.7	8.9	LU			
19	0151	3.0	9.8	23	0034	2.9	9.5
	0937	0.6	2.0		0358	3.0	9.8
FR	1802	3.1	10.2	TU	1200	0.2	0.7
VE	2204	2.8	9.2	MA	2032	3.3	10.8
20	0217	3.0	9.8	24	0132	2.8	9.2
	1008	0.4	1.3		0443	3.0	9.8
SA	1840	3.2	10.5	WE	1243	0.3	1.0
SA	2255	2.9	9.5	ME	2108	3.4	11.2

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CLIMATE ACTION

More voices wanted for climate plan survey

Online platform lets respondents create custom plan

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Almost 500 Salt Spring Islanders have completed the Climate Action Plan online survey since it was launched a month ago, but organizers hope to get even more input.

Bryan Young and Tarah Stafford are key members of the Transition Salt Spring committee steering the massive process of updating the island's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Young says it might be a bit of "stretch goal" to be aiming for 1,000 responses, but he and Stafford say getting opinions from as broad a range of residents as possible is critically important.

"We do not under any circumstances just want people who are already in the choir to be talking about this," said Stafford. "It needs to be everybody."

The survey — using an Ethelo.net platform and accessible at www.saltspringclimateactionplan.com — asks for opinions on topics ranging from transportation to food and agriculture

to forests and waste reduction. With the goal of reducing local greenhouse gas emissions by 50 per cent of 2007 levels by 2030 and a net-zero basis by 2050, the survey site asks "What do you think we can and should prioritize in the next 10 years to reach our goals?"

As respondents work their way through the questions and develop a custom climate action plan as they go, the program indicates whether or not their plan is workable and rates its difficulty level at the same time.

Stafford points to a question in the transportation section about increasing the number of electric vehicles on the island as an interesting example. Replacing 50 per cent of current gasoline-fuelled vehicles with electric ones by 2030 is rated five out of 10 in difficulty but "workable." Dropping that level to 25 per cent in the same period gets a difficulty rating of "four" and 75 per cent is a "six."

But Stafford stresses reality has a big part to play in climate change planning.

"We're not going to say we all have to get electric cars," said Stafford. "There's a whole bunch of people who can't afford or don't want or can't do it because of their work or something. Trying to find ways for everything

to be fair for everyone is a tricky balance. Working that out is the main thing we need to do because everybody needs to be included in this."

"We do not under any circumstances just want people who are already in the choir to be talking about this. It needs to be everybody."

TARAH STAFFORD
Climate Action Plan steering committee member

Stafford said the biggest climate-change concern expressed by respondents so far is wildfire.

"That might seem obvious, but it's not obvious to everybody," she said. "It can really inform what we do about policy."

That could mean creating a workforce that can clean up forest fire fuel, or purchasing a community wood chipper to deal with the collected debris.

Young said, "One of the things that is becoming clear is that for-

ests feel like they are the lynchpin in the whole thing and not because they are the prettiest thing that we want to see kept . . . but everything comes back to forests in terms of climate-change mitigation."

Landowners could also be incentivized through tax breaks or other means to maintain their forested acreages rather than selling their trees for their timber value.

In addition to the current online survey, the draft 80-page Climate Action Plan, containing some 250 recommendations, has been sent to more than 100 groups for their feedback.

"This consultation rivals, in scale and breadth and input, many local government types of consultation," said Young.

He noted that except for some administrative work required, everything is being done by volunteers. Some 30 people have been involved in writing various plan sections as part of working groups. As well, Catherine Griffiths and Nicholas Courtier have created a series of high-level climate-change maps.

Only \$20,000 of local government funding was acquired: \$15,000 in gas tax funding through CRD director Gary Holman and \$5,000 from the Islands Trust to create the maps, which

will then be given to the Trust.

Use of the Ethelo platform has been donated by Stafford's sister company eDemocracy.

"Tarah is the chief architect of this whole amazing process," said Young.

A handful of other communities across Canada have also benefitted from the Ethelo service, which has been supported by some national foundation funding.

While the level of survey response received to date is high, the committee still hopes to push the response number closer to 1,000. They feel a maximum of 7,000 people would be able to do the survey, so a 14 per cent response rate would feel extremely solid.

"We want to be able to show Peter [Grove] and Laura [Patrick] and Gary [Holman] — 'Look, do it. You have people on your side,'" said Young.

They also want more younger people to take the survey. At present, only five per cent of respondents are under 30.

"We really do want everyone's opinion," stressed Stafford. "It's so important that we are all in this together."

The initial deadline for survey responses was June 20, but Young said an extension to June 30 is being considered.

CELEBRATIONS

Ganges quiet for Canada Day

Physical distancing requirements make large gathering impossible

The Canada Day Show 'n' Shine and celebration at the Hydro Field will also not take place, being replaced by a virtual car show, music and other events on the saltspringcruisers.com website.

Local Salt Spring Cruisers members will also take a cruise around the island that day.

Salt Spring's traditional Canada Day fireworks show will not take place this year due to the impacts of COVID-19.

As explained in a statement released on June 9, the organizing partners said they do not see how it would be possible to follow the physical distancing guidelines set out by the provincial government while holding the event.

"This was not an easy decision to make, as it will be the first time in over 25 years that the community has not held a fireworks demonstration on Canada Day, but it is the right decision for our community and our organizations at this time. Thank you for your understanding."

Organizations that normally put on the Canada Day fireworks show and related events near the harbour are Thrifty Foods, Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue, the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, Harbour Authority of Salt Spring, TJ Beans, West of the Moon and the Tree House Cafe.

Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **Laura and Jeffrey Critchfield** from **San Francisco, CA**, have applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Salt Spring Island in the vicinity Ganges Harbour, LOT 2, DISTRICT LOTS 1 AND 20, NORTH SALT SPRING ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 41932**. The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1414938**. Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9. Comments will be received by FLNRORD up to **July 27, 2020**. FLNRORD may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please visit the website at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/> for more information. Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development office in Nanaimo.



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**TUESDAY JUNE 23, 2020
9:00AM TO 4:00PM**

The North Salt Spring Waterworks District will be shutting down the Maxwell Lake watermain to allow the operations crew to complete repairs on the system. The affected areas will include Shepherd Hills Road, Cranberry Road, Hundred Hills, Old Divide, Donore, Price Road, Beddis, Charlesworth, Reid Road and Bishops Walk. Customers in the affected areas may be without water or experience periods of low pressure and discoloration with a higher than normal chlorine smell. Ganges Village and surrounding area will not be affected but we ask that you limit use wherever possible between 9:00am and 4:00pm.

**North Salt Spring Waterworks District
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OPINION



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

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



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EDITORIAL

Survey savvy

While Salt Spring residents have been focused on the immediate COVID-19 crisis, one group of islanders has been hard at work dealing with a longer-term “emergency.”

About 30 dedicated volunteers have been toiling away on updating Salt Spring Island's Climate Action Plan through a Transition Salt Spring-led committee. A draft document has now been created and is being reviewed by more than 100 different private and public groups, which forms one part of the consultation process. The other part involves individual islanders completing an online survey using a platform called Ethelo. The link is on the saltspringclimateactionplan.com website home page.

THE ISSUE:

Climate Action Plan survey

WE SAY:

More voices are better

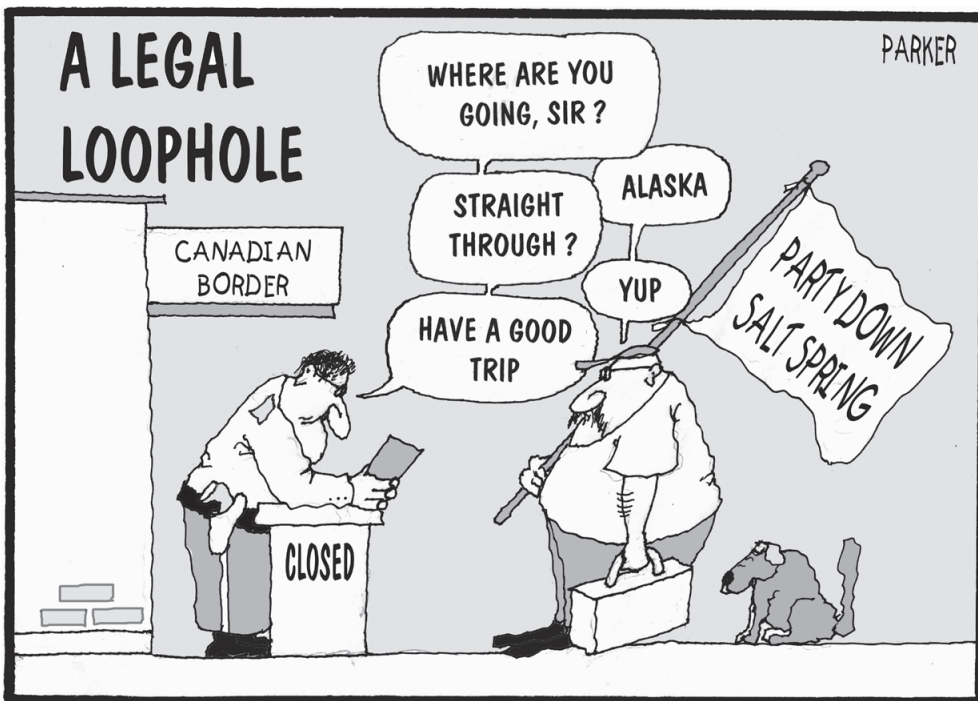
plan taking shape on screen and see where their priorities align compared to others who have done the survey. The process is enlightening and even fun.

About 500 people have taken the plunge to date, but organizers want even more opinions to work with. It's safe to assume that highly motivated individuals have participated so far, but it is vitally important that people not involved in environmental or climate-change causes provide input as well. Executive committee member Tarah Stafford couldn't stress that point enough in a recent Driftwood interview, and she's right. For any plan to succeed or meaningful actions to be taken requires buy-in from those impacted. If no one is willing to increase their use of public bus service, for example, there's not much point in directing major resources towards that effort.

As well, the final plan will have more impact on those it is intended for — local politicians, in particular, as well as higher levels of government — if more people have been involved in its creation and endorsed its recommended actions.

At present the completion deadline is June 20, with an extension to the end of the month anticipated but not yet confirmed. This plan will impact everyone's life in some way in the future. The time to add your vision to that future is now.

Ample background material is provided for each section, and it's not necessary to have knowledge about all areas or to answer all of the questions. The format emphasizes the need to find a balance between feasibility and impact, and space for comments is allotted. Respondents can view “their” climate action



Reform policing in Canada

BY JAN SLAKOV

Imagine you were concerned about the mental health of a friend or family member and asked the police to go check in on them, and the person ended up shot to death.

This can help us realize why some Indigenous or other racialized people have not wanted to call on the police for help, even when they have serious crimes to deal with.

Given such serious problems, does it make sense to climb on the “defund the police” bandwagon? For me, the answer is both “yes” and “no.”

“No,” because some of the problems arise when police forces have inadequate resources for the jobs they are asked to do.

“Yes,” because much of what needs to be done to make our communities safer could be done more effectively with less reliance on policing. (Examples: more social inclusion and mental health supports such as Salt Spring's Art Jam program; safe, affordable housing; overhauling drug addiction approaches, etc.)

At a deeper level, the slogan “defund the police” is dangerously simplistic. Racism (and

VIEWPOINT

other “isms”) permeate our whole society, not just the police. And if we hope for a healthier justice system we need to look at underlying problems. How can we expect a fair justice system when our economic system is so terribly damaging?

We know that Canada's top 100 CEOs earn, on average, 171 times as much as an average worker. It's hard to imagine the situation could be getting worse, but it is: Since 1990 the collective wealth of billionaires has skyrocketed by 1,130 per cent, and the percentage of taxes paid by the wealthiest has declined. Besides economic inequality, our system is too reliant on pillaging the earth and the world's poorest people. Efforts towards racial and social justice must be linked to efforts to restore ecological health, to protect human rights, to create a healthy economy, to demilitarize our society, to deepen our commitment to fundamental rights, to nonviolence and other core values.

Addressing problems with policing is a key part

of the movement we need to build. A good number of well-informed people, including author Paul Palango, police psychologist Mike Webster, retired judge Wallace Craig and MP Elizabeth May, have warned that the way the RCMP is structured is dangerous. It is a paramilitary force which can too easily come under the control of politically powerful interests. It fails to adequately protect its members and our society.

Despite the structural problems, among its members are some of the finest people one could hope to have as police officers. We owe it to them, and to ourselves, to work to reform policing in Canada. That may require disbanding the RCMP and creating totally new policing organizations. How about a group that included police (at least retired police) and other citizens who are prepared to work for a healthier justice system? We might call ourselves PEOPLES: “PolicE, Others, Pursuing Life-Enhancing Solutions.” Just coming up with a good name could be fun, challenging and helpful!

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Will you miss the
Canada Day
fireworks?

☐ Yes ☐ No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you concerned
about freighters in
the Gulf Islands?

99 199
NO YES

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com
before Tuesday at noon or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 2 p.m.

OPINION { QUOTE OF THE WEEK: }

"We really do want everyone's opinion. It's so important that we are all in this together."

TARAH STAFFORD, CLIMATE ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE

SALT SPRING SAYS

WE ASKED: *What is something your father taught you that you value highly?*

MIYA DE ROOS



My dad taught me how to make really cool stuff in the shop; how to use scrap metal and turn it into art.

MARKUS WENZEL



My father always said that it will serve me better to discuss ideas and concepts, rather than talk about material things and people.

JULIA WAGNER



The importance of the long game. Nobody's perfect all the time, but we all have amazing qualities that can shine if we respect each other, and learn and grow together.

CICELA MÅNSSON



My father is an extremely hardworking man. He's also always willing to help. For math questions or building shelves, he'd drop everything. I never waited.

LAURA DAFOE



My dad was rooted in his values of equality. He was accepting, calm, funny and generous. I strive towards these qualities. He taught me to celebrate life.

LETTERS to the editor

Talking spreads virus

As the COVID-19 lockdown eases, we've had a warning of how hazardous it is to mingle with others. Recently, a family gathering of 30 people in the Fraser Health region left 15 of the party-goers infected. Was it the hugging, the handshaking or the food sharing? It's hard to say, but there was undoubtedly another factor at play.

The New England Journal of Medicine has published a video wherein fluorescent lighting is used to show how much spittle flies from our mouths when we speak. That finding, along with other research, prompted the World Health Organization and the B.C. Centre for Disease Control to recommend that everyone wear a mask in public when physical distancing is difficult to achieve. According to the BCCDC, "masks act as a barrier and help stop the spread of droplets from a person's mouth and nose when talking, laughing, yelling, singing, coughing or sneezing."

Here on Salt Spring, many are becoming complacent just when

continued vigilance is required. Our population, because of its demographics, is more vulnerable than average, so we should be taking all recommended precautions. This includes wearing a mask when we enter shops, ride the bus, or move about in crowded situations. And, since most masks are only partially effective, wouldn't it also make sense to minimize talking (and singing!) in public spaces?

J. HIGHSTED,
SALT SPRING

Abandon TUP bylaw

The Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society is very concerned that this and previous Local Trust Committees have been expanding density and development on Salt Spring with only cursory consideration for the amount of water available on this island. Now they are considering another such bylaw.

In 2013, a Local Trust Committee designated 1,598 residential properties where in-house suites could be occupied full time, effectively doubling the density

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

on those properties. Earlier this year, a bylaw was approved designating 411 properties where cottages could be occupied full time when previously only seasonal occupancy was permitted. That makes a total of over 2,000 potential residences added to the island, despite water shortages already occurring in some areas.

The latest proposed increase is draft Bylaw 471, which would allow temporary use permits for an unlimited number of additional cottages, trailers and other wheeled vehicles in most zones across the island. In reality, once such a right is granted, it is very unlikely to be taken away, meaning that bylaws will be passed to make the "temporary" residence permanent.

The proposed bylaw has what looks like protections, such as proof of water, but these are only guidelines not requirements. The bylaw would allow trustees to set requirements on a case-by-case basis. Bylaw 471 relies on neighbours to object to applications for additional residences in locations or under circumstances that are problematic. But people are reluctant to offend their neighbours

and should not be put in such an untenable position. It is the responsibility of the LTC, not neighbours, to fully assess such issues.

Our official community plan requires that growth be tailored to our island's ecological carrying capacity, which includes the water supply. Any increase in zoning to allow more growth should be directed to areas where adequate water is available. This information may be available soon.

This proposed bylaw is meant to provide affordable housing that we definitely do need. But such additions to the allowed development on the island should be directed to areas where water is known to be sufficient not only for the development being proposed at a particular time but also for future development of appropriately zoned properties in the vicinity. Otherwise we will be creating the potential for serious problems and conflicts over a finite resource.

MAXINE LEICHTER,
PRESIDENT,
SSI WATER PRESERVATION SOCIETY

MORE LETTERS continued on 6

May kindness, not denial, become contagious

"I've been laid off," he said, and I breathed a sigh of relief because I could see he was focused on what happened earlier that afternoon instead of why I was late getting home.

We were a month into our marriage and I was returning from a weekly teachers' TGIF at which I'd guzzled two margaritas, the first having tasted so-o-o good. The hostess plied me with coffee and I kept myself in the slowest lane, physically distant from the other vehicles. By the time I got home, my husband was sitting on the top step looking rather depressed. I knew the first half of his story already; it had been rumoured the government might cancel its contract and his friends were finding positions elsewhere. But he hadn't bothered: the firm's product was essential, and so was his position. Now, seemingly out of nowhere, he was unemployed.

Meanwhile, I was writing my master's thesis and working as a teacher's aide. I'd put myself through university and was still keeping track of expenses so I could see where to cut costs. We substituted our once-weekly dinners at posh restaurants with picnics. Instead of cancelling an elaborate dinner party, we invited friends to a beach BBQ featuring hot dogs. Soon we were living within my income, banking his EI, and he was working full time on his master's degree. Plus, we were having fun!

Perhaps like you, I was once in denial about COVID-19. My stepdaughter and I were planning a May visit to some cousins in Georgia and North Carolina. In between, we would choose from an array of touristy treks and adventures. Come February and cruise ship crises, I heard myself exclaiming, "But do we want to get



Helen Hinchliff
AGING WITH
GRACE

stuck on a paddleboat somewhere up the Savannah River and never get off again?"

Denial disappeared!

My North Carolina cousin stays home religiously, and we phone each other frequently. Last night she announced one of her friends "hates their governor because he won't let gyms reopen. She can't wait for things to go back to the way they were before."

I'd guess North Carolina's governor is following his chief medical officer's advice; if so, they were in denial longer than Dr. Bonnie Henry and Premier John Horgan. North Carolina has 800,000 more residents than B.C., but they've had over 10 times the number of COVID cases and more than five times the deaths as B.C.

Here's a little secret: I'll bet Dr. Bonnie isn't foreseeing things "going back to the way they were." And here's another: We'll find ways to make them better than before!

"Write a column about random acts of kindness," Roger entreated as he thrust a perfect pink rose into my hand. His message delivered, he smiled, turned, and walked the half-block down the street without another word. Inspired, I sat down at my computer. Then Jocelyn and Sylvia walked by, a perfect picture in pink and purple. I opened my window to tell them so. Then Judy walked up, having just delivered roses to Don and

Nancy. We four chatted, safely distanced, but much closer than last year, thanks in part to Catherine, our self-appointed but universally acclaimed and praised social convenor, who organizes our Friday cul-de-sac gatherings. All this social life within my immediate field of vision!

When we started gathering eight weeks ago, Catherine enforced social distancing with a cattle prod. Actually, it was an old flag pole and some of us could have sworn it was 10 feet long. She'd measure dimensions of distance for us to maintain between our folding chairs. But we don't hate her for it; we love her. And we all look forward to our gathering each week.

And think of this! Two months ago, I was so scared of Zoom I was having hissy fits. This past week I dialled into a meeting of the Pacific Mountain Region of the United Church, one of 170 who attended. Not only did we learn United Church policy and practices regarding how to re-open (or not), but we also heard former United Church moderator Gary Paterson give one of the most cogent and inspiring talks I've yet to hear on the subject. I paraphrase in part:

"COVID-19 is an opportunity for us to reset ourselves with a more collective vision of what it means to be one body and one earth. We have an incredible gift to offer, and that is to love one another and care for the well-being of one another. Instead of aspiring to self-actualization; we should practise social actualization."

Sylvia reminded me of late Driftwood columnist Alex Mitchell's habit of doing a special act of kindness every Friday. May hope, peace, joy and love be more contagious than any virus could ever be.

author@HelenHinchliff.com



Send your submissions to
newsgulfislandsdriftwood.com.

Rants

To all those golfers and others who think it is alright to rant at, yell at or berate a server: grow up, you are old enough to know better. Apologies are in order. Jewel Eldstrom

Roses

The prettiest bouquet ever to the staff and volunteers at the pub-

lic library for making their "take-out" service possible. For those of us bookworms, opening our brown bags of books feels a lot like Christmas!

So many thanks to Cameron and Jason the wonder-chippers who are part of the fire department's chipping program. I am so grateful for the speedy work you did in

making a burn pile into chips! Also to Warren, the chief of the chipper . . . beautiful fragrant roses to all of you who have made this happen for us this month. Kim

A beautiful bouquet of spring flowers and virtual hugs to each and every one of the following people, who at the beginning of the coronavirus lockdown so kindly

offered to get groceries, etc. for me: Wayne, Maureen, Gerri, Rob, Cherie, David, Tristan and Rita. Jill Will . . .

A big toilet bowl full of roses to Dave and the crew for opening the bathrooms at Home Hardware. Many thanks from us seniors, who love to shop but can't wait. Helga Bagnell

Race intersects all social justice fights

BY SHARYN CARROLL

The lynching of George Floyd has brought about a reckoning that has been in the making for a long time.

Not only are we looking at our neighbours to the south in the midst of an identity crisis but we have finally decided to take a moment and look inward, only to discover that we too are flawed.

Racism is alive and well in Canada. It was built into our systems the moment the first colonial foot stepped onto these shores. Some of it is in-your-face overt racism, and I can tell you I have experienced a lot of that (yes, even on Salt Spring), but most of it is the "death by a thousand cuts" kind, the micro aggressions that wear you down day-by-day, and leave you second-guessing most of your interactions and eventually lead to not always trusting yourself.

After the Obama elections, we Canadians watched the U.S. as though we were watching an older brother who is always messing up, telling others how to live their lives and is often a bit of a bully, finally grow up and we were proud. The hope that stretched both sides of the border did not manifest in the way most coloured folk wanted. Instead, things continued pretty much as they had before. Black and brown bodies were still used as target practice for police and good old boys, and marginalized people were still at risk for adverse outcomes. It was not until COVID-19 that discrepancies in equality faced by ethnic communities became glaringly obvious and were no longer easy to brush over. Black and African people, who make up 12 per cent of the U.S. population, have so far accounted for 62 per cent of COVID deaths, with Indigenous folks coming in a close sec-

INDEPTH

ond with 32 per cent deaths. These statistics make it difficult for folks to continue to use coded language like "identity politics" or "political correctness" when speaking about Black or Indigenous people of colour. Here in Canada, we decided COVID data by race was not important enough to add to our stats. It's a grave mistake that I believe would have shown figures similar to the U.S.

When I was young and living in downtown Toronto I belonged to a Black dance troupe. We had a groupie, a white woman from New York. She was a really lovely woman and we were ever so glad to have her support. At the end of the night our troupe would hide in the bushes while she stood on the street corner to hail a cab which would not have stopped for us. We were barely in our 20s and did not feel safe walking home. At some point I got fed up with hiding and stood beside Mary, but eventually I had to go back into the bushes because getting home safely was more important than my pride.

Growing up in a world where the only place you see yourself reflected is as an athlete, a dancer, musician or slapped across the front pages of newspapers due to criminal acts, while at the same time bits and pieces of your culture are appropriated and others shunned, teased or mocked can leave one feeling confused and displaced.

The first weeks of the global protests I hardly slept. Plagued with remembered trauma from racist incidents that

I have lived through, afraid that the movement would peter out. Watching brown bodies being beaten, simply because they were asking for equality, evoked a tornado of emotions that I know so many of us are feeling, especially people of colour. The killing of another Black man or woman is no surprise to folks on our side of the skin-shade spectrum, which is the saddest part of all.

But there is new hope I have never seen before nor expected to see in my lifetime. If we truly want to save our planet we are going to have to dismantle the systemic racism and white supremacy that still exists. There is no moving forward without this. Race intersects all of our social justice fights. If you care about any form of social justice you too will be out there fighting for equality for all of us.

Brown bodies are not seeking revenge but rather justice and equality, because when we do better, everyone will.

The writer has lived on Salt Spring for 19 years and is a feminist activist and a community organizer.

Black Lives Matter Rally

People are invited to come out on Saturday, June 20 at 1 p.m. to Centennial Park to show support for the BLM movement on Salt Spring Island. Due to COVID-19 it is recommended that individuals from separate homes stand six feet or two metres apart from each other and wear a mask during the event.

Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **Kevin and Janet Ross** from **Fulford Harbour, BC**, have applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Salt Spring Island in the vicinity of Fulford Harbour, LOT 9, SECTION 41, SOUTH SALT SPRING ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 12776**. The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1414986**. Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9. Comments will be received by FLNRORD up to **July 27, 2020**. FLNRORD may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please visit the website at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/> for more information. Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development office in Nanaimo.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 5

PPE limits

Now that social isolation requirements are loosening up we have received a number of requests for personal protective equipment from the community.

Unfortunately, the gowns, face shields and unused raw materials for manufacturing are part of the project that was undertaken specifically for healthcare workers, first responders and predefined community services at high risk. Therefore they are not available to other members of the community by donation or sale.

We appreciate the concern people have with safety at this time, but these supplies need to be kept for a potential second wave of COVID-19 to ensure healthcare and first response can stay robust.

We have used the BC Centre for Disease Control guidelines for our distribution. Therefore, we advise that anyone who has questions should refer to the BCCDC and

WorkSafeBC websites, and their professional association for direction.

SSI RURAL & REMOTE DIVISION OF FAMILY PRACTICE, AND SS COMMUNITY HEALTH SOCIETY Concerned

My deep concern for our Cedar Lane area community is the availability to get water, as you can see by the sign posted and erected by the Capital Regional District in our neighbourhood. The province of B.C. itself is concerned by our water situation even without proposed activities at "The Cottages."

Surely it is clear why our community is concerned. For the Pitchfork Social group alone, The Cottages say there will be 400 people. The Farmers' Institute and the Fulford Hall have been designed for such events with all the needed facilities. Why in the world put a big event in a rural residential area with no facilities for it and a serious water situation?

ALLAN HORSWILL,
CEDAR LANE

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Commit to local farmers while choice still exists

BY MICHAEL ABLEMAN

I found the first ripe tomato yesterday. There it was amongst thousands of plants inside a plastic-covered tunnel house cowering, appearing almost embarrassed to be first in a miserably cold spring season when nothing resembling a tomato or pepper or melon should even survive let alone ripen.

The world is on fire, protests and uprisings rage around us, would-be dictators try to dominate and subsume even the most entrenched “democracies,” a global pandemic has taken the lives of hundreds of thousands, economies stumble and stagger, and blatant inequality and racism becomes more obvious by the day.

But that glimpse of one bright orange globe in a vast sea of green gave me hope.

This year it has not been easy for me to get up each day and do the work of preparing fields, planting and cultivating food for this community. Yes, the weather has made me want to scream, but weather is a constant in farming and we always find creative ways to survive its unpredictability.

It's the human and marketing elements of our work that have been most challenging: the uncertainty of how we will distribute our food, the marginal economic environment, the challenge of communicating the day-to-day realities that we face to those who buy and consume our food, the need we have for real commitment from more people in our local community.

This spring as many of us tried to find new footing while the world twisted and turned upside down, we witnessed an outpouring of interest in all things local, especially for food and farming. For many consecutive weeks the front page of the Driftwood posted a slogan “Support Your Local Farmers” with an interior piece profiling a different local grower in each issue. Many farmers reported an initial flurry of interest in their products, and produce box programs like the one we initiated at Foxglove Farm were overwhelmed with inquiries and participants. After much effort to establish safe protocols, the Tuesday Farmers Market opened in late April as an “essential service.”

Pleasure, especially when it comes to food, is a far greater motivator for change than guilt will ever be. I realized long ago that if I could just grow the best tomato or melon or pepper, words would be unnecessary. But sometimes you just have to say it like you see it.

How is it possible after all the talk about the importance of local food and farmers that out of 11,000 island residents only a few hundred show up at the Tuesday Farmers Market? While the produce sections of our local supermarkets are packed with shoppers filling their carts with produce grown in California or Mexico or who knows where, food grown by unknown hands in unknown places in ways we do not

want to know, local growers are returning home from the farmers market with unsold product.

I've heard people say it is about price, but we've done the comparison and in spite of the stereotype that some islanders have that the farmers market is more expensive, it is just not true, especially if you take into account the dramatic difference in quality between island-grown food and that which has been shipped in from somewhere else. Do the math yourself, dig deeper and ask yourself what the social, ecological and food-quality costs are of an industrial food system that brings us food we think is “cheap” but that we pay for in hidden ways many times after we leave the checkout counter — in our health, in the health of the planet and by those whose hands are doing the work.

What if the pandemic we are still emerging from is just a dress rehearsal? What if the trucks stopped arriving with produce from California, if we really needed to rely on the handful of people on this island we call farmers?

As the world has been forced to slow down, and all of the racing about in a blind quest for more just stops, we have an opportunity.

In 1989, almost overnight, the island nation of Cuba lost its supply of basic foodstuffs, agricultural chemicals, seeds, machines and more from the former Soviet Union. An entire nation was poised to starve. Cuba's response was remarkable. They elevated individuals who had been studying organic agriculture to the highest positions in government. Cuba enlisted everyone into the essential work of farming and they did it using organic methods. The result was one of the most inspiring national agricultural models on the planet. But Cuba did not convert their food system to more sustainable methods because it was hip or because it was healthier or because it was better for the environment, they did it because they had to.

What if we could make the commitment as an island to really support our local farmers while we still have the choice? I'm not



MICHAEL ABLEMAN

talking about lip service or slogans or newspaper articles, I'm talking about real on-the-ground support like attending the farmers market every week, like signing up and staying with a produce box program, like acknowledging and supporting our supermarkets when they buy from local growers, and also by growing more food at home for ourselves. It is true that the capacity of local growers right now is fractional compared with our island population and the volume of food needed, but as local support increases local food production will surely follow.

All of us in some way have been impacted by the changes the world is now going through. Getting back to some mythic golden “normal” would be a terrible loss. What is this crisis really telling us? What can we learn from it? How do we each respond? How do we take better care of each other? As the world has been forced to slow down, and all of the racing about in a blind quest for more just stops, we have an opportunity.

If the ferries ceased to operate and we were left to depend solely on our island neighbours, what would we really need and who do we want to be stranded with? I put my faith in those who know how to use their hands — to make shelter, grow food, fix stuff, and those who can design and inspire and create. I want to surround myself with farmers and bakers, cobblers and mechanics and cooks, with machinists and wood workers, and, yes, also with healers and philosophers, painters and poets and musicians. And just as I work hard to support the biodiversity on my farm, I want to be surrounded with a biodiversity of people in colour, sexual orientation, culture and belief. This is what makes a whole community.

Each of us is like that small ripe golden cherry tomato emerging out of a long spring slog of cold and grey and wet, rising up to show ourselves, expressing our full glory during the most inhospitable of times.

See you at the Tuesday Farmers Market at Centennial Park.

The writer grows food at Foxglove Farm on Mount Maxwell and is the author of five books.

Land Act:

Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **Steve Fleck and Kara Lynn Spratt** from **Vancouver, BC**, have applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Mayne Island in the vicinity of Crane Point**. LOT 146, SECTION 6, MAYNE ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 23981

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1414993**.

Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9.

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COVID-19 IN BC



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ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

COVID-19 ART

Pandemic prompts hen cartoon

Bonnie Hen series sent to
Dr. Henry

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Jean Panepinto is one of those people who has used extra time at home over the past few months to do something creative.

Panepinto is used to getting out and doing things, but being in an older demographic, she and her husband kept to self-isolation except for the occasional essential trip. With little else to do, her sense of whimsy was sparked by the flock of chickens on her neighbour's

Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **Robert Douglas Foreman & William Paul Foreman** from **Richmond, BC**, have applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Mayne Island in the vicinity of Paddon Point, LOT 6, SECTION 9, MAYNE ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 15114**

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1414997**. Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9. Comments will be received by FLNRORD up to **July 27, 2020**. FLNRORD may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

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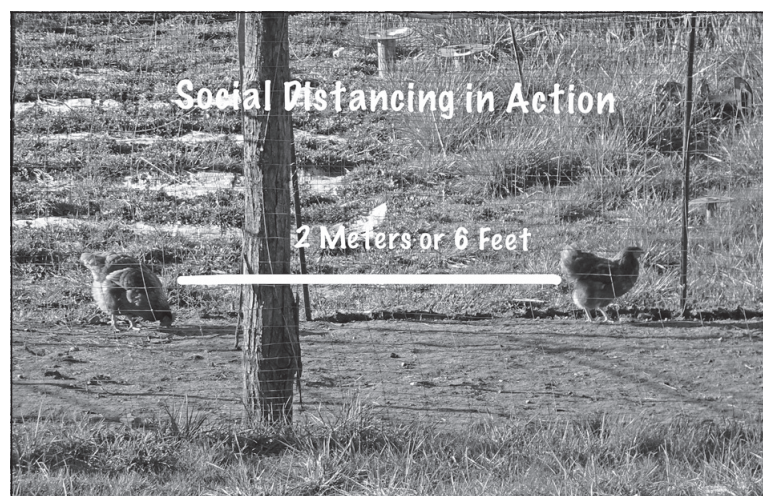
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IMAGES COURTESY JEAN PANEPINTO

Two of Jean Panepinto's cartoons in The Hen Diaries series, which was inspired by the artist's observations of a neighbouring flock during "lockdown."

property. She's now produced an entire book of cartoon-captioned photos with a pandemic theme titled The Hen Diaries and a starring character named Bonnie Hen.

"Being a member of the Salt Spring Photo Club, I couldn't resist taking their photograph and one day a cartoon popped into my head. I sent it to a few friends and suddenly the hens had a fan club. More cartoons were created and soon it was almost a daily event," Panepinto explained.

"Dr. Bonnie Henry was on the TV daily with her advice on social distancing and masks so one hen was named Bonnie Hen with appropriate cartoons on her recommendations. Then one friend asked 'where are her shoes?' and another cartoon was born."

Panepinto created on-topic cartoons that reference social distancing, Henry's mantras and, yes, the health officer's sense of style.

When restaurants were permitted to reopen, she made a cartoon warning the chickens they'd better lay more eggs or

risk going into the deep fryer.

"Creating the cartoons was a fun distraction during the quiet time we had during the height of the pandemic and hopefully it brought a smile to my friends too," Panepinto said.

Since Panepinto regularly puts together photo books of her images she thought it would be fun to make a collection of the pandemic cartoons.

She ordered a limited edition set featuring 25 cartoons and sent the books as gifts to some of the hens' loyal followers in Canada, the U.S. and the U.K. She also gave one of the limited-edition copies to the farmer who owns the flock and sent one to Dr. Henry, along with a card and a letter.

While Panepinto had not heard from Henry as of last week, she hopes the gift lands well.

"I think eventually I might hear back from her, but I'm sure she has other things to do," she said. "I'm hoping she gets a chuckle out of it."

ISLAND LIFE

SALT SPRING INN
Congratulations to the Grads of 2020!

BOOK REVIEW

Spy's tale bared in Agent Jack

Eric Roberts spent final years on Salt Spring

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

For a small community, Salt Spring has often had surprisingly strong connections to matters of world importance — and the peaceful island environment can attract big players in the arts, politics and beyond who want to spend their latter years in quiet.

Perhaps one of the most undercover influencers to retire here was Eric Roberts, who brought his family over from the UK in 1956. As the Driftwood reported in 2014, documents released by the British National Archives revealed Roberts as “Jack King,” the key military intelligence agent responsible for uncovering and diverting pro-Nazi activity in England during the Second World War.

Roberts’ role with MI5 is now part of the historical record, but the regular public can get a better sense of his extraordinary work thanks to journalist Robert Hutton. Hutton’s book *Agent Jack: The True Story of MI5’s Secret Nazi Hunter* is a well-rounded account that explores how MI5 developed its counter-espionage branch and how Roberts got involved in that work. The research begins but does not end with the declassified documents and sound recordings. Hutton unveils the surprising fact that many British citizens were willing to betray their own country to the Nazis and shows the lengths Roberts and his superiors went to ensure their activities didn’t achieve the desired results.

Roberts was only 50 years old when he brought his family — wife Audrey and children Max, Peter and Crista — to Canada after finishing his spy career. He was a frequent contributor to the Driftwood as a letter-writer up until his death in 1972 at age 65. (He published his book

Salt Spring Saga with Driftwood founding publisher Woody Fisher.) Other than that he didn’t make much of a splash in the community.

Roberts was from a low-income family and didn’t attend the schools that were the main signal of class and privilege in the English society of his day. He started off his working life as a low-level bank clerk and did not enjoy the work, which is why he was happy to accept a side job infiltrating the communist and fascist groups that were operating in the UK in the 1930s. His unassuming personality gave no hint of the very dangerous work he performed in posing as a Gestapo agent. But as Hutton demonstrates, it was that very nature that made Roberts an ideal spy. He was excellent at winning people’s trust and at gently coercing them to follow his lead.

Hutton explains that after Britain entered war with Germany, MI5 was initially concerned with locating a network of German spies embedded in British society — an organized “fifth column” that would rise up if the invading army arrived. Intelligence officials eventually determined that no such network existed. However, there were locals who admired the Germans and were willing to commit sabotage or pass on sensitive information about military sites and technology.

“While it was true that MI5 hadn’t found any evidence of the feared Fifth Column, it did keep finding people who wanted to be Fifth Columnists,” Hutton writes. Roberts and his handlers therefore decided “if the Fifth Column didn’t exist, perhaps they should set it up.”

Some of the people that Roberts uncovered had one or more German parents and were unhappy with their treatment in Britain. Others were strongly anti-Semitic and/or longtime supporters of homegrown fascist groups. Many admired the Nazi capacity for “order” and felt they would be better governed

by Germany.

The would-be traitors had varying levels of intelligence, motivation and potential follow-through, but there was no doubt some of them could have been extremely dangerous. Hutton describes how even Roberts was shocked by one smart young woman from Brighton who was ready to become a German spy just an hour after meeting “Jack King.”

A few months later, “she handed Roberts four hand-drawn maps showing the location of targets in Brighton that she’d picked for the Luftwaffe. They included the fire station, ammunition dumps, places where tanks were concealed and the Army Records Office — where 600 women worked.” Another woman was ready to pass on information about experiments she’d heard of, which turned out to be a top-secret project to build the first airplane with a jet engine.

The Jack King operation was so clandestine that MI5 made sure it wasn’t mentioned in their reports to then-prime minister Winston Churchill, in case he didn’t approve. And even after the war ended, the English Nazi-supporters never found out the truth.

Aside from meticulous research, one of Hutton’s great strengths is his storytelling. Facts are often offset by a dry sense of humour. Chapter openings generally set the scene as if narrating a high-quality thriller-novel. The book includes accounts of known historical figures like Victor Rothschild — the titled Jewish heir to a gigantic banking fortune who based an anti-espionage camp at his manor estate — and charismatic spy manager Maxwell Knight. Hutton also gets into the back stories of those people Roberts was working against, and provides a fulsome overview of the sociopolitical environment in which all this was taking place.

Agent Jack is distributed in Canada by Raincoast Books and is available through Salt Spring Books.

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Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **Grover Turnbow Wickersham** from **Palo Alto, CA**, has applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Saltspring Island in the vicinity of Ganges Harbour, LOT 20, DISTRICT LOT 1, NORTH SALT SPRING ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 16652**.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1408077**.

Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9. Comments will be received by FLNRORD up to **July 27, 2020**. FLNRORD may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

Please visit the website at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/> for more information. Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development office in Nanaimo.

Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **Rob and Marilyn Fussey** from **Maple Ridge, BC**, have applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Mayne Island vicinity of Campbell Bay, LOT 4, SECTION 10, MAYNE ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 15027**.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1414866**.

Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9. Comments will be received by FLNRORD up to **July 27, 2020**. FLNRORD may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

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YOUTH ARTS

Mobile youth media fest rolls to Mahon Hall

Outdoor screening set to broadcast this Friday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Youth-created art is the focus of a unique screening event taking place outside Mahon Hall this Friday, where audience members will have the chance to enjoy short films, photographs, animations, digital art and music — all broadcast from the back of a van.

Throwing Light is a 50-minute program of diverse and original youth content, featuring 19 artists aged 10 to 20. The program comes to the island via the Space Blanket Society, a youth-led/artist-run collective based in Victoria.

Emily Jarvis Goodden, an artist and musician who recently taught at Gulf Islands Secondary School and is now at the Pacific School of Innovation and Inquiry, is one of the founding directors, along with musician Kathryn Calder of the New Pornographers and artist and curator Doug Jarvis. Their mandate is to support youth members to meet, make, curate, exhibit and perform arts by their own direction.

"Right now we have a self-determined board of people that have been really involved and a core group of youth members. We just hope it keeps growing," Goodden said.

Since the pandemic hit, the adult mentors have been working with youth through online platforms. Youth members helped with the grant-writing

process and were involved in all the steps necessary to produce the Throwing Light show. A call for submissions attracted artists from as far away as Winnipeg. Salt Spring filmmakers Amelia McCluskey and Jo Gaffney are also on the program.

While the society's original plan had been to locate a physical arts space and a government grant had been secured as seed funding, the pandemic called for innovation.

A mobile broadcast by van that could travel between venues and keep to outdoor spaces came out of the post-COVID world but may have a more permanent role.

"We were looking at this as a fun alternative, but now we're thinking buying a van might be the way to go,"

said Goodden, who is taking driver duties for this run.

The mobile show premiered outside Monarch Furnishings on June 12 and came off without a hitch, despite some light rain. It will travel to two more venues in Victoria before closing the festival run on Salt Spring.

Audience members are asked to bring their own lawn chairs if possible. There is a 50-person limit at each screening and social distancing practices will be in effect.

People who would like to attend are asked to let the society know by email to spaceblanketsociety@gmail.com to help with planning. The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Find the society's Instagram page at [@space_blanket_society](https://www.instagram.com/space_blanket_society).

Land Act:

Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **James Gamble** from **Saltspring Island, BC**, have applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Saltspring Island in the vicinity of Sansum Narrows, LOT 11 SECTION 20 RANGE 2 WEST NORTH SALT SPRING ISLAND COWICHAN DISTRICT PLAN EPP2134**. The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1414941**.

Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9. Comments will be received by FLNRORD up to **July 27, 2020**. FLNRORD may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

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GARDENING

Chicory and endive plants easy to grow

Sow Belgian endive or witloof now

BY LINDA GILKESON

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Why not try growing something new like chicory or endive?

This confusing group of plants has found its way into more of my garden over the last few years. Perhaps it is my changing taste that appreciates the crisp, slightly bitter leaves in salads. I love the ornate, curly leaves of escarole in summer, the vivid purplish-red radicchio leaves in December and the pale-yellow buds of forced witloof starting in January.

The endives are annuals, grown for summer and fall harvests. Examples are escarole and frisée. Most form open loose-leaved plants, somewhat like a robust lettuce, but with curly, crunchy or



PHOTO BY LINDA GILKESON

Endive plants growing in a pot.

finely cut leaves. Some varieties can take a little frost, but most are not very hardy. Blanching the leaves, by tying the outer leaves together to keep sun out of the centre of the plants, results in milder flavoured leaves for summer salads.

The chicories are perennials and mostly form some sort of head, such as the radicchios, which make solid round or oval heads. There is also a variety grown for their large white roots, which are roasted to make

a coffee substitute. Oddly, the plant known as Belgian endive (witloof) is really a chicory. The chicories are hardy enough to overwinter in our gardens. A late June to early July sowing of radicchio provides striking dark red leaves with white veins all winter.

These robust, pest and disease-free plants are easy to grow, with one proviso: they do not grow well in dense or crowded plantings. Sow endives from late spring to mid-summer and harvest them before there is a killing frost in the fall. Hardy chicories are also best sown when the soil is really warm, usually later in June.

A small proportion of radicchio plants won't make heads (some varieties are trickier than others about this), but you can still eat leaves of the ones that didn't head up. Mulch plants well for winter. I harvest radicchio all winter by picking just the outer leaves and leaving plants to continue growing, but you can also cut whole heads at once.

To grow Belgian endive or witloof for forcing, sow in early June in very fertile soil and space plants well. In late October, carefully dig up the roots and trim the leaves close to the top of the root. Stand the roots upright, packed together in a pot or bucket deep enough to hold the length of the roots, and fill in around the roots with soil or sand. Turn a bucket or pot (with no holes) upside down over the potted roots, making sure they fit together well enough to block all light to the roots. Store the forcing pots somewhere cool and dark, such as a basement, garage or garden shed, and water as needed to keep roots moist. Sometime in January or February, depending on temperature, the oval creamy yellow heads sprout from the roots. After cutting the first heads, put the cover back on and let the roots sprout again.

I find that really large roots can yield four to six more cuttings. Although the later sprouts are smaller, with looser leaves, they taste the same as the first cutting.

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Land Act:

Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **Sarah Hudson** from **Mayne Island, BC**, have applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Mayne Island BC in the vicinity of Horton Bay LOT 21, SECTION 2, MAYNE ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 13285**.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1414984**. Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9. Comments will be received by FLNRORD up to **July 27, 2020**. FLNRORD may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

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Obituaries

MATTHEW THOMAS STEFFICH

September 25, 1958 - June 3, 2020

Matt died suddenly in his prized gallery, Steffich Fine Art (Salt Spring Island), which he proudly grew over the period of 27 years. Born in East Vancouver, Matt had a spirited and textured childhood with his siblings and many friends. He had endless stories of his adventures around his neighbourhood, the PNE, hockey games and countless concerts and gigs.



After being excommunicated from Catholic school, which he often bragged about, Matt continued his growth as a world-class guitar player. He would tell anyone who would listen about his 9 years with The Fins. The stories were wild, hilarious and not for the faint of heart. Matt continued to gig whenever he had the chance, and played guitar to his final day.

In 1992, Matt and his then wife Jen Rosling moved to Salt Spring Island and started his lifelong passion, Thunderbird Gallery (now Steffich Fine Art). Matt proudly and falsely claimed to know nothing about art. His magnetic personality and passion for art was instrumental in the gallery's success. The gallery soon became a hub for the community where people from all walks of life would visit. Matt had a passion for his community and would take up a cause that anyone presented to him, as long as he agreed with it. His presence and service to Salt Spring will never be replaced.

One of Matt's greatest strengths was his sense of humour. He had an endless arsenal of jokes that were appropriate for every occasion. He also had an endless arsenal of jokes that were wildly inappropriate for any occasion. It's lucky he had the ability to choose wisely. He was witty and with a remarkable sense of timing!

Matt was a dedicated and true friend to countless people in Vancouver, on Salt Spring and indeed around the world. If you were his friend, he was your champion. If you were upset, he would dispense comforting advice. If you were sad, he would make you laugh. If you had a problem, he would have several solutions. Solicited or not, Matt would give his advice. He was proud of his friends. His endless stories of them illustrated his pride and love for each and every one of them.

Above all, Matt was a family man. He loved his parents dearly and was as close as anyone could be to their siblings. For him, they were the perfect characters in an endlessly entertaining play. He loved them with all his heart. Matt adored his wife Chris, who he met in the late '90s while they both worked at the Vesuvius Inn. They shared a love of humour, hockey, good wine and travel. They shared a love for each other. Above all, Matt cherished being a father. He approached his role as a dad with equal measures of seriousness and humour. He burst with pride while talking about both his sons, Austin, 26 years old (Jen Rosling), and Dakota, 14 years old (Chris Steffich). They were his pillars of strength. He loved them with every ounce of his being and was determined to see that they became individuals as upstanding as himself. He succeeded.

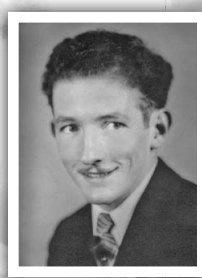
Matt is predeceased by his loving parents Raymond and Margaret Steffich. He's moved on ahead of: His wife Christine Steffich and their son Dakota; son Austin Steffich-Rosling (mother Jen Rosling); siblings Mike, Mark (Phyllis), Kathy and Steve (Tammy). Also left behind are countless nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. You get the idea. Matt is also getting his interdimensional fly-crib ready for an endless parade of friends from Vancouver, Salt Spring and all parts unknown.

Presently, Matt is really annoying Hank Williams and Duane Allman.

Matt, if you're reading this, they are tired of jamming with you. Finally, for you all, Matt's favourite piece of advice: Carpe the F*&king Diem.



Obituaries



JOHN LESLIE (JACK) CLEMENTS

October 7, 1923 ~ June 2, 2020

Jack passed peacefully, surrounded by his family.

Husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, uncle, soldier, sheet metal worker, psychiatric nurse, art therapist, therapeutic touch practitioner, stained glass artist ... Jack was all of these and so much more. Although his last two years were difficult after the passing of Yvette - his wife for 71 years - he met them with humour, gratitude and courage. He loved nothing more than meeting new people and that is reflected in the number of friends he made around the world. His hugs and smile could brighten up the darkest day!

Profound gratitude to Sandi and her amazing team at Heritage Place who cared for Jack with such love.

A Celebration of Life will take place when circumstances permit. Until then, enjoy a slice of pie in his honour and love and laugh as much as you can!



Obituaries

HARRY PETER LAWRENCE

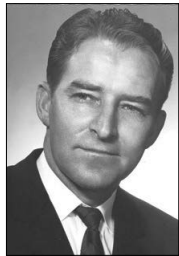
Harry Lawrence died peacefully on March 13, 2020 on Salt Spring Island at the age of 92.

Harry is survived by his daughter Lynda J. Lawrence of Maple Ridge, BC. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 49 years, Jean Lawrence in 2015.

Harry was born on October 19, 1927 in Brisbane, Australia, one of six children. He moved to Canada and later became a Canadian Citizen on June 4, 1957. He was first employed by Ford Canada as an automotive engineer, and later became a marine engineer with BC Packers where he worked until his retirement.

His passions included gardening and paddling in Hawaii. At one point he had a collection of over 100 orchids growing in his greenhouse. He was an active paddler with Aloha Beach Services in Waikiki right up until his stroke in 2018. He was also a dedicated member of Our Lady of Grace Parish on Salt Spring Island.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a service has not been held for Harry, but Lynda feels truly blessed to have been able to be by her Dad's side when he passed in March. She would like to thank the doctors and the nursing staff at the Lady Minto Hospital for their phenomenal care during Harry's final days. She would also like to thank the staff at Braehaven Assisted Living, where he resided prior to his death, for their great care of her Dad and the support she's received since his passing. A special thank you to Becca Dekker for all her support and care over the past two years.



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Help Wanted



Ganges Hall Replacement Project Project Planning Coordinator

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) is seeking a qualified person to work with the SSIFPD Board of Trustees, CAO, Fire Chief, firefighters and staff, as well as the Fire Rescue Advisory Committee, project consultants, and other key stakeholders and community partners, to facilitate ongoing planning, collaboration and potential construction of a replacement fire hall.

This temporary contract position reports to the CAO and Fire Chief, and through the CAO to the Board of Trustees.

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Coordinating planning for a replacement hall, including identifying various options for consideration in collaboration and with input from both internal and external stakeholders as identified.
- Developing, implementing, and maintaining up to date critical pathway and work plans for the project.
- Undertaking identified communications and engagement processes with both internal and external contacts to ensure these views are taken into consideration in the planning and implementation of the project.
- Working collaboratively with all project consultants including architects, engineers, technical and communications and engagement experts.
- If the project proceeds to construction of a new fire hall, developing and implementing a critical path and work plan for the siting and construction of a new facility that meets all legislative requirements.

The ideal candidate will have proven experience in the planning, and development of similar projects with fire rescue and emergency services and working in the public sector structure. Exceptional interpersonal, written, and verbal communication, and strategic planning skills as well as the ability to develop effective working relationships with key participants across a range of stakeholders are a necessity.

Online applications will be accepted by ltaylor@saltspringfire.com until July 3, 2020 or the position is filled. For more information please contact:

Laurie Taylor, SSIFPD CAO
Cell: 250-265-8742 or 250-538-7426
ltaylor@saltspringfire.com

Help Wanted

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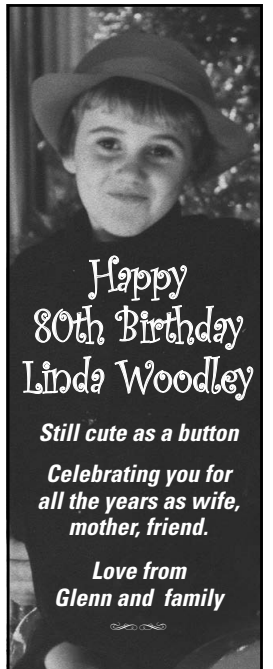
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In Memoriam

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Coming Events



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Thursday, June 25, 7:00 pm

SSI Conservancy members, please note that this AGM will be online with access via computer (Zoom) or telephone. Access instructions and reports will be posted at https://saltspringconservancy.ca by June 18.

Please RSVP to amanda@saltspringconservancy.ca by June 17 with your choice of access (Zoom or telephone). For members without internet, call 250-931-7218 by June 17, and we'll mail the info to you.

Coming Events

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

LIBRARY SERVICES

Kids invited to 2020 BC Summer Reading Club

Theme is Explore Our Universe

The Salt Spring Island Public Library is calling kids of all ages to join the 2020 BC Summer Reading Club.

This year's theme is Explore Our Uni-

verse. Registration, which began June 15, is free and can be done online at www.bcsr.ca/. Kids can track their summer reading fun and earn badges. If they complete the program, they will be awarded a medal at the end of the summer.

Participating in the club can motivate kids to read or be read to regularly, which

helps to maintain or improve their reading skills while school is out.

"It makes reading fun by inviting kids to read what they want, when they want," a library press release explains. "Our expert staff can help kids find just what they like, whether it's a print book, audiobook, e-book or graphic novel. Give us a call, or an email,

and we'll put together a 'Book Bundle' for you. Don't like it? Exchange it for another. You can tell us what worked and what did not."

For more information on kids' programs, call the Salt Spring Island Public Library at 250-537-4666 ext. 225, or visit their website at <https://saltspring.bc.libraries.coop/>.

GANGES FIRE HALL REPLACEMENT



Let's explore replacement options for Salt Spring Island's Ganges Fire Hall

The current fire hall has served Salt Spring well for 60 years but is unable to meet the future needs of the community for fire protection and public safety.

Salt Spring Island will need to make some decisions about the future of the Ganges Fire Hall. Both the community-based Fire Rescue Advisory Committee and the Board of Trustees have reviewed two recent technical reports that confirm the building cannot be repaired or rebuilt on the existing site. They recommend replacement of the building at a different location:

- Site is too small
- Not seismically sound
- Currently inadequate for safe and efficient operations
- Cost prohibitive to bring it into compliance with current building code

Join us for an online information session to learn more and share your ideas on the replacement of the Ganges Fire Hall. We'll also provide an update on the process to explore the future use of the current building and site in downtown Ganges.

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24
4 - 5 p.m.

With Fire Chief Arjuna George; Ron Lindstrom, Chair, SSIFPD Board of Trustees; and Ernie Polsom, FireWise Consulting.

Watch live on Zoom or Facebook, or view the recorded video afterward.

Ask questions before, during or after the session, and fill in the feedback form.



Project details, ask questions, and links to event streaming:

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Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the **Gulf Islands Driftwood office** will be **closed on Wednesday July 1 - Canada Day** and will reopen 8:30am - 4pm on Thursday, July 2.



Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday July 1 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline:
Wednesday, June 24, 12 noon

Classified Display Deadline:
Wednesday, June 24, 12 noon

Classified Word Deadline:
Wednesday, June 24, 12 noon

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